

Statement Regarding the Resolution on GEAR PLOs

The GEAR Curriculum & Assessment Committee consists of faculty representatives from each college, a student representative, the associate director for academic assessment, and the vice provost.

The WSCUC 2018 site team requested that HSU implement a comprehensive, faculty-developed university assessment plan so that effective assessment is consistent across the institution, specifically identifying GEAR assessment as an area of improvement. In April 2019, with passage of HSU's new institutional learning outcomes (ILOs), the University Senate charged the GEAR committee with developing revised program learning outcomes (PLOs) that cover the seven new ILOs and content provided in Areas A-E, American Institutions, and Diversity and Common Ground warranting specificity beyond the ILOs. Adoption of these GEAR PLOs represents a critical first step in the development of our plan for continuous improvement of the GEAR program through implementation of assessment mechanisms and certification of GEAR courses that align with these PLOs. Passage of the GEAR PLOs will allow us to move on to the critically important stages of planning the implementation and certification and writing SLOs for direct assessment.

The following points summarize the process by which these PLOs were developed:

- In fall 2019, we solicited feedback on three structures for organization of GEAR PLOs.
- In fall 2019 and spring 2020, the GEAR Curriculum & Assessment committee drafted and revised the GEAR PLOs according to the selected structure.
- In spring 2020, we solicited feedback on multiple occasions from the ICC and Council of Chairs as well as some (but not all) GEAR-serving departments on the draft GEAR PLOs.
- We have solicited and received feedback from the campus throughout the past week.
- After multiple rounds of revisions, we present these GEAR PLOs for adoption.

Upon approval of these new GEAR PLOs, the GEAR Curriculum & Assessment Committee will:

- work with the ICC and appropriate programs/departments representing GEAR disciplines to develop directly assessable student learning outcomes (SLOs) that clearly define the assessment mechanism and outcomes for each GEAR PLO;
- work with the ICC and appropriate programs/departments to develop a transparent and efficient plan for implementation of assessment and certification of GEAR courses; and
- work with the Center for Teaching and Learning and faculty from GEAR disciplines to collect preliminary assessment data, to develop assessment resources, and to refine scalable assessment practices and professional development opportunities to support assessment of the GEAR program.

During AY 2022-23, we plan to revisit and revise the GEAR PLOs where necessary.