

GEOC Meeting April 13, 2016

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

Mike Young – Chair, (Karen Piantek – Admin), Joseph Abramo, Pam Bedore (Sen C&C ex-officio), 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, Steve Zinn, Shabaz Khan (student rep)

Meeting was called to order at 10:37am.

1. The minutes from March 30, 2016 were accepted unanimously.

2. Announcements

- A. Provost's Competition Year 1 and Final reports will be reviewed at the final GEOC Meeting with potential guests
- B. There will be food at the final meeting. Lots and LOTS of food.

3. Old Business

- A. Gen Ed Task Force Report – draft for review (Attached) Pam Bedore
 - P. Bedore asked if the GEOC had any feedback about the task force report that was included in the meeting packet.
 - M. Young noted that the GEOC recently moved to delete the Computer Technology competency and suggested that this should be reflected in the report.
 - P. Bedore noted that the task force report appeared to find that students wanted a computer-related competency.
 - There was discussion of what a revised Computer Technology competency would include, e.g. Microsoft Office, coding, other application software, etc.
 - S. Campbell said that he wasn't sure computer skills qualified as general education by liberal arts standards.
 - There was more extensive discussion of whether or not coding was something that should be included. D. Gross noted that coding is not even taught in most computer-focused courses.
 - P. Bedore asked what feedback she should convey to Jon Gajewski. M. Young said that the variance in feelings about a computer competency between faculty and students should be noted.
 - M. Young reminded the committee that the Computer Technology competency had essentially been relegated to a multiple choice test about floppy disks.
 - S. Campbell compared the issue to the previous debate about civility as a competency and how one would assess it. He also felt that the Information Literacy competency was not covered very extensively in the report.
 - P. Bedore noted that she would ask J. Gajewski to review his data again to see if there is anything else he can add to the report regarding Information Literacy, especially as it relates to First Year Writing.
 - Overall, M. Young didn't think there was a big problem with the report; there were just these points that P. Bedore will convey to Jon Gajewski.

- P. Bedore asked about motion language related to the deletion of the Computer Technology competency. She asked that GEOC draft official language, and M. Young said the GEOC would provide this.
- B. Digital Information Literacy competency – Plan for next year
- It was noted that students want financial literacy, so this may be a consideration moving forward.
 - A draft statement regarding Information Literacy will be provided for the next meeting.
- C. Honors MOU – draft for review (Attached)
- P. Bedore explained that this memorandum moved from having six different possible wordings for catalog copy of General Education Honors Core courses to having three. It was partially a catalog copy issue in that it had become hard to decide which provision applied.
 - Essentially the process has been streamlined and geared toward allowing there to be a conversation between instructors and non-Honors students so that they will understand the course expectations.
 - M. Young asked if Honors and the work group were looking for GEOC's endorsement of the new MOU, and P. Bedore confirmed that they were.
 - S. Campbell raised a concern about ENGL 2011 course not being mentioned in the MOU since its Information Literacy element makes it a Gen Ed course.
 - The motion was tabled pending potential revisions to the MOU to reflect the concern about ENGL 2011.
- D. Next steps on the proposal regarding First Year Writing waivers – On hold until after Task Force review

4. Subcommittee Reports

- A. CA1 Report
- The subcommittee noted a small issue in syllabus where there was a discrepancy between whether or not there was a 1-page or a 2-page paper required for the puppetry course.
 - K. Piantek noted that this course was a Provost's Competition winner.
 - The HIST course is missing a grading scale, but otherwise it looks good.
 - D. Gross asked about the different CLAS CA1 designations and how the courses gets those. K. Piantek noted that the courses go to CLAS before GEOC and indicate those designations then. When the course is submitted for GEOC review, those additional distinctions are not included.

CA1 Report accepted unanimously (Add DRAM 1XXX, HIST 1250)

- B. CA4 Report
- E. Urios-Aparisi explained report.

CA4 Report accepted unanimously (Add CHIN 3270, DRAM 1XXX, revise SOCI 3651/W)

- C. Q Report
- No report. The subcommittee will report next meeting.

- D. W Report
- A. Engler explained the report.
 - B. Goffinet asked about the reasoning behind moving the SOCI courses from 3000-level to 2000-level. It is likely just to make more sophomore-level Gen Eds available.

W Report accepted unanimously (Add PHIL 2208W; Revise AMST 3265W, PHIL 2210W, SOCI 3907W)

5. New Business

A. W alignment update –

- A. Engler has not heard back from most proposers. M. Young requested an email updating him on exactly which courses we have not yet heard from yet. A. Engler will provide this.
- M. Young asked the subcommittee to also look at the W guidelines language for possible updates next year.

Meeting adjourned at 11:22am.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Piantek
GEOC Program Assistant