



GEOC Meeting Minutes

November 28, 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, **Jason Vokoun, Manuela Wagner**, Chunsheng Yang

Meeting was called to order at 1:32pm.

1. Welcome and Regrets

A. Regrets: P. Bedore, M. Gomes (semester?), R. Mancini (semester), M. Bradford, B. Ginsbeth,

2. Past and Future

A. Minutes of November 15, 2018 meeting ('Minutes_11-15-18.docx')

The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Next Meeting: Thursday, December 13, 9:30am-11:00am

C. Spring Meeting Schedule:

Tuesday, January 29 – 2:00pm-3:30pm

Tuesday, February 12 – 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Monday, February 25 – 1:00pm-2:30pm (Location TBA)

Tuesday, March 12 – 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Monday, April 1 – 1:00pm-2:30pm

Tuesday, April 16 – 2:00pm – 3:30pm

Monday, April 29 – 1:00pm-2:30pm

3. Chair's Report

A. ΔGE Working Group – Joint GEOC/DeltaGE Meeting

a. Update from meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 27

- There was a tri-lateral meeting of curriculum committees where faculty and staff discussed General Education goals and a fourth option for structure.
- E. Schultz will meet with the Nursing and Engineering programs, department heads, and advisors in the coming months.
- Structural option four is mostly in play right now. It resolved some issues but may have created others.
- We are especially looking at the idea that all majors have a capstone. There are some legitimate concerns about this by some departments, but this is an option we want to try and work with.

B. Provost's Competition Announcement – 11 Proposals Total

- We have a date for the selection committee meeting: December 12
- C. General Education Course Student Essay Contest – 51 eligible essays received
- We are still working on a date for this panel to meet.
- D. New GEOC Chair
- The call for the New GEOC Chair should be coming out soon if anyone is interested in this position.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA1 Report

- a. DRAM 2134 Honors Core: Analyzing Sport as Performance [CA1] [Intensive session request]
- b. ECON 2120 Honors Core: Rights and Harms (#8657) [New CA1]
- c. ENGL/AMST 2200 Literature and Culture of North America before 1800 (#7692) [New CA1]
- d. HIST 3412 Intellectual and Social History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century [CA1] (#8799) [Level, title, and description change, add W section]
- e. WGSS 3217W Women, Gender and Film (#5790) [Add CA1 and CA4]

B. CA3 Report

- a. EEB 2100E Global Change Ecology (#8196) [New E]
- b. EEB 2208 Introduction to Conservation Biology [CA3, EL] (#8517) [Add CA3 and EL]
- c. EEB 3205 Current Issues in Environmental Science (#8679) [Revise recommended prep; adding CA3 & E]
- d. SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability [CA2, CA3] (#6267) [New]
 - The subcommittee put forth a report to approve SPSS 1060.
 - It was noted that one subcommittee member resigned over the approval of the SPSS course. (See previous minutes for discussions.)

The report was accepted as submitted with one abstention (approval of SPSS 1060).

C. CA4 Report

- a. WGSS 3217W Women, Gender and Film (#5790) [Add CA1 and CA4]

D. Q Report

- a. Q assessment
- b. ECON 2311 Econometrics I (#8745) [Revise title and catalog copy and adding Q]
- c. ECON 2312 Econometrics II (#8746) [Revise title and catalog copy and adding Q]
 - Had to ask the instructors for additional clarification because of the syllabus minimalism.

E. W Report

- a. BME 3600W Biomechanics [W] (#7491) [Revise Prereq]
- b. ECON 2447(W) Economics of Sports (#8112) [Adding W version]

- c. HIST 3412W Intellectual and Social History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century [CA1] (#8799) [Level, title, and description change, add W section]
- d. HIST 3413W Intellectual and Social history of Europe in the Twentieth Century [CA1, W] (#8800) [Level, title, and description change]
- e. MCB 3843W Research Literature in Comparative Genomics [W] (#7030) [New]
- f. SOWK 4100W Senior Seminar in Social Work [W] (8477) [New]
 - L. Blansett gave a brief overview of the report.

The report was accepted as submitted unanimously (approval of SOWK 4100W).

F. E Report

- a. EEB 2100E Global Change Ecology (#8196) [New E]
- b. EEB 2208 Introduction to Conservation Biology [CA3, EL] (#8517) [Add CA3 and EL]
- c. EEB 3205 Current Issues in Environmental Science (#8679) [Revise recommended prep; adding CA3 & E]
 - This subcommittee will meet for the first time face-to-face in early December to ‘calibrate.’
 - There was a brief discussion of catalog deadlines and related implications.

5. Old Business

A. Learning Outcomes for Second Language General Education courses

- There have been discussions. Gustavo Nanclares has sent out letters to the departments involved. They would like to meet with E. Schultz.

B. Possible requirement that at least one W course should be in the English language

- The subcommittee has scheduled a meeting for finals weeks to discuss this.

C. Possible change of W requirement on paper length, from page length to word number

- The subcommittee has scheduled a meeting for finals weeks to discuss this.

6. Course Action Requests

Older Requests

A. HIST 3540/W American Environmental History [CA1, CA4, E, W] (#4999) [Multiple revisions and additions]

- E. Schultz reached out to the proposer, but he realized he did not fully represent the committee’s request.

