General Education Review Update

Oregon Institute of Technology Convocation 2014

If we teach today's students

as we taught yesterday's,

we rob them of tomorrow.

John Dewey

GERT Force Members

- C.J. Riley
- Sandra Bailey
- Jenny Kellstrom
- Maria Lynn Kessler

- Matt Search
- Maureen Sevigny
- Terri Torres
- Brad Burda

Alumni

FocusGroups

Administration

Forums

Departments

Employers

InstitutionalHistory

StudentAffairs

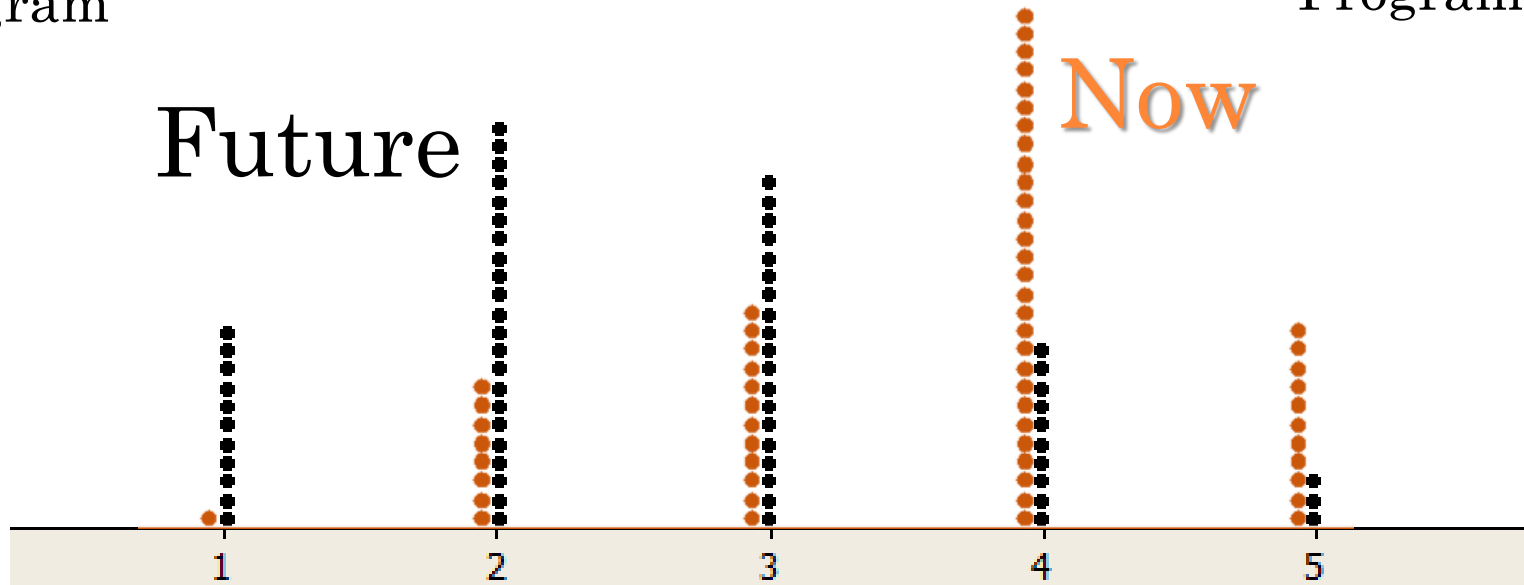Wisonville

Students

Faculty

Surveys

KlamathFalls

REMEMBER THIS?

Integrated in
Program

Separate from
Program

Future

Now

"WHERE DO YOU SEE GENERAL EDUCATION?"

TOP 10 OUTCOMES BY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Faculty	Students	Alumni
Write clearly and persuasively	Write clearly and persuasively	Write clearly and persuasively
Practice ethical decision making	Converse with anyone	Listen actively
Critically evaluate information	Solve a wide variety of problems	Read and understand a variety of topics in a variety of media
Recognize bias	Listen actively	Converse with anyone
Use data to evaluate claims	Critically evaluate information	Be humble and tolerant
Solve a wide variety of problems	Get things done in the real world	Solve a wide variety of problems
Make connections between diverse fields of study	Read and understand a variety of topics in a variety of media	Critically evaluate information
Read and understand a variety of topics in a variety of media	Be humble and tolerant	Practice ethical decision making
Be self-critical/recognize personal bias	Seek out intellectual challenges	Use the scientific method
Use the scientific method	Practice ethical decision making	Be self-critical/recognize personal bias

DRAFT RATIONALE

Given

- Oregon Tech's polytechnic mission of **applying theory to practice** in the allied health, engineering and management fields
- our **diverse student body** composed of traditional and non-traditional, first-year and transfer, first-generation, low-income and legacy students
- our history of rigorous **professional preparation**
- our established **focus on communication**
- our **teaching-focused** faculty
- our **innovative** programs and general electives
- our established **culture of assessment**
- the excellent **placement rates** of our graduates
- **the rapidly changing nature of technology and our world**

DRAFT RATIONALE

Oregon Tech will provide a general education program that provides students with the foundational abilities to engage in lifelong and professional learning. Specifically, students will be able to effectively

- communicate
- conduct inquiry and analysis in diverse fields
- reason quantitatively
- work with others
- practice ethical decision making, and
- function individually and within diverse global and cultural systems

DRAFT RATIONALE

Oregon Tech will offer a general education program that

- is a trademark of our institution as much as our degree programs

- can be flexibly applied to, may be tailored for, and is **integrated** into every degree program offered by the institution

- provides a broad education in areas outside of the major allowing for personal **growth** and exploration

- prepares active and educated citizens for life in general as well as a professional career

