



GEOC Meeting Minutes

December 13, 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 1:37pm.

1. Welcome and Regrets

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

2. Past and Future

A. Minutes of November 28, 2018 meeting ('Minutes_11-15-18.docx')

The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 29, 2019 2:00pm-3:30pm

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 (Dodd?)

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/Senate C&C Meeting – Dec. 17 at 1:30pm

- E. Schultz will send a reminder about the meeting and will circulate structural model 4.5.
- The Goals group has been working on language but does not have anything ready to circulate.

B. Provost's Competition Update

- The review committee selected four proposals for funding. They adjusted the funding on two of the proposals to remove GA funds.
- We have an informal funding limit that we could have gone over, but the committee did not feel strongly enough about any other proposals to consider funding them.
- Based on post-review discussions, the committee decided to require a preliminary syllabus with proposal submissions.

C. General Education Course Student Essay Contest Update

- A review committee of three faculty, two students, and one staff person met to select winners. They awarded one grand prize and four honorable mentions.
- The winning essay was on STAT 1110Q.

D. Issue with E requirement for School of Ed students

- A GEOC member brought to E. Schultz's attention a potential issue with the new E requirement that affects some current UConn students. Students enter the Neag School of Education in their Junior year and have completed most of their Gen Eds by this time. Students admitted at his time are considered part of the current catalog year, so this would affect juniors this coming Fall 2019 who would enter Neag under the 2019-2020 catalog requirements and would thus be required to complete an E course.
- We need to consider how the E requirement is going to work for students changing schools or colleges and transfer students. For the former, this will only be a problem for a few years. For the latter, it will always be an issue.
- E. Schultz needs to have a conversation with staff in ACES.

4. Subcommittee Reports

A. CA1 Report (see 'CA1 Report_12-13-18') – Courses in blue are covered in the report

- DRAM 2134 Honors Core: Analyzing Sport as Performance [CA1] [Intensive session request]
- ECON 2120 Honors Core: Rights and Harms (#8657) [New CA1]
- ENGL/AMST 2200 Literature and Culture of North America before 1800 (#7692) [New CA1]
- HIST 3412 Intellectual and Social History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century [CA1, W] (#8799) [Level, title, and description change, add W section]
- HIST 3413W Intellectual and Social History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century [CA1, W] (#8800) [Level, title, and description change]
- HIST 3540/W American Environmental History [CA1, CA4, E, W] (#4999) [Multiple revisions and additions]
- HIST/MAST 2210 History of Ocean (#8660) [Adding E]
- JOUR 1002 The Press in America (#8436) [Adding CA1]
- JOUR 2010 Journalism in the Movies (#8159) [Adding CA1]
- WGSS 2217W Women, Gender and Film (#5790) [Add CA1 and CA4]

- No discussion.

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of DRAM 2134, ECON 2120, ENGL/AMST 2200, HIST 3412, and HIST 3413W). DRAM 2134, ECON 2120, ENGL/AMST 2200, and HIST 3412 (non-W) will be sent on to Senate C&C.

B. CA2 Report (see 'CA2 report_12-13-18')

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

- No discussion.

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of SOCI 2310).

C. CA3 Report (see 'CA3 Report_12-13-18') – Courses in blue are covered in the report

- a. EEB 2100E Global Change Ecology [CA3, E] (#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. PHAR 1001 Toxic Chemicals and Health [CA3, E] (#8989) [Add E]
- e. PHYS 1040QE Cosmic Origins of Life [CA3, Q, E] (#9339) [New CA3, Q, and E]

- No discussion.

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of EEB 2100E, EEB 2208, and EEB 3205). EEB 2100E, EEB 2208, and EEB 3205 will be sent on to the Senate C&C for CA3.

D. CA4 Report (see 'CA4 Report_12-13-18')

- a. HIST 3540/W American Environmental History [CA1, CA4, E, W] (#4999) [Multiple revisions and additions]
- b. SOCI 2310 Introduction to Criminal Justice (#8939) [Adding CA2 & CA4]
- c. WGSS 2217W Women, Gender and Film (#5790) [Add CA1 and CA4]

- There was a question about the CA4 nature of the HIST 3540/W course and whether the course satisfies CA4 given that it only covers the Americas. The CA4 report seems to address the issue.

The two-part report was accepted as submitted with one abstention (approval of SOCI 2310, HIST 3540/W, WGSS 3217W). SOCI 2310 and WGSS 2217W (for CA4) will be sent on to the Senate C&C.

- As a post-report discussion, one member asked about whether a subcommittee could hold up a course approval because the syllabus reflects how the course is currently taught versus how it will be taught with the newly proposed designation. Yes, the W committee does this all the time. If the proposer refuses to provide a forward-looking syllabus, the course can be held up.
- It was suggested that this committee should ask proposers to provide a "minimum syllabus" that indicates a list of topics that will always be covered rather than look at syllabi that provide individual incarnations. Another member felt the overall point was important, but he could not imagine trying to create a 'minimum syllabus' for some of the courses in his department because of their potential for variability.
- E. Schultz and K. McDermott need to review the procedures and policies document about syllabi. In general, this warrants some discussions with the departments.

E. Q Report

- a. Q assessment
- b. ECON 2311Q Econometrics I (#8745) [Revise title and catalog copy and adding Q]
- c. ECON 2312Q Econometrics II (#8746) [Revise title and catalog copy and adding Q]*
- d. PHYS 1040QE Cosmic Origins of Life [CA3, Q, E] (#9339) [New CA3, Q, and E]

- The two ECON courses had very stripped-down syllabi. There was also very little documentation in the PHYS course. The subcommittee has asked for additional material.

