ARTS AND SCIENCES STATEMENT ON GE SUPPORT

We, the Arts and Sciences (faculty of University Senate) {Curriculum Committee} [Faculty Senate] raise a concern and a request regarding the fiscal feasibility of the proposed GE curriculum. The charge to the planning committee was to focus on an overarching pedagogical vision and curricular structure for the whole university. However, our concern is that it appears the scope of the proposed changes to the GE will incur significant negative impacts to the College of Arts and Sciences that we cannot ignore. Before we can make meaningful progress in discussion of the proposal, we must reiterate the essence of the resolution passed by the Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate in November, 2017: that we are unable to review and approve a GE curriculum proposal that does not include an analysis of the costs, consequences (including benefits to undergraduate students), and implementation issues/needs that will result from approval of said proposal. Moreover, we would prefer the GE curriculum proposal to lead to positive impacts to the College of Arts and Sciences, but, at a minimum, it should not result in a negative impact. We therefore respectfully request as soon as possible a clear written description of the expected impacts in terms of fiscal resources, human resources, teaching resources, and infrastructure to the College of Arts and Sciences so that we may fulfill the committee's charge in a timely and effective manner. Only then, on receiving such a description, can we continue our leadership role, not only in developing a unified GE for the whole university in collaboration with the other colleges and programs, but also in retaining our ability to offer innovative disciplinary coursework for current and future students as global citizens and maintaining our position as a tier one research university.