- is **integrated** with major programs, with necessary communication and staff supported by the administration and faculty policy

DRAFT RATIONALE

- provides opportunities for **interdisciplinary** courses and co-teaching
- allows students the freedom to choose from a variety of elective courses
- includes **lower-division** coursework that can be easily transferred as a substitution for courses unique to Oregon Tech
- includes **upper-division** coursework that is required even for transfer students and is **intentionally** tied to lower division or transfer work
- includes **clear introduction and reinforcement** of institutional student learning **outcomes**
- incorporates high-impact practices supported by strong faculty professional development structures
- is adaptable to future trends in higher education, including competency-based approaches

Current General Education Model

Year					
4th Year		Global and cultural awareness recommendation	Capstone Course(s) Externship Senior Project		36 M/S 45 M/S/SS
3rd Year					
2nd Year	Humanities 9	Communication 18 SPE111 WRI121 WRI122	Science/ Mathematics 16	Social Science 12	Our current method of integration
1st Year					
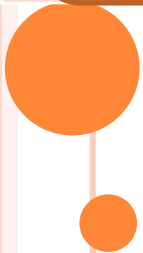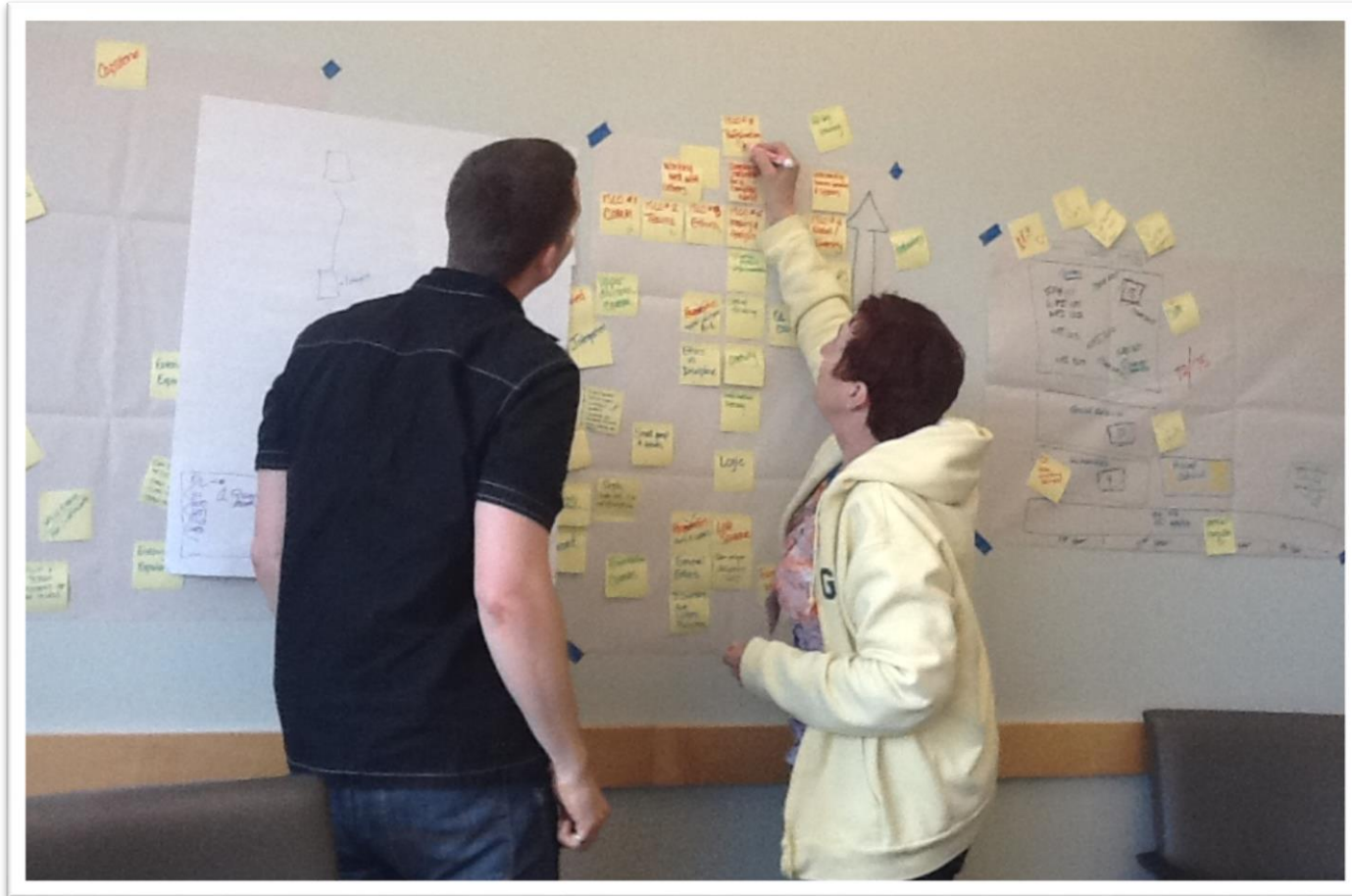
Learning Area Supporting **Professional and Life-Long Learning**	Communication	Team Work	Ethics	Inquiry & Analysis	Quantitative Literacy	Diverse Perspectives
4th Year	Capstone		◆ 3			
3rd Year						
2nd Year	Reinforcement		2			
1st Year	Foundation		1			

YOUR TURN!

COMMENTS

- Courses that cover multiple learning areas
  - "If we tell the students…"

- "Silos" with no courses
- "Gen Ed" embedded in the degree

- May not know "what happens" in certain courses: where those course "work" in the program

2014-15

Fall Term	**Winter Term**	**Spring Term**

Clarify Outcomes

Ensure Intentionality

Plan Implementation