

Senate Assessment Committee
Meeting Minutes, March 6, 2026
Lehman College

LEHMAN COLLEGE Senate Assessment Committee Meeting Minutes March 6 2026 via Zoom

Present:, Martin Downing, Hank Williams, Don Sutherland (Guest), Oluwabusayomi Owoaje (Student Rep), Yaswantie Persaud, Julissa Adames-Torres, Karin Beck, Devrim Yavuz, Jaye Jones (guest), Don Sutherland (Guest).

I. Approval of Minutes The committee reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. **A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded; with no objections or abstentions, the minutes were approved.**

II. Agenda Setting The committee established the agenda for the meeting, which included an update on the Student Evaluation of Teaching and Learning (SETL), the upcoming Middle States preliminary visit, the General Education assessment timeline, and the draft for the General Education Ad Hoc Committee. To accommodate schedules, the committee agreed to begin with items that needed quorum.

III. Student Evaluation of Teaching and Learning (SETL) Update Donald Sutherland provided an update regarding the implementation of a streamlined SETL survey.

- **Survey Redesign:** New questions were approved by the FP&B on February 14th. The survey was reduced from 25 questions to 11 questions plus two open-ended questions to address student feedback that the previous version was too long.
- **Pilot and Implementation:** A "mini SETL" is currently being piloted with a small group of seven-week courses to test the new survey before the full spring rollout in mid-April.
- **Integration Challenges:** The committee discussed ongoing efforts to integrate the survey platform with Brightspace. While integration is expected to increase response rates, there are currently CUNY-wide permission obstacles that have not yet been resolved.

IV. Middle States Preliminary Visit The committee discussed the upcoming preliminary visit by Middle States Vice President Kathy Feith, scheduled for March 23rd.

- **Visit Itinerary:** The visit will include meetings with the President, Provost, and steering committee co-chairs, followed by an afternoon open forum for all faculty, staff, and students in the Music Building.
- **Student Involvement:** There is a significant emphasis on student participation; current working groups already include student representatives, and an informal student review group may be formed to provide feedback on self-study drafts.
- **Committee Role:** The committee reflected on its role in the self-study process, noting that it should be involved in informing the accreditation process and providing feedback on educational effectiveness.

V. General Education Assessment Timeline The committee reviewed a tentative multi-year timeline for General Education assessment based on the recently adopted eight-year cycle.

- **Rotation Schedule:** The draft outlines a four-year rotation for assessing Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs), as objectives will be reassessed every four years within the eight-year cycle.
- **The committee discussed the current general education assessment effort:** It was noted that **Oral Communication** must be assessed promptly to ensure data is available for the Middle States review. The committee discussed the challenge of defining and assessing "Leadership" across different disciplines. Members suggested that while leadership might be explicitly taught in some capstone or business courses, it may be embedded more subtly in other fields, such as through group work or public engagement.
- **Action Item:** There was a consensus that the college's learning outcomes should be reviewed to ensure they are expressed in a measurable way consistent with Bloom's Taxonomy.

VI. General Education Ad Hoc Committee Resolution The committee revisited the proposal to establish a General Education Ad Hoc Committee (or Subcommittee) for the 2026-2027 academic year.

- **Specific Charge:** The committee discussed narrowing the subcommittee's focus to specific tasks, such as reviewing annual Gen Ed reports, recommending action plans, and surveying existing campus activities to reduce silos.
- **Collaboration Beyond the Classroom:** Members emphasized that Gen Ed assessment should capture activities happening across the campus, including leadership initiatives in Student Affairs, the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program, and student clubs.
- **Membership:** The proposed structure includes five faculty members, one administrator, and one student representative.
- **Next Steps:** The committee agreed to refine the draft's language and consult with the Governance Committee Chair to ensure the proposal aligns with Senate bylaws before a final vote at the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment The committee was invited to attend the Middle States open forum on March 23rd. **The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for March 27th at 10:00 a.m.** to finalize the subcommittee resolution for the April Senate meeting. **The meeting was adjourned**