- There was some discussion of the Q requirement. ECON was asked by GEOC to drop the Q for ECON 2312 because it is not really needed, but the department does not want to. MARN was also asked to drop the Q on an upcoming course, but the department felt that the Q serves as a warning to students that the course is math-heavy, i.e. it is a 'Cautionary Q.'

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of ECON 2311Q, ECON 2312Q, PHYS 1040Q). ECON 2311Q and PHYS 1040Q will be sent on to the Senate C&C.

**It was again noted that ECON 2312 also has a W version. E. Schultz will follow up with the proposer.*

F. W Report

- BME 3600W Biomechanics [W] (#7491) [Revise Prereq]
 - ECON 2447(W) Economics of Sports (#8112) [Adding W version]
 - HIST 3412 Intellectual and Social History of Europe in the Nineteenth Century [CA1] (#8799) [Level, title, and description change, add W section]
 - HIST 3413W Intellectual and Social history of Europe in the Twentieth Century [CA1, W] (#8800) [Level, title, and description change]
 - HIST 3540/W American Environmental History [CA1, CA4, E, W] (#4999) [Multiple revisions and additions]
 - MATH 3710/W Mathematical Modeling (#8537) [Adding W version; revise catalog copy]
 - MCB 3841W Research Literature in Molecular and Cell Biology [W] (#6026) [Revise pre-reqs]
 - NRE 3385W Fisheries Techniques [W] (#8115) [New W]
 - POLS 3019/W Black Political Thought (#8747) [Adding W]
 - POLS 3434/W Excavating the International in Everyday Practices (#8597) [New W]
- L. Blansett explained the report, and there was some discussion of persistent issues communicating with proposers.
 - One member questioned the subcommittee's issue with the number of pages in the MATH syllabus.
 - L. Blansett noted that one proposer asked for a good model syllabus, so she is looking for one. E. Schultz suggested that she contact CETL. He will follow up with CETL about resources.
 - Another GEOC member also had a question about one of the POLS courses. Does the F clause really have to be worded exactly as we have it in our guidelines? Yes.
 - Any revised syllabi that subcommittees receive should be sent to E. Schultz and/or K. McDermott so they can upload them to the web CAR.
 - How much information about writing instruction needs to be included? L. Blansett gave subcommittee members some criteria.
 - In general, subcommittee members had differing interpretations of language in the syllabi on whether or not each course satisfied criteria. This has resulted in a number of courses being held up as the subcommittee sorts things out and tries to come to a consensus.
 - One member suggested that we should list these W resources/criteria on the CAR. It was noted that all this information is currently already on the CAR. There is a "?" icon near each field that

will bring up a dialog box that contains all this information. It was asked if we could change the Blue Question Mark to read "Guidelines."

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of NRE 3385W, POLS 3434/W). NRE 3385W and POLS 3434/W will be sent on to the Senate C&C.

G. 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]
 - d. HIST 3540/W American Environmental History [CA1, CA4, E, W] (#4999) [Multiple revisions and additions]
 - e. HIST/AMST 2210 History of Ocean (#8660) [Adding E]
 - f. NRE 1000 Environmental Science [CA3, E] (#9200) [Add E]
 - g. NRE 1235 Environmental Conservation [CA1, E] (#8919) [Add E]
 - h. NRE 2215 Introduction to Water Resources [E] (#9159) [Add E]
 - i. NRE 2600 Global Sustainable Natural Resources [CA4-Int, E] (#9201) [Add E]
 - j. PHAR 1001 Toxic Chemicals and Health [CA3, E] (#8989) [Add E]
 - k. PHYS 1040QE Cosmic Origins of Life [CA3, Q, E] (#9339) [New CA3, Q, and E]
- The Physics course brought up 'unearthly' discussions of environment. Does environment extend through the stratosphere? The committee needs more information about how cosmic issues effect earth's environment. Are there human interactions that are happening crust-to-stratosphere? There was mainly a question on how this is represented throughout. We need to know how this is addressed in the week of the syllabus that goes "off-planet."
 - The committee will likely not meet again face-to-face until classes start. E. Schultz will reach out to the proposer to let her know that a face-to-face meeting with the committee can happen once classes resume if there are issues that cannot be resolved.

The report was accepted as submitted (approval of NRE 1000, NRE 1235, EEB 2100E, EEB 2208). NRE 1000, NRE 1235, EEB 2100E, and EEB 2208 will be sent to the Senate C&C.

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

Note: There are currently no updates for Old Business items.

6. Course Action Requests

Old Requests

- A. ENGL 3240 American Nature Writing [E] (#8460) [Adding E]

- No discussion.

This course was referred to E.

B. ENGL 3635 Literature and the Environment [CA1, E] (#8461) [Level change; adding CA1 and E]

- No discussion.

This course was referred to CA1 and E.

C. ENGL 3715 Nature Writing Workshop [E] (#8959) [Adding E; revise description]

- No discussion.

This course was referred to E.

D. EPSY 2450 Whole Child, School, and Community: Linking Health and Education [CA2, W] (#9179)

[Adding W section to existing non-W]

- Only W needs to see the course as it was recently approved for CA2.

This course was referred to W.

E. HIST/AASI 3554 Immigrants and the Shaping of U.S. History [CA1, CA4-Int] (#9566) [Add CA1 and CA4-Int]

- The syllabus for this course was inadequate. E. Schultz will communicate with the proposer.

F. NURS 4230W Quality Improvement and Evidence Based Practice in Nursing [W] (#9220) [Adding new W]

- The CAR and syllabus for this course were inadequate. E. Schultz will communicate with the proposer.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12am

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