



GEOC Meeting Minutes

April 30, 2018 – 1:00pm-2:30pm in Rowe 420

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

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

Regrets: Joseph Abramo, Brenda Brueggemann, Michael Bradford

Meeting was called to order at 1:04pm.

1. Preliminaries

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

2. Welcome and Regrets

3. Past and Future

- a. Minutes of April 18, 2018 meeting (Minutes_4-18-18.docx)
- No discussion

Accepted as submitted.

- b. Next Meeting: Fall 2018
- c. Fall meetings have been scheduled:
- Wed. Sept. 5 – 1:30pm-3:00pm
 - Thurs. Sept. 20 – 9:30am-11:00am
 - Wed. Oct. 3 – 1:30pm-3:00pm
 - Thurs. Oct. 18 – 9:30am-11:00am
 - Wed. Oct. 31 – 1:30pm-3:00pm
 - Thurs. Nov. 15 – 9:30am-11:00am
 - Wed. Nov. 28 – 1:30pm-3:00pm
 - Thurs. Dec. 13 – 9:30am-11:00am (exam week)

4. 2016-2017 Provost's Competition Reports

- a. Michael Orwicz reporting on ARTH 3575 ('Orwicz_Progress Report_2018'; 'Orwicz_Syllabus ARTH 3575')
- M. Orwicz plans to teach the course at the 3000-level in the Spring. It is currently being taught at the 1000-level. He noted that he has put it down as a cross-listed HRTS course, but he has not actually approached the HRTS department about the course yet.
 - The course uses a "Learn to see, but see to learn" philosophy. M. Orwicz hopes students will learn to see and decipher the world around them.

- He was asked if he consulted with Digital Humanities. M. Orwicz indicated that he thought about doing so, as well as Graphic Design, but he thought about it a little late.
- He was asked if he heard about the emerging Writing Studies minor. It was noted that a course like this that thinks beyond the text would be a great addition.
- M. Orwicz was asked to explain a little more about additional items that he indicated he wished he had asked for. He explained some of the text and videos he would like to have on hand.

5. Chair's Report

A. Please suggest revisions to the Alignment Forms

- It was noted that there was some confusion with the alignment process and the GERM course instructor was afraid we were taking the W away from his course.

B. Environmental Literacy (EL)

- E. Schultz discussed an EL report to the Senate including a definition of EL. The task force very explicitly felt that EL needed to address human interaction with or impact on the environment.
- One member expressed concerned that criteria #6 by itself does not seem to satisfy the idea of EL. Another member suggested that it approaches the topic from a more philosophical perspective and expands the notion of literacy.
- One member also wanted the idea of "substantial" content to be more specifically defined. Should we set this as an agenda item for next year in GEOC? There was some clarification of the purpose and power of this report. There was concern about how binding the actions proposed are.
- There was some uncertainty over how the two proposed double dips would work with the E course. There was disagreement over whether the E had to be one of the double-dips (as opposed to double-dipping CA4 twice). It seemed to be resolved that the double dips would have to involve one CA4 and one E.
- There was discussion of a study abroad/substitution question.

6. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA3 Report

- SPSS 1060 The Great American Lawn: History, Culture and Sustainability [CA2, CA3] (#6267) [New] – Pending Updated Syllabus
- MCB 1201 Virus Hunting: Applied Bioinformatics [CA3-Lab] (#6767) [New]
 - SPSS 1060 is still pending. The subcommittee is waiting on a more detailed syllabus. E. Schultz spoke to the proposer on the syllabus and told him to "do a good job rather than a fast job." We will take it up in the Fall.
 - The syllabus for MCB 1201 was a little thin. The subcommittee approved the course based on CAR content, and asked the proposer to update the syllabus. An updated syllabus has since been received.

The report was approved unanimously. (Approve MCB 1201)

B. W Report

- ASLN 3306W Advanced American Sign Language, Level II [W] (#6427) [New]

b. MCB 3841W Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology [W] (#6026) [Revise pre-reqs]

- There was a brief overview of the committee's discussions.
- Is there an ASLN major? It is in development, which is why the department wanted this course.
- The W subcommittee expressed gratitude to Linda Pelletier for her input.
- One member felt that the analogy to another language like French or Spanish is not apt. The mode of presentation is different. The W designation is a writing requirement, and the mode of presentation is not technically writing. The presentation is really more analogous to public speaking. It is not a "communication" requirement or even a "composition" requirement. With writing there is a reader, there is no body language, etc. The member suggested brail as more akin to writing. There was acknowledgement that there really is no way to write in this language.
- There was discussion about adding a condition to the W requirements that at least one of the courses students need to take should be in the English language or at least outside the major.

The report was approved unanimously. (Approve ASLN 3306W)

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm

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