

## **INFORMATION – BACCALAUREATE WORK SESSION**

In March 2016, President Gaudino directed the provost to launch a process for defining the value and distinction of a baccalaureate degree from Central Washington University. The process, to be completed by July 2017, would consider what it means to earn a baccalaureate degree at CWU and how are students fundamentally different after their CWU experiences. It would answer the question, "Why should students pursue their education at Central rather than at other universities? "

Concurrent with this review of the baccalaureate, the president directed the provost to coordinate faculty development of strategies to strengthen the general education curriculum. The year-long review will ensure Central's general education curriculum serves the needs of today's undergraduates and prepares them for post-baccalaureate success. The president asked that faculty, by July 2017, create a high-value, distinctive CWU general education experience through campus-wide input and commitment.

Trustees, university leaders, and representatives of the CWU Foundation and the CWU Alumni boards will discuss the baccalaureate challenge in a work session July 28. The following background readings are provided to help participants prepare for the discussion:

- Hutchings, Pat. 2016. "Aligning Educational Outcomes and Practices." National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment.
- Lumina Foundation. 2016. "The Emerging Learning System: Report on the Recent Convening and New Directions for Action."
- Matchett, Karin, et al. 2016. "Quality in the Undergraduate Experience: What Is It? How Is It Measured? Who Decides?" National Academies Press.
- Miller, Margaret A. 2003. "The Meaning of the Baccalaureate." About Campus.
- Selingo, Jeffrey J. 2016. "Rebuilding the Bachelor's Degree." The Chronicle of Higher Education.

The board packet also includes background reading material about general education programs and strategies for redesign.

- Association of American Colleges and Universities. 2015. "General Education Maps and Markers: Designing Meaningful Pathways to Student Achievement."
- Capaldi Phillips, Elizabeth and Poliakoff, Michael B. 2015. "The Cost of Chaos in the Curriculum." American Council of Trustees and Alumni. Institute for Effective Governance.

- Education Advisory Board. 2016. "Reclaiming the Value of the Liberal Arts for the 21st Century: Strategies for Integrating Career Development with Traditional Arts and Sciences Curricula."
- Gaston, Paul L. and Gaff, Jerry G. 2009. "Revising General Education and Avoiding the Potholes." Association of American Colleges and Universities.
- Gaston, Paul L. et al. 2010. "General Education and Liberal Learning: Principles of Effective Practice." Association of American Colleges and Universities.

Submitted:



---

Linda Schactler  
Chief of Staff

Approved for submission:



---

James. L. Gaudino  
President