





MEMORANDUM

To: University Community

From: Michael W. Quick, Executive Vice Provost 
Gene Bickers, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs 

Date: 07 September 2012

Subject: Committee Recommendations on the USC General Education Program

In January, the Provost wrote to you about the formation of a Faculty Committee tasked with examining the USC GE Program. The group met throughout the Spring and completed its deliberations recently. Several recommendations were gleaned from those discussions and from conversations with other stakeholders.

The Committee was not expected to devise the final form and structure of a new program; rather, members were asked to engage in wide-ranging discussions on several topics: the appropriate categories and number of courses required in each, the relationship between GE and major/minor courses, distinctive features to better engage students, the inclusion of offerings from a wider range of academic units, and many others. From these discussions, a set of parameters for the next GE program began to emerge.

As with the strategic planning process in 2011, the Provost has asked that opportunities for feedback be provided so all members of our academic community can contribute to the process of reimagining GE. We invite you to review the current recommendations, discuss them, formulate views and provide comments. You may view the recommendations and provide comments on the recently launched GE Review website, <http://ge-review.usc.edu>. Please provide your comments by October 1, 2012.

As we collect comments, my office will also begin discussions about GE with the Academic Senate and leadership teams in each of our academic units. Recommendations and comments will be collated and passed onto the Provost for final review.

Please join us in thanking the GE Faculty Committee for their thoughtful input.

We look forward to working with the entire USC community as we continue with the next steps of this important task.

Cc: Elizabeth Garrett, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Steve A. Kay, Incoming Dean, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Examination of the USC General Education Program – Committee Members

Michael W. Quick, Executive Vice Provost (co-chair)

Gene Bickers, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs (co-chair)

Emily Anderson, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Sarah Banet-Weiser, Professor, Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism

William Berelson, Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Sharon Carnicke, Professor, School of Theater

Travis Glynn, BA anticipated, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Macarena Gómez-Barris, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Sarah Gualtieri, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Sherman Jackson, Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Priya Jaikumar, Associate Professor, School of Cinematic Arts

Michael Khoo, Professor, Viterbi School of Engineering

Andrei Marmor, Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Gould School of Law

Geoffrey Middlebrook, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

David Mittelstein, BS anticipated, Viterbi School of Engineering

John Monterosso, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Nandini Rajagopalan, Professor, Marshall School of Business

Robin Romans, Associate Provost

Antonia Szabari, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Kevin van Bladel, Associate Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

John Walsh, Associate Professor, Davis School of Gerontology

Nicholas Warner, Professor, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences