

# GEOC Meeting September 24, 2007

*In Attendance: Katharina von Hammerstein, Anabel Perez, Niloy Dutta, William Lott, Manuela Wagner, Marie Cantino, Cora Lynn Deibler, Tom Deans, Jane Goldman, Dean Hanink, John Troyer, Felicia Pratto, Peter Gogarten, Tom Roby, Clare Eby, Mike Darre.*  
*Not Present: Hedley Freake, Arnold Dashefsky.*

Meeting called to order at 12:05pm

**1. Minutes** of the previous meeting approved as written.

## **2. Announcements:**

- **CAR Guidelines:** the CAR guidelines have not been updated since 1995 and still reference the old general education requirements. In collaboration with a member of Senate C&CC, a GEOC volunteer is needed to update these guidelines.
  - Marie Cantino has volunteered to undertake this task.
  - Anabel Perez will communicate with Tammy Gifford in the Senate Office.
- **CLAS Associate Deans meeting:** Katharina von Hammerstein met with Ross MacKinnon and he has recommended that the GEOC chair meet with the CLAS Associate Deans. The following are issues that GEOC has identified as points of concern or as information needing to be communicated:
  - GEOC works closely with the other Senate committees to ensure that the timing of our work accommodates semester deadlines.
  - GEOC sees itself charged with carrying out the Senate's general education mandate and does not wish to become another layer of bureaucracy.
  - GEOC members understand that more W support is needed, but GEOC is not empowered to make any mandates about resources. What we can offer is documentation to show W enrollment levels that can help them plan for their W teaching.
    - One level of concern for us is that the increasing demand for instructors is leading to an increase in the hiring of non-tenured and adjunct faculty, as well as graduate students, to teach these courses.
  - We have concerns about that the needs of regional campuses are not being met.
  - Productivity graphs are a concern for GEOC because service on this very time-consuming committee is not part of what is considered faculty "productivity."
  - Jurisdiction to approve general education courses: who has jurisdiction over whether a course is a general education course?
    - Jane Goldman stated that CLAS C&CC can put in place college-level general education requirements.
- **CLAS and NEAG dual degree:** The dual major proposal, which would drop the 30 extra credits needed for a traditional dual degree, was discussed at the Spring Senate. Below are some concerns raised by this committee:
  - If this proposal goes forward, then what would be the incentive for NEAG students to be single-majors in EDUC?
    - In many cases, EDUC students also fulfill the major requirements in their sub-content area, but cannot get the major credit unless they complete the extra 30 credits toward the dual degree.
  - Why should this exception for the 30 extra credits for the dual degree be limited to CLAS and NEAG? The restriction to these two schools is a great concern.
    - The 30-credit rule referring to dual degrees is a product of the Senate Bylaws.

- American Association of Colleges and Universities: the Hedley Freake, Katharina von Hammerstein, Lynne Goodstein proposal about faculty ownership of gened was approved and will be presented at the 2008 AACU general education conference in Boston, MA.

### 3. Subcommittee Reports

#### Writing Subcommittee

The W subcommittee recommends **approval** of the following course:

MCB 225W Advanced Cell Biology Laboratory

The W subcommittee recommends **approval of the following courses with acceptance of the recommended revisions:**

PHIL/HRTS 170W [2170W] Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective  
(with inclusion of ENGL 110, 111, or 250 as a prerequisite)

PSYC 278W Human Factors Design  
(with clarification in the F clause and addition of ENGL 110, 111, or 250 as a prerequisite)

POLS 2XXW Ethics and Politics  
(Inclusion of the F clause and addition of ENGL 110, 111, 250 as a prerequisite)

HIST 228W Europe in the Nineteenth Century (recertification of course)

HIST 229W Europe in the Twentieth Century (recertification of course)

MCB 2XXW [4994W] Honors Undergraduate Seminar  
(with clarification of the F clause and inclusion in catalog description that course may only be taken once for credit)

The W subcommittee recommends **revision** of the following courses:

