

**KEAN UNIVERSITY
UNION, NJ**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF NEW GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM
FOR KEAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**

- WHEREAS: Kean University’s General Education Curriculum (GE) is both the platform and the launchpad for student success at Kean, and
- WHEREAS: Kean’s current GE is managed differently by different academic departments at the university, a process that sometimes requires students to repeat requirements and potentially delay their graduation, and
- WHEREAS: Kean’s emergence as an Urban Research Institution, an Anchor Institution, and a Carnegie R2 University requires a GE curriculum that leverages and advances the University’s identity to the benefit of its students; and
- WHEREAS: The Office of Academic Affairs has led a four-year planning process involving hundreds of faculty and students in a systematic evaluation of needs, preparation of alternatives to the status quo, extensive field tests of the preferred strategies, and completion of all of the University governance processes specified for enacting changes to the GE; and
- WHEREAS: New approaches to GE were piloted and have been shown to improve student retention, satisfaction, and other measures of persistence and success and adoption of these new approaches are endorsed by the Provost and various academic bodies of the University; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees does hereby approve the adoption of a new General Education curriculum that is based on:
- The three pillars of place, experience, and inquiry;
 - A pivot from coverage based on discipline to satisfaction of Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) which can be satisfied by different combinations of courses;
 - Delivery through thematic, interdisciplinary learning communities in students’ first year of study;
 - Universal acceptance by all major courses of study at Kean (with modifications designed to accommodate external accredited or licensed programs such as Education and Architecture); and
 - The “Cougar Core” of 31-32 credits comprising 16-17 credits of “Essential Learning,” 12 credits of “Core Competencies,” and a three-credit “Passion Project”; and, be it further

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees supports and endorses the University's decision to implement the new General Education Curriculum for all freshmen admitted to Kean effective Fall 2026 and beyond; and, be it further

RESOLVED: The Board of Trustees directs the Office of Academic Affairs to regularly assess the impact and the outcomes of the new curriculum once implemented and to report these assessments to the Academic Policy and Programs Committee annually at a spring semester meeting.

RESOLUTION

ADOPTED: March 2, 2026

DULY

CERTIFIED: March 2, 2026



Audrey M. Kelly
Executive Director of Board Operations