Recommendation: GER Faculty Director and GER Advisory Committee

**The Value of General Education** - Society, employers and UAA all value broadly trained individuals who can think, communicate, imagine, analyze and engage with their surrounding community and the wider world. UAA needs to articulate this message of value to all involved (faculty, staff, administration, students, community). GER assessment should be faculty driven and student focused, based on “authentic” teaching and assignments that grow out of the classroom. Any GER assessment process should be built around a model of flexibility, simplicity, sustainability and usefulness. Assessment should be seen as inquiry, dialogue, and engagement, as a part of the scholarship of teaching and learning. In order to support this general education mission we recommend that the university create as part of a faculty member’s regular workload a part-time faculty director position. The faculty director will work with a stand-alone GER assessment advisory and outreach committee, made up of faculty committed to the value of general education.

A) GER Faculty Director: Responsibilities and Qualifications
This is a 3 year appointment of a qualified faculty member to lead the assessment of the General Education Requirements Student Learning Outcomes. Preferred qualifications for the faculty director are: a commitment to the value and importance of general education, as documented by a history of teaching, curriculum development, and/or assessment of UAA’s GERs.

The faculty director will:

- Collaboratively implement the GER Assessment Plan and report progress, findings and recommendations to the appropriate groups and the institution;
- Build faculty expertise by recommending faculty development related to general education;
- Chair the Faculty GER Assessment Advisory and Outreach Committee; and
- Report to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

B) GER Assessment Advisory and Outreach Committee
The Composition of the Committee is yet to be determined, but will have as a principle broad representation of the faculty. Preferred qualifications for Committee members are: a commitment to the value and importance of general education, as documented by a history of teaching, curriculum development, and/or assessment of UAA’s GERs. Term lengths will be three years, to assure consistency and commitment.

GER Assessment Advisory and Outreach Committee Charge:

a. Advise and support the director in implementing the assessment plan;
b. Advise and support the director in implementing outreach activities to foster a campus-wide dialogue on the value of general education and GER learning outcomes assessment, with the focus on excellence in teaching and learning; and
c. Serve as a sounding board for recommendations coming out of GER assessment including changes in the plan itself.