

GEOC Meeting February 3, 2016

*Members in **BOLD** were in attendance:*

Mike Young – Chair, (Karen Piantek – Admin), Joseph Abramo, Pam Bedore (Sen C&C), Michael Bradford, Scott Campbell, Ana Maria Diaz-Marcos, Arthur Engler, Bernard Goffinet, David Gross, Thomas Meyer, Stephanie Milan, Olivier Morand, Gustavo Nanclares, Fatma Selampinar, Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, Manuela Wagner, Bing Wang, Steve Zinn, Shabaz Khan (student rep)

Meeting called to order at 10:35am.

Minutes approved.

1. Announcements

- A. Members who are scheduled to rotate off of GEOC should let Karen know if they would like to be reappointed or not:

Ana Maria Diaz-Marcos (Yes, reappoint)

Arthur Engler (Yes, reappoint)

David Gross

Thomas Meyer (Yes, reappoint)

Stephanie Milan (No, rotating off)

Olivier Morand

Gustavo Nanclares

Eduardo Urios-Aparisi (Yes, reappoint)

2. Old Business

- A. Gen Ed Task Force Updates

- P. Bedore reported that the task force is setting up focus groups for both faculty and students in each school and college and at regional campuses. The task force is also working on a Qualtrics survey, but there are no plans for an open forum at this point.
- M. Young said he has heard it is a very general review with no set agenda.
- M. Bradford asked if there will be a revision of General Education on the back end of this review. P. Bedore explained that there can be three possible outcomes of the review: 1) General Education is fine and needs no revision 2) General Education is good, but there should be some modification, or 3) General Education at UConn needs to be rethought entirely. Outcomes 2 and 3 will result in a new group being formed next year to work on changes.
- D. Gross asked what people should do if they have questions. P. Bedore noted that at this point they should email the task force chair, Jon Gajewski.

- B. Course Realignment: Most forms have been received. Still awaiting two departments.

- The committee agreed that the subcommittees would complete their reviews of courses by the meeting before Spring Break,

- C. Digital Information Literacy competency; Assessment Project Report update

- No new updates.

- D. Official deletion of the Computer Competency – On hold until after Task Force review

- E. Next steps on the proposal regarding First Year Writing waivers – On hold until after Task Force review
- F. New CAR form in Word format
 - K. Piantek told the committee that the new Word document versions of the CAR form were now posted for proposer use. The online CAR is still active, but most new proposals will be emailed as Word documents.

3. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA1 Report

- M. Bradford explained the committee's report.
- P. Bedore noted that the course is also LLAS. This will be verified with the proposer.
- A grade conversion scale is recommended in the syllabus.

Report approved unanimously (add HIST/AFRA/[LLAS] 3619)

B. CA2 Report

- The course number appears to be wrong in the syllabus for POLS 3250/W. K. Piantek will verify the correct number.

Report approved unanimously (Add POLS 3250/W, POLS 3023/W)

C. CA3 Report

- B. Goffinet explained the subcommittee's report.
- There was some debate about the wording "not open to" versus "not open for credit to" in the course description. M. Wagner asked if it might be better to leave it a little more open in case there are exceptions, but P. Bedore pointed out that original language in the catalog copy includes the "for credit" wording. The committee added "for credit" as a friendly amendment.
- There were minor typos in the CAR for GEOG 2410 that will be corrected.

Report approved unanimously (Add CA3 to GEOG 2410, revise BIOL 1102)

D. W Report

- Steve Zinn was introduced as the new W co-chair.
- S. Zinn reported that all course proposals had issues and were sent back to proposers. These were mostly minor issues, but they were things that did need to be fixed before there could be approval.
- It was suggested that we should figure out a way to highlight W guidelines in the CAR form instructions since these issues, many related to syllabi, seem to be a chronic problem.
- There was some discussion of 1-credit W add-ons versus 4-credit W courses. S. Zinn explained a 1-credit course connected to a 3-credit course in ANSC. He noted that there is usually a 95% correlation of grades between the 1-credit and 3-credit courses. It is very rare that a student will pass one part and fail the other part.
- M. Young asked that a note be made to discuss 1-credit add-ons as opposed to 4-credit W courses at the next meeting.

Report was accepted (No approvals)

4. New Business

A. New GEOC Chair

- G. Nanclare asked if it was true that M. Young would be completing his term as GEOC Chair at the end of the semester. M. Young confirmed that he would, and it was unofficially verified that a new Chair has been selected and is going through the approval process.

Meeting adjourned at 11:28am.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Piantek
GEOC Program Assistant