



## GEOC Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2018 – 9:30am-11:00am in Rowe 420

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

**Eric Schultz – Chair, (Karen McDermott – Admin), Joseph Abramo, Pamela Bedore (Ex-Officio), Lisa Blansett, Michael Bradford, Brenda Brueggemann, Kun Chen, James Cole, Debs Ghosh, Beth Ginsberg, Bernard Goffinet, Miguel Gomes, Mary Ellen Junda, Alvaro Lozano-Robledo, Richard Mancini, Michael Morrell, Kathleen Tonry (Ex-Officio), Jason Vokoun, Manuela Wagner, Chunsheng Yang**

Meeting was called to order at 9:30am.

### 1. Preliminaries

A. Call-ins: Dial 1-866-857-0502, passcode 2023183#

### 2. Welcome and Regrets

- a. Regrets: P. Bedore, M. Gomes (semester?), R. Mancini (semester), M. Morrell
- b. Jason Vokoun was introduced as one of the new EL Co-Chairs.

### 3. Past and Future

- a. Minutes of October 3, 2018 meeting (Minutes\_10-3-18.docx)

**The minutes were approved by acclamation.**

- b. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 31, 1:30pm-3:00pm

### 4. Chair's Report

#### A. ΔGE Working Group

- The group has not met again recently, but E. Schultz attended an Academic Affairs committee meeting of the Undergraduate Student Government and had a discussion with students. He got some very valuable feedback.
- The structure group had three options. The goals group is working on a statement of purpose. The Communication group has been working on a number of items, including a student essay contest.

#### B. Environmental Literacy Co-Chairs appointed: Kathleen Tonry and Jason Vokoun

#### C. Provost's Competition Announcement has gone out – Please advertise (see 'Provost General Education Course Enhancement Grant Competition\_Final.pdf')

- One proposal has been received thus far. Members were asked to advertise the competition to their colleagues.

#### D. General Education Course Student Essay Contest – Please Advertise (see 'General Education Course Essay Contest.pdf')

- K. McDermott provided some details of the contest and asked members to advertise it wherever possible.

- J. Vokoun noted that Education Abroad is looking to sponsor a contest about creating EL courses abroad. We should talk to Dan Weiner.

## 5. Subcommittee Reports

### A. CA1 Report

- AASI/AMST 3201 Introduction to Asian American Studies [CA1, CA4] (Level change)
- HEJS 1103 Literature and Civilization of the Jewish People [CA1, CA4] (Revise title and description)

### B. CA3 Report

- SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability [CA2, CA3] (#6267) [New]
- MCB 1200 Virus Hunters [CA3-Lab] (New)

### C. CA4 Report (see 'CA4 Report\_10-18-18.doc')

- AASI/AMST 3201 Introduction to Asian American Studies [CA1, CA4] (Level change)
- HEJS 1103 Literature and Civilization of the Jewish People [CA1, CA4] (Revise title and description)

- There were no concerns with the report.

**The CA4 Report was accepted as submitted with one abstention (Approval of AASI/AMST 3201 & HEJS 1103).**

### D. Q Report

- Q assessment
- Departments have been replying to our request for contacts. We are getting the names of regional faculty as well.
  - A. Lozano-Robledo gave a background of the project for the benefit of new members and discussed the distinction between assessment and alignment.

### E. W Report

- BME 3600W Biomechanics [W] (#7491) [Revise Prereq]
- MCB 3841W Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology [W] (#6026) [Revise pre-reqs]
- MCB 3842W Current Investigations in Cancer Cell Biology [W] (#7031) [New]
- MCB 3843W Research Literature in Comparative Genomics [W] (#7030) [New]
- MCB 3845W Microbial Diversity, Ecology and Evolution [W] (#7032) [New]
- SOWK 4100W Senior Seminar in Social Work [W] (New)
- WGSS 3217 Women, Gender and Film [W] (#5790) [Level change, add W version]

## 6. Old Business

### A. Learning Outcomes for Second Language General Education courses

- E. Schultz summarized some communication he has had with M. Wagner, Gustavo Nanclares, and the Second Language subcommittee.

- Can we define what it is possible for a student to do in the first year of studying a language? The general feeling is yes. The goal is to draft learning outcomes that reflect this.
- E. Schultz offered to draft a memo that the Second Language Co-Chairs could use in support of their task, and M. Wagner accepted the offer.

## 7. Course Action Requests (None)

## 8. New Business

- Motion to Implement Environmental Literacy (see 'Motion to implement Environmental Literacy')
  - Carol Atkinson-Palombo was on hand to answer questions.
  - E. Schultz gave the committee some background on revisions to the document as well as next steps in the University Senate.

### **J. Vokoun motioned to consider the implementation of EL. K. Tonry seconded.**

- E. Schultz explained some of the language changes which address the idea of a triple-dip. The only allowed triple-dip will involve an E.
- One member felt that this might be confusing to "mere mortals." E. Schultz noted that he has created Gen Ed Plan of Study grids that can help students track what they need to take.
- One member asked if we need to include the competencies W and Q in the language. E. Schultz will draft language to add as a friendly amendment.
- The current document talks in terms of courses. One member asked if we should be talking in terms of credits.
- Do we need to spell out that if students are taking a stand-alone E course they need to take an extra Gen Ed course? No, it was felt this was implicit.
- One member suggested we just forbid courses from being stand-alone E courses; however, this is at odds with what the committee envisioned.
- E courses would function a lot like Ws, which allow Ws in the major that have more advanced prereqs.
- There was discussion of the nature of EL. Is it a competency or a new CA5? In short, neither.

**J. Cole motioned to add an amendment to specify that students can use E courses to satisfy multiply content areas, so long as they satisfy the seven-course requirement. D. Ghosh seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**M. Wagner motioned to add an amendment to add language allowing a course to be W, Q, and E. K. Tonry seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**The motion to approve the Motion to Implement Environmental Literacy was passed unanimously.**

- Further revisions to Senate Rules and Regulations pertaining to Environmental Literacy (see 'Revisions to Senate Rules and Regs II.C.2 2018\_amended for EL')

### **J. Vokoun motioned to consider the changes. K. Chen seconded.**

- E. Schultz explained the document and some changes and notes that were suggested by another member.

- One member suggested that we do not need to include all of the nuances from the implementation motion in the rules and regs. Another member disagreed and felt that it was best to include any language from the implementation motion.
- If members are in agreement, changes suggested to the Rules and Regulations will be implemented in the document.
- There was some discussion of the actual structure of the section that was changed. It was suggested that everything be spelled out very clearly in another section, i.e. a “dipping paragraphing.”
- Under the courses section, a sentence will be added about the prereqs and coreqs of competency courses.
- E. Schultz will send the document around with the changes and solicit an eVote.

**\* In subsequent eVoting, the document was approved unanimously, with 14 aye votes, no nays, and no abstentions.**

## **9. Coming Up**

- A. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed
- B. Presentation from First-Year Writing

Meeting adjourned at 11:00am

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen C. P. McDermott  
GEOC Program Assistant