



GEOC Meeting October 25, 2017

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

Eric Schultz – Chair, (Karen Piantek – Admin), Joseph Abramo, **Lisa Blansett**, Michael Bradford, Baki Cetegen, James Cole, Michael Darre (Ex-Officio), Ana Maria Diaz-Marcos, Arthur Engler, **Beth Ginsberg, Bernard Goffinet, David Gross, Alvaro Lozano-Robledo, Thomas Meyer, Michael Morrell**, Gustavo Nanclares, **Anji Seth**, Kathleen Tonry (Ex-Officio), Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, **Manuela Wagner, Brenda Brueggemann, Debarchana Ghosh**

Regrets: Joe Abramo, Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, Michael Bradford

Meeting was called to order at 9:35am.

1. Welcome

2. Minutes of October 9, 2017. Meeting were accepted as submitted.

3. Next Meeting: November 6, 2017 at 1:30pm

4. Chair's Report

A. Metanoia Plans

- E. Schultz noted that there is a group working on this that has met twice so far. There has been a call for proposals.

B. ΔGE Working Group

- The group has been empaneled and will meet for the first time this afternoon. Several other people have been added to the original group from the summer institute.
- E. Schultz noted that Michael Ego will represent regional campuses.

5. Subcommittee Reports

A. W Report

1. EEB 3244W Writing in Ecology, #3265 (W) [New W, no non-W]
2. SPSS 3660/W Nursery Production, #3802 (W) [New W with a non-W]
 - Amendments were made to the report to approve both courses.
 - The subcommittee will meet to discuss the purpose of a draft and the idea of grading drafts.
 - E. Schultz noted that the GEOC has had multiple discussions on this. He and K. Piantek will try to find the discussions on this from meeting meetings.
 - L. Blansett said that FYW would be happy to provide years of research that supports the idea of not grading drafts.
 - E. Schultz asked the W subcommittee to put together a position paper for GEOC review.

The report was accepted with the amendment with two abstentions.

6. Old Business

- A. GEOC Review of Second Language Courses (likely nothing to report)

- M. Wagner gave a brief overview of discussions regarding this issue. One of the major points of conversation will be assessment, which can be a “can of worms.” She has engaged LCL, which is the biggest provided of second language courses.
- A. Seth wanted a clarification on whether or not this will be to determine if GEOC should review proposals. Not yet. Right now the Second Language subcommittee is just reviewing the situation. E. Schultz, G. Nanclares, and M. Wagner will meet to determine next steps.

7. Course Action Requests

- A. PNB 3264W Molecular Principles of Physiology, #3681 (W) [Revise Pre-reqs]

Note: This course was placed on hold pending contact with the proposer about the need for a W statement/F clause in the syllabus.

- No discussion.

8. New Business

- A. Proposal to add Environmental Literacy to the General Education curriculum (Jack Clausen)

- J. Claussen introduced himself, and E. Schultz asked him to explain the proposal.
- J. Claussen noted that he has been part of a group of both faculty and students that are interested in environmental literacy and general education. He noted that about a year ago he brought forth a motion to the Senate to include environmental literacy in Gen Ed. This was approved by the Senate.
- He noted that he is here because some faculty, students, and administrators are not satisfied with the timeline, and he hopes to urge GEOC to include these components sooner rather than later, before the full overhaul of Gen Ed is development. He suggested a “proof of concept” initiative.
- B. Goffinet wanted to know what the genesis of the criteria was, as he has some concerns. J. Claussen noted that criteria were drafted by the group of 20 that originally drafted the motion.
- T. Meyer wanted to know about the mechanism for receiving credit for this, because it is not a content area and it is not a competency. E. Schultz said that this is not yet clear, but it may be as simple as adding an E to a course.
- B. Ginsberg expressed concern about the availability of identified courses at the regional campuses. She didn’t think any of the courses identified were offered at Stamford. J. Claussen noted that they are only asking for one course at this point, but B. Ginsberg noted that this course would need to be offered every semester at some campuses and would likely be packed.
- There was a question as to whether the E course could also be a Q or W or if it has to be a content area. J. Claussen noted that the proposal is silent on this, but there are some W and Q courses listed.
- E. Schultz noted that the list of courses is mostly to demonstrate that much is already available in this area.
- M. Morrell noted that this strand would necessarily be parasitic on other content area courses, and he expressed concern that an E would shift registration patterns away from other content areas that do not have Es. He asked, on a larger level, why we should consider doing this. On a more specific level, he asked about the motivation to do this. J. Claussen noted that both current events and a lot of student interest motivated this move.
- B. Brueggemann agreed this is important, but she noted that we need to be prepared to answer requests to add civic literacy, health literacy, and other areas of interest if we move forward.

- There was discussion of the term “literacy,” which is associated with entrance and exit criteria. This topic is more about awareness.
- J. Claussen noted that they are hoping for a roll-out in the Spring semester.
- A. Lozano-Robledo asked if they have looked at data to see to what extent students are already experiencing this literacy without having to implement a new requirement. J. Claussen indicated that CLAS has just asked for just such data, and they will likely expand this request to be university-wide.
- A. Seth suggested that Information Literacy functions as a strand, but E. Schultz indicated that he did not think this was the case. Departments decide individually how Info Lit requirements are fulfilled, and the courses do not actually have to be Gen Ed courses. CA4, on the other hand, does currently function much like a strand.
- D. Ghosh asked about next steps. GEOC would review and discuss the proposal and either approve it to send to the Senate C&C or send it back to the proposer for modification.
- J. Claussen suggested that the initiative could be called Epsilon GE.

9. Coming Up this Year

A. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed

B. Presentation from First-Year Writing, Honors

C. Q Assessment

- A. Lozano-Robledo gave a brief overview of the discussions on the Q Assessment thus far. They are currently in Phase 1.
- They have received some data, but they want three cohorts worth. Specifically, they want to focus on majors that are not Q-oriented and how those students fulfill Q requirements.
- B. Ginsberg asked A. Lozano-Robledo to be sure to engage with Q staff at other campuses. He indicated that they are well aware of issues, and he has been in contact with some of the regional campuses. He promised to continue to reach out to the regional campuses.
- M. Morrell asked if any other colleges besides CLAS add an extra Q requirement. A. Lozano-Robledo noted that they are looking at the requirements.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Piantek
GEOC Program Assistant