

**General Education Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 12, 2021**  
**3:30 p.m., Microsoft Teams**

**Attendees:** Cavitt (Chair), Erhart, Hanks, Supancic, Blunk, Vacaflares-Rivero, Farah, Shah, Allsup, Houser, Peeler, Domsch, Wang, Watt, Wilson, White, Stern, Tschirhart, Hamilton, Chrans, Nielson, Haider Benacquisto

**Absent:** Cardenas

**Guests:** Mr. Dana Willett, Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman

**Cavitt welcomed attendees**

**The minutes of February 1, 2021** were discussed and approved unanimously.

**Cavitt announced that SACSCOC** review found Texas State to be in full compliance. She thanked the committee for their hard work on assessments.

**Sriraman and Willett led discussion on affordable learning materials** and university goals regarding the adoption of low-cost or no-cost learning materials in core curriculum courses. Open education resources are already being offered at community colleges and have support from the state legislature and THECB. Council discussed this as an opportunity, not mandatory, and the impact this may have on faculty who author textbooks.

**Sriraman also requested** that GEC members consider serving on a subcommittee of the Managing Textbook Costs Committee to provide input on core curriculum materials.

**Council voted to approve the following resolution:** *“The General Education Council supports a resolution to support the work of the Managing Textbook Costs Committee, by identifying pathways within the General Education Core Curriculum through low-cost or zero-cost learning materials.”*

**Cavitt announced that syllabi templates** need to be updated. The council discussed how to develop common elements of verbiage across colleges to create more welcoming syllabi to improve student success. White offered to have the Mathematics department draft templates with new welcoming language and will bring to the council to see if it can be applied across core curriculum.

**Cavitt called for new business.** No new business was presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.