- E. Schultz also heard from Pam Bedore. She noted that CLAS C&C does not usually ask proposers for multiple syllabi for variable topics courses, and she wondering if this was going to be the official practice so that she could let faculty know.
- One member gave an example of senior theses, which can vary widely by semester and student. It is odd that we spend so much time examining syllabi when the next time a different faculty member teaches a course it is likely to change.
- The question is, on some level, do we trust the departments? If not, then maybe we should just not allow multiple topics.
- One member felt the issue was less a problem with W and more with the content related to the other Gen Ed areas. Overall the member had a conceptual issue with the course trying to address four areas. It was also noted that we have a past syllabus rather than a forward-looking syllabus.
- The CA4 area may be the iteration where there is the most issue with variability.
- One member felt that we needed assurance that all iterations will meet Gen Ed criteria.
- There was some disagreement about whether GEOC needed to see one forward-looking syllabus that addresses all iterations or three separate syllabi that address the different areas. One member felt that the former was not possible to create.
- It was suggested that we send the course forward to the subcommittees and see what they think about it. E. Schultz recommended that subcommittees communicate with him about any concerns, and he will communicate those concerns collectively to the proposer.

This course was referred to CA1, CA4, W, and E

B. HIST/AMST 2210 History of Ocean [CA1] (#8660) [Adding E]

- There was discussion of whether CA1 also needed to see this course since it was only adding E. Yes, as we usually use this as an interim alignment process.

This course was referred to CA1 and E.

**As an aside, it was noted that ECON 2312 also has a W version. E. Schultz will follow up with the proposer.*

C. JOUR 1002 The Press in America (#8436) [Adding CA1]

- No comments.

This course was referred to CA1.

D. JOUR 2010 Journalism in the Movies (#8159) [Adding CA1]

- No comments.

This course was referred to CA1.

E. MARN 3003Q Environmental Reaction and Transport [Q] (#8639) [Revise prereqs]

- This course does not need to be a Q course since students are only required to take two.
- The Q center will only tutor for Q courses, but only Qs at the 1000- and 2000-level.
- E. Schultz can engage with the proposer.
- MATH 1110Q may be an inappropriate pre-req, and the course has not been offered in a long time.
- The same argument was made to the ECON department regarding their courses, but it did not have an impact on the proposers. The proposers suggested that students might be able to place out of the lower version of the ECON course and so might need the Q in the next-level version.

M. Morrell motioned to empower E. Schultz to go to the proposer and suggest the removal of the Q from the course. M. Wagner seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. MATH 3710/W Mathematical Modeling (#8537) [Adding W version; revise catalog copy]

- There was a question about whether only the W version is restricted to MATH majors. Yes, it is.
- We should check with the Registrar's Office to see if it's ok to remove the credit restrictions if the courses are old enough.
- The portfolio is only worth 15% of the grade. This seems odd given the F clause. One member wanted clarification that a student could fail this 15% writing component and still fail the course. Yes. It is likely that the other work leading up to the portfolio feeds into the portfolio grade and will balance this out.
- There was some discussion of additional credit for W work. Some courses do 1-credit add-ons, but many do not.

This course was referred to W.

G. POLS 3019/W Black Political Thought (#8747) [Adding W]

- There may be an issue with the number of pages subjected to revision. The W subcommittee was asked to look at this.

This course was referred to W.

H. POLS 3434/W Excavating the International in Everyday Practices (#8597) [New W]

- No comments.

This course was referred to W.

I. SOCI 2310 Introduction to Criminal Justice (#8939) [Adding CA2 & CA4]

- No comments.

This course was referred to CA2 and CA4.

Newer Requests

J. MKTG 4997W Senior Thesis in Marketing [W] (#8698) [Revise Prereqs]

- Can the pre-reqs also be co-reqs? No.
- E. Schultz also asked the proposer about adding the F Clause to the syllabus and they agreed.
- The committee generally felt that the course was aligned with W.

M. Morrell moved to send the course to Senate C&C. L. Blansett seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

K. NRE 1000 Environmental Science [CA3, E] (#9200) [Add E]

- It was noted that all the NRE courses here have currently been submitted for alignment, so this and others do not need to go to CA3.

This course was referred to E.

L. NRE 1235 Environmental Conservation [CA1, E] (#8919) [Add E]

- This course was submitted for alignment.

This course was referred to E.

M. NRE 2215 Introduction to Water Resources [E] (#9159) [Add E]

- One member was not sure the course will meet the requirements for E, but they were okay with it going to the subcommittee for review.

This course was referred to E.

N. NRE 2600 Global Sustainable Natural Resources [CA4-Int, E] (#9201) [Add E]

- This course was submitted for alignment.

This course was referred to E.

O. NRE 3385W Fisheries Techniques [W] (#8115) [New W]

- The catalog copy will be revised to say “any STATs course” rather than “STATs courses of 1000-level or higher.”
- There may be a possible grammatical issue in the catalog copy. The W subcommittee was asked to look at this.

This course was referred to W.

P. PHAR 1001 Toxic Chemicals and Health [CA3, E] (#8989) [Add E]

- One member expressed doubt that the course will meet E requirements.
- Edits were made to the catalog copy and approved by the proposer.
- The Environmental Health and Environmental Toxicology course instructors should be consulted as a matter of professional courtesy. E. Shultz will ask the proposer to consult.

This course was referred to CA3 and E.

Q. PHYS 1040QE Cosmic Origins of Life [CA3, Q, E] (#9339) [New CA3, Q, and E]

- No comments.

This course was referred to CA3, Q, and E.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm

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