

GEOC Meeting March 6, 2013

In attendance: Murphy Sewall, Karen Piantek, Stephanie Milan, Thomas Meyer, Xae Alicia Reyes, Laurent Michel, Olivier Morand, Françoise Dussart, Mike Young, Linda Neely, Thomas Abbott, Wally Madych, Thomas Deans, Thomas Long, Rosa Helena Chinchilla

Not present: Nicholas Leadbeater, Eric Schultz, Peter Kaminsky, Kailee Himes, Richard Jones, Noah Sharpsteen, Gustavo Nanclares, Sarah Winter

Meeting called to order at 1:03pm.

1. Minutes of the February 12, 2013 meeting

The minutes of the February 12, 2013 meeting were accepted as submitted.

2. Announcements

- GEOC is pleased to announce Michael Young as the new committee Chair beginning in the summer 2013
- The GEOC welcomes new members Stephanie Milan, Thomas Meyer, and Laurent Michel
- All subcommittees are reminded to verify their membership. Subcommittee membership lists can be found at <http://geoc.uconn.edu/geocsubcmtes1213.htm>
- The GEOC terms for the following members end on 6/30/13: Rosa Helena Chinchilla, Xae Alicia Reyes, Sara Winter, and Michael Young (who will then begin his term as chair).

3. Subcommittee Reports

CA1

The committee recommends approval of the following revised course proposal as an intersession course:

- LAMS/HIST 3635 Mexico in 19th and 20th Century

The motion carried unanimously.

CA2

The committee recommends approval of the following new course proposal:

- ANTH 1010 Global Climate Change and Human Societies

Discussion:

- In a discussion of the course, both CA2 and CA3 committee members weighed in on the proposal
- One subcommittee member noted some typos and grammatical errors and questioned what the subcommittee's responsibility was with regards to technical issues. It was noted that the Senate C&CC often handles the wordsmithing and grammatical correction of proposals.
- Some technical and syllabus-related issues with the proposal lead to a discussion of what the actual responsibilities of the subcommittees are. Some new subcommittee members asked for clarification of their roles
- It was expressed that the subcommittees' primary responsibility is to determine whether the course meets the content area criteria for their group. Some subcommittees have sometimes sent proposals back for instructors to make corrections, but it was noted that feedback/questions to instructor should be couched in CA criteria, not in pedagogy
- One member felt the syllabus and overall course proposal seemed inadequate, citing the proposed 300-student enrollment with a term paper, and a 64-topic "laundry list" syllabus that did not explain how the topics would be addressed throughout the course
- It was clarified that GEOC and subcommittees were not charged with evaluating the syllabi for courses and that asking for too many details could be conceived as "micromanaging" the course
- Overall it was determined that issues with the syllabus and technicalities with the proposal could be handled at the next level and that the proposal succeeded in meeting its Content Area criteria

The motion carried unanimously.

CA3 Science and Technology

The committee recommends approval of the following new course proposal:

- ANTH 1010 Global Climate Change and Human Societies

Discussion: (See CA2 discussion above)

The motion carried unanimously.

CA4

The committee recommends approval of the following new course proposal:

- AHS 2330 Italy's Mediterranean Food and Our Health

The committee recommends approval of the following revised course proposal as an intersession course:

- LAMS/HIST 3635 Mexico in 19th and 20th Century

The committee recommends approval of the following revised course proposal:

- MAST 2100W (INTD 1660W) Ports of Passage

Discussion:

- One member questions whether you could actually have a prerequisite that is a higher level than the course itself; it was answered that, yes, there are several departments where this is the case
- The committee asked for clarification as to whether the old INTD would be deleted from the catalogue since the course was not cross-listed

The motions carried unanimously.

Q – No report at this time

W

The committee recommends approval of the following new course proposals:

- GEOG 4096W Senior Thesis
- HSMG 4997W Senior Thesis in Healthcare Management

Addendum: As a late addition, the committee W recommends approval of the following revised course proposal:

- MAST 2100W (INTD 1660W) Ports of Passage

The motions carried unanimously.

4. Reports and Discussion

Murphy Sewall's meeting with V. Provost Reis – "DFW" Gen Ed courses

- Two items on the agenda were 1. The department budget, including assessment of 1-credit W's in Fall 2013, and making Provost's Competition bi-annual. Both were approved. The only question around the budget was a discussion of the extra funds allotted to the GEOC Chair for serving as the head of the committee, which is not the case on many other committees
- V. Provost Reis ask that the GEOC focus especially on DFW courses for the next Provost's Competition (courses in which 40% or more of students take a D, F or W); **the goal** would be to improve the quality of these courses and create more consistency across sections.

Discussion of CA1 Guidelines

- Francoise Dussart requested that the CA1 subcommittee be allowed to edit the wording for criteria in CA1; the GEOC expressed support for this with the understanding that the revised wording would need to be proposed to the Senate C&CC and then the Senate for approval
- The CA1 subcommittee noted that changes would not be dramatic, but would include wordsmithing as well as language that would better explain how the various criteria connect with one another
- Francoise Dussart will present a draft of the edits for the next GEOC meeting
- CA3 expressed an interest in possibly refurbishing their criteria as well

Clarification of a question asked at a previous meeting

- The new Environmental Studies program will be a BA under CLAS, as opposed to the Environmental Science major, which is a BS

Meeting adjourned at 2:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Piantek
GEOC Program Assistant