Minnesota State
General Education Steering Committee (GESC)
Charter

**Type:** The General Education Steering Committee (GESC) is a representative committee serving for a limited time to launch and coordinate the redesign of Minnesota State’s lower-division general education curriculum. The GESC is advisory to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs.

**Purpose:** The GESC is charged with developing the overarching philosophy and characteristics of a 21st century lower-division general education curriculum, and coordinating the work of teams chartered to create framework details. In addition, the GESC will oversee the gathering of feedback and engagement of stakeholders and system-wide implementation of the framework.

**Scope:** The scope of the GESC is limited to the redesign of the lower-division general education framework and the implementation of that framework across the Minnesota State system. Program curricula and upper-division general education curricula are out of scope.

**FY23 Charge:** To launch and coordinate Phase I of the general education redesign work for Minnesota State.

**Roles & Responsibilities:** The primary responsibilities of the committee for FY23 are to:

- Develop an overarching philosophy and purpose statement for the work of redesigning lower division general education.
- Develop a comprehensive communication and engagement plan
- Write a research brief detailing existing general education models across the country
- Review key issues and challenges that students experience with the MnTC and provide a written summary detailing findings.
- Conduct listening sessions with students, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees, employers, industry, K12 partners, Tribal College partners, and University of Minnesota system and develop theme summaries detailing findings.
- Complete case studies on student transfer and potentially survey students. Write theme summaries detailing findings.
• Develop broad parameters and overarching characteristics of the new general education framework. Provide a written summary detailing the framework.
• Define Phase II of the work, developing a scope of work, people responsible, and timeframes. Develop a written charge detailing decisions.

**Duration and Time Commitment:** The first phase of the work of the committee will occur from September 2022 through April 2023. The committee will continue throughout the duration of the project and the time commitment will ebb and flow. A new charge will be developed each year that highlights the work of the group and the time commitment expected. For FY23, the committee will meet monthly.

**Committee Members:**

**Executive Committee**
- MSCF Faculty
- IFO Faculty
- Students United Student
- LeadMN Student
- Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Facilitator)

**Committee Membership:** System office staff and administrators will be appointed by the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs. The remaining members will be appointed by bargaining unit and student association leadership.

**Members, 38 members from**
- **Colleges and Universities** – the following roles will be distributed evenly to ensure appropriate sector and region representation.
  - IFO Teaching Faculty (8)
  - MSCF Teaching Faculty and Counselors (8)
  - MSUAASF Faculty (Registrars and Advisors) (3)
  - MAPE (Registrars and Advisors) (3)
  - Students United Students (3)
  - LeadMN Students (3)
  - College Administrators (President, SAO, Dean) (3)
  - University Administrators (President, SAO, Dean) (3)
- **System Office**
  - Academic and Student Affairs (3)
  - Office of Equity and Inclusion (1)
Terms of Appointment

- Faculty, staff, and administrator representatives will be appointed for the duration of the project. Replacement appointments are at the discretion of each bargaining unit.
- The duration of the student representative appointments are at the discretion of each student association, in recognition of student availability and mobility.

Additional students, faculty, staff and/or administrators may be invited to serve as subject matter experts and/or to participate as needed in sub-Committees formed to complete specific tasks.

Committee Member Expectations: Members are expected to:

- Attend and participate in meetings as scheduled.
- Complete work tasks between meetings.
- Inform the committee’s work by providing subject matter input and direction.
- Work with all members to build consensus in decisions.
- Provide direction that will meet student, institutional, and system needs.

Links:

System Office Staff Support:

- **Project Manager:** Nicole Merz, Project Manager, Nicole.merz@minnstate.edu
- **Administrative Support:** Sandi Quinones, Administrative Assistant, sandi.quinones@minnstate.edu