SOCI 296W Internship: Research Paper  
(clarification needed re: writing assignments and revision, total revised pages written, and inclusion of ENGL 110, 111 or 250 as prerequisites)

CDIS 249W Introduction to Aural Rehabilitation  
(no detailed W information provided)

CDIS 202W Speech and Language Acquisition  
(no detailed W information provided)

CDIS 244W Introduction to Neurogenic Communication Disorders  
(no detailed W information provided)

MCB 292W Honors Research Thesis in Molecular and Cell Biology  
(clarification needed about whether this is a new course, and note in catalog description that course may not be repeated for credit)

MCB 2YYW [3996W] Research Thesis in Molecular and Cell Biology  
(clarification needed about whether this is a new course, and note in catalog description that course may not be repeated for credit)

W subcommittee report's "Approved" and "Approved Pending Minor Revisions" was approved with the revision of the HIST 229/229W title to "Europe in the Twentieth Century." GEOC needs more information for the "Revision Requested" section of the report.

#### Arts and Humanities

The CA1 subcommittee recommends **approval** of the following courses:

HIST 228/W	Europe in the Nineteenth Century
HIST 229/W	Europe in the Twentieth Century
PHIL/HRTS 2XXW	Bioethics and Human Rights in Cross-Cultural Perspective
CLCS 110	Introduction to Film Studies

The CA1 report was approved.

#### **4. GEOC Membership and Subcommittee Membership**

##### CA4 Diversity and Multiculturalism

In consultation with Anne Hiskes, chair of the Senate Nominating Committee, Hedley Freake, and Katharina von Hammerstein, it was decided that Anke Finger would not be a good addition to GEOC as her addition would increase MCL-German representation to 3.

- Clare Eby has noted that ENGL representation has, in the past, been up to 4.

Recommendations for this subcommittee:

Evelyn Simien, POLS  
Jason Irrizary, EDUC  
Katherine Capshaw Smith, ENGL  
Emma Gilligan, HIST

##### Information Literacy

Recommendations for this subcommittee:

Carolyn Lin, COMM  
Andrea Hubbard, PHARM

The following recommendations were made to the Senate Nominating Committee for membership to GEOC:

- Xae Reyes, NEAG, CI, Second Language Subcommittee
- Murphy Sewall, SoB, MKTG, Computer Technology Subcommittee

#### **5. Assessment Plan for 2007-2008**

- CA1 Arts and Humanities: are to be drafting learning objectives.
- CA2 Social Sciences: have held public meeting and have revised learning objectives.
- CA3 Science and Technology: have held public meeting and have revised learning objectives.
- CA4 Diversity and Multiculturalism: have held public meeting and are in the process of revising the learning objectives based on that feedback.
- Computer Technology: the majority of majors on campus have no additional computer technology requirements above the standard that incoming students need when they come in.
- Quantitative: no plans yet.
- Second Language:
  - It is unclear if GEOC needs to test proficiency because the requirement is that students take 1 year of a foreign language if they have not come in having met the requirement.

- The subcommittee currently thinks the only true method of assessment –proficiency exams- would be incredibly costly. The subcommittee has been asked to brainstorm other ways to assess.
- Writing: 3 coordinators need to be chosen from different departments to move forward on the writing assessment plan proposed in the Spring.

Felicia Pratto made the following three key points about assessment:

- It must be in faculty hands.
- There is no rule about what assessment IS or SHOULD BE.
- We have been asked to think about assessment without attention to cost.

GEOC needs to think about how to discuss assessment. The terms “knowledge,” “transparency,” “improvement” need to take precedence. Peter Gogarten warns that we must not place our goals too low but consider assessment of the requirements themselves.

CA2 and CA4 are well placed to perform assessment in the coming academic year once the CA4 learning objectives revision is complete; the CA4 subcommittee expressed some concerns about the timing of the assessment.

Note: Anabel Perez to forward Cora Lynn Deibler the drafts of learning objectives and GEOC minutes dealing with this issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Anabel Perez  
GEOC Administrator