



GEOC Meeting Minutes

October 31, 2018 – 1:30pm-3:00pm 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, Jason Vokoun, Manuela Wagner, Chunsheng Yang**

Meeting was called to order at 1:30pm.

1. Welcome and Regrets

- a. Regrets: P. Bedore, M. Gomes (semester?), R. Mancini (semester)

2. Past and Future

- a. Minutes of October 18, 2018 meeting ('Minutes_10-18-18.docx')

The minutes were approved as submitted.

- b. Next Meeting: Thursday, November 15, 9:30am-10:00am

3. Chair's Report

A. ΔGE Working Group – Joint GEOC/DeltaGE Meeting - Tuesday, Nov. 6 from 12:00pm-1:30pm

- The group wants GEOC's feedback. E. Schultz will send everyone documents with options for new Gen Ed structures and goals.
- If GEOC members really want to meet with DeltaGE and cannot make these times, we can try to find another time.

B. Training held for GEOC Subcommittee Members

- E. Schultz and K. McDermott hosted a training for new subcommittee members and five people attended. Attendees reviewed the curriculum, the CAR form, and how to evaluate syllabi.

C. Provost's Competition Announcement has gone out – Please advertise

- We have one proposal in hand with several inquiries.
- We will be soliciting reviewers soon. There will be food at the selection meeting.

D. General Education Course Student Essay Contest – 12+ Submissions

- We received an email from one faculty member who felt we were pandering. There was concern about the timing of the contest with regard to grade submission.
- The comment came about because all current Gen Ed instructors were asked to announce the competition in their classes.

E. Alignment Packets have gone out to Departments

- Materials are due November 9. One packet has already been submitted.

- Packets will go out to subcommittees for review usually after Christmas break.

F. Motion to Implement Environmental Literacy

- The motion was reviewed and approved by the Senate C&C. It will be seen and probably passed by the Senate on Monday.

G. Further revisions to Senate Rules and Regulations pertaining to Environmental Literacy

- The document was reviewed and approved by the Senate C&C, but it will probably be deferred to December for approval by the Senate.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA1 Report (see 'CA1 Report_10-31-18')

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

The report was approved as submitted unanimously. (Approved AASI/AMST 3201 & HEJS 1103)

B. CA3 Report (see 'CA3 Report_10-31-18')

- a. MCB 1200 Virus Hunters [CA3-Lab] (New)
 - b. SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability [CA2, CA3] (#6267) [New]
- It was noted that the MCB course had edits to the catalog copy.
 - There was a question about whether MCB had consulted with other departments, particularly Pathobiology (PVS). It was recommended that we move the motion forward but task the proposer with consulting PVS.
 - The CA3 subcommittee was significantly reluctant to approve the SPSS course, even with new membership.
 - CA3 had requested to see the CARs for other courses approved for more than one content area in CA1, CA2, and CA3. Only one course (DMD 2010) is approved for both CA1 and CA3, and it was found that this course only addressed one item of CA3.
 - There was a discussion of the differences in guidelines between content areas. For example, CA1 requires only one criteria be met while CA2 requires all criteria be met.
 - There was clarification of where the SPSS course currently sits and where the Senate stands on this. The Senate has approved language that says a course can be approved for up to two content areas within CA1, CA2, and CA3.
 - One member suggested that we not concentrate on a permanent solution given that Gen Ed at UConn will be changing soon. It was suggested that maybe we just create a bridge for now until that happens.
 - As a counterpoint, it was noted that the new Gen Ed structure will still have many of the same elements as it does now, so these are questions that still need to be answered.
 - There was additional discussion of criteria in some of the others areas, particularly Q.
 - There was a question about how much the lure of increasing enrollment is driving the push for multiple content areas.
 - The CA3 committee will look at revising their criteria.

- One member felt that we need to make a decision on the SPSS course prior to revising the criteria. The course was proposed in good faith, and we cannot go back and change the rules at this point.
- It was also clarified that the subcommittees are only advisory and that the full GEOC can override the subcommittee's decision.
- It was noted that the CA3 subcommittee maintains the course cannot meet two criteria at once, but that is at odds with GEOC's rules and regulations. If the subcommittee wants to reject the course, the rejection must be based in the CA3 criteria.
- One member suggested specifically looking at the CA3 Criteria 1, which specifies that the course must "explore an area of science or technology by introducing students to a **broad**, coherent body of knowledge and contemporary scientific or technical methods." The subcommittee could reject the course on the grounds that the scope of the inquiry is not broad enough.

The report was split and MCB 1200 was approved with the amendment that PVS be consulted. (Approved MCB 1200.)

C. Q Report

- a. Q assessment

D. W Report

- a. BME 3600W Biomechanics [W] (#7491) [Revise Prereq]
 - b. MCB 3841W Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology [W] (#6026) [Revise pre-reqs]
 - c. MCB 3842W Current Investigations in Cancer Cell Biology [W] (#7031) [New]
 - d. MCB 3843W Research Literature in Comparative Genomics [W] (#7030) [New]
 - e. MCB 3845W Microbial Diversity, Ecology and Evolution [W] (#7032) [New]
 - f. SOWK 4100W Senior Seminar in Social Work [W] (New)
 - g. WGSS 3217 Women, Gender and Film [W] (#5790) [Level change, add W version]
- B. Ginsberg was available in person for the first time to explain the subcommittee report. She noted that there has been a lot of turnover in the subcommittee which has slowed up the process.
 - There was discussion of exactly what needs to be included in the different syllabi and how specific syllabi need to be for the benefit of student.
 - Upon review, an additional course not originally approved in the report was deemed to meet W criteria. MCB 3845W was added to the list of courses being put forward for approval.

M. Morrell moved to amend the report to approve MCB 3845W. B. Ginsberg seconded. The report was approved unanimously as amended. (Approved MCB 3842W, MCB 3843W, MCB 3845W & WGSS 3217W)

5. Old Business

- A. Learning Outcomes for Second Language General Education courses
- B. Possible requirement that at least one W course should be in the English language
- C. Possible change of W requirement on paper length, from page length to word number

- The W subcommittee has not yet addressed items B and C in their group.
- One member felt that the Second Language subcommittee should be included in the discussion of the first item about requiring at least one W course in English. The Chair agreed and asked the W Co-Chairs to engage the SL Co-Chairs.

6. Course Action Requests

- a. EEB 2208 Introduction to Conservation Biology [CA3, EL] (#8517) [Add CA3 and EL]
 - E. Schultz introduced the course and noted that we can make history by referring it to the E subcommittee.

The course was referred to the EL and CA3 subcommittees.

- b. MARN 3003Q Environmental Reaction and Transport [Q] (#8639) [Revise prereqs]
- c. MATH 3710/W Mathematical Modeling [W] (#8537) [Adding W version; revise catalog copy]
- d. POLS 3434/W Excavating the International in Everyday Practices [W] (#8597) [New]
- e. SOCI 2310 Introduction to Criminal Justice [CA2, CA4] (#8939) [Adding CA2 & CA4]

7. New Business

8. Coming Up

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

Meeting adjourned at 2:58pm

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