



**Pierce Academic Senate  
Notice Motion Proposal  
Fall 2017**

as Program Learning Outcomes for the General Education Programs (PLOs-GE).

**BACKGROUND**

When Pierce College began formally assessing our outcomes, the college reviewed and evaluated a variety of strategies for outcomes assessment. At the time, the decision was made to assess student learning outcomes (SLOs) for individual courses, institutional learning outcomes (ILOs) at the college-level, program learning outcomes (PLOs) at the program-level, and the General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs) for General Education Programs, for programs that were deemed "General Education", such as Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). SLOs are currently assessed in all courses for each student, in each regular semester. To effectively assess and evaluate ILOs, PLOs, and GELOs, these higher-level outcomes must be mapped (i.e., matched) to the course-level SLOs.

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Whereas, in order to effectively assess PLOs and GELOs, PLOs and GELOs need to be effectively mapped to the course-level SLOs. There is currently confusion regarding how SLOs should be accurately and effectively mapped to both PLOs and GELOs.

Whereas, the current use of labeling the outcomes for the General Education program as separate, distinct General Education Learning Outcomes (GELOs) is a source of confusion for those who do the conceptual mapping. In that there is not a functional difference between PLOs and GELOs, this creates ambiguity in the College's theoretical outcomes structure.

Whereas, General Education Programs are programs, their outcomes can be viewed as PLOs. Thus, re-categorizing GELOs as PLOs-GE would increase clarity theoretically in our outcomes structure and would allow departments and programs to more effectively and accurately map their SLOs and PLOs. The campus would then have clear course-level SLOs, program-level PLOs, and College-level ILOs.

Therefore be it resolved, The College Outcomes Committee recommends to the Senate the GELOs be re-classified as PLOs-GE.

Noticed by the Pierce Academic Senate this 6<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017.  
Ratified by the Pierce Academic Senate this [DAY] day of [MONTH], [YEAR].