



## GEOC Meeting Minutes

October 31, 2019 – 10:00am-11:30am in Rowe 420

Members in **BOLD** were in attendance:

**Manuela Wagner – Chair, (Karen McDermott – Admin)**, Fabrice Baudoin, Pamela Bedore (Ex-Officio), **Lisa Blansett**, Kun Chen, **Robert Day**, Kelly Dennis, George Gibson, **Beth Ginsberg, Miguel Gomes, Jason Irizarry**, Mary Ellen Junda, **Neal Krishna (student rep), Suman Majumdar**, Olivier Morand, **Tom Scheinfeldt**, Kathleen Tonry, **Eduardo Urios-Aparisi**, Jason Vokoun

Meeting was called to order at 10:03am.

### 1. Preliminaries

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

### 2. Welcome and Regrets

A. **Regrets:** Miguel Gomes

### 3. Past and Future

A. Minutes of October 31, 2019

**T. Scheinfeldt motioned to approve. B. Ginsberg seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted with two abstentions.**

B. Fall Meeting Schedule:  
Thurs, Dec. 5 – 2:00pm-3:30pm

C. Spring Meeting Schedule:  
Monday, January 27 – 1:30pm-3:00pm  
Wednesday, February 12 – 10:30am-12:00pm  
Monday, February 24 – 1:30pm-3:00pm  
Wednesday, March 11 – 10:30am-12:00pm  
(Spring Break)  
Monday, March 30 – 1:30pm-3:00pm  
Wednesday, April 15 – 10:30am-12:00pm  
Monday, April 27 – 1:30pm-3:00pm

### 4. Chair's Report

A. Delta2GE Update – *Guest: Tom Long*

- Tom Long, the other Co-Chair of Delta2GE, was present to give the committee an update. He noted that they need to present a proposal to University Finance Committee to determine the fiscal implications of the Gen Ed revision project.
- Pam Bedore has formed a conversation group within CLAS to address comments and questions about the revision.

- David Knecht created a new forum where faculty members can talk to each other about issues of concern. We will share the link with GEOC members who should then share the link with others.
- Student government has already appointed two student representatives to Delta2GE.
- One member asked what the timetable is for implementation. For implementation, we do not know for sure. The proposal to the University Senate Finance Committee is due in February. The earliest possible implementation for an incoming class would be three years from now.
- What does this mean for GEOC? GEOC will continue to operate as-is for several years as the transition takes place, but they will eventually also take up the new requirements. There will be a period where GEOC will need to oversee the requirements for both systems.
- Will there be new subcommittees for the new 'topics of inquiries'? We will cross that bridge when we come to it.
- The proposal that was approved will be sent around again for the benefit of new members.

#### B. Provost's Competition

- There was a good response to the competition. We possibly have up to 18 proposals, but K. McDermott does not have a final number yet.

#### C. Changes to the CAR Form & Access Permission

- K. McDermott demonstrated some changes to the CAR. She noted that subcommittee Co-Chairs were not given administrative access both because searching for relevant courses is not as easy as it might seem, and because the frequent turnover of Co-Chairs would create additional work for Cheryl Galli in the Senate Office to keep up with permissions.
- Subcommittees have been getting pushback on reviewing CARs for content areas and competencies that are already approved, but we do this as part of an alignment process. One member asked if we could add a notice that courses will be reviewed for all areas. Yes, we can do this.
- It is GEOC policy to review any course competency or content area that has not been reviewed within five years.

### 5. Discussion on Proposed Dialogue Requirement - Guest: Brendan Kane

- This committee was formed in response to an incident on campus. The issue originally centered around free speech. This spurred an initiative on campus dialog.
- Brendan Kane noted that they have a group of fellows who were commissioned to create D courses across the university to provide 'proof of concept' for a dialog competency, even if it is not official.
- What do members think about this, particularly about adding this to the new Gen Ed requirements?
- This was on DeltaGE's radar during initial concept discussion, but there was also concern about making sure we are not adding requirements. There was a lot of care taken to consider where currently existing courses would fit into the new framework.
- One member asked why there is an emphasis on dialog. They questioned if we have explored how other universities have addressed this overall idea of civility.

- The interest is in less content and more process. We are not interested in promoting social justice so much as the process of sitting across from someone and trying to address disagreements.
- This initiative is giving support to things that are already happening on campus.
- The university's response to the original incident was seen as somewhat reactive, but there needs to be an understanding that this is not a one-off incident, that things like this are going to happen, so we want to take preventative measures.
- One member felt that the emphasis on dialog was ultimately methodological. Can this be embedded, like Q, Info Lit, and W? Another member agreed that it was less of a content area and more of a competency.
- There was a suggestion about adding this to FYE, but not all students take FYE. About 94% ultimately take FYE courses, which is a lot, but not all.
- One member noted that we need to remember the idea of dialog in the context of the international/global perspective.
- One member was concerned about the how the idea of civility can sometimes curtail free speech.
- Community Outreach did a series on free speech where students could engage in dialog. They found that students did not just want just student spaces, but they actually wanted a faculty presence there to moderate.
- Send any questions to M. Wagner and K. McDermott and they will forward these on to Brendan Kane.
- One member noted that having faculty in the dining halls would be a good way to encourage dialog/interaction.

## 6. Subcommittee Dockets

### A. CA1 Docket (N/A)

### B. CA2 Docket (see 'CA2 Report\_11-11-19')

- ECON 1101 Economics through Film [CA2] (#13157) [New Course]
  - EDLR 2010 Leadership Theory and Practice in Sport Management [CA2] (#11518) [New CA2]
- ECON 1101 showed a very clear demonstration of CA2 criteria and is recommended for approval.
  - In hindsight, the issue with EDLR 2010 seems like the same one with the KINS course from CA3. There was a general sense from some people (including a CA2 co-chair) that the course does not represent the idea of what we are looking for in a Gen Ed course.
  - M. Wagner clarified whether CA2 was officially recommending rejection or whether they were recommending reaching out to the proposer. CA2 is recommending rejection.

**S. Majumdar motioned to approve the report. K. Tonry seconded. The report was approved with one abstention. (Approval of ECON 1101; rejection of EDLR 2010)**

### C. CA3 Docket (see 'CA3 Report\_11-11-19')

- EEB 2250 Introduction to Plant Physiology [CA3] (#13257) [Add CA3, Revise Description]
- KINS 2227 Exercise Prescription [CA3] (#12163) [Revise prereqs; add CA3]
- MARN/MAST 1001 The Sea Around Us [CA3, EL] (#13277) [Add E/CA3, Revise Description]

- There is disagreement between the co-chairs and the subcommittee members about whether KINS 2227 satisfies CA3 requirements.
- One member noted that if they were a student taking a course to see what science is and how the scientific method works, this course does not do that.
- The proposer was approached about the concern raised with regard to the lack of a broad base of knowledge. Her response was that, among other things, the course is based on a widely-used text. M. Wagner read an email from the proposer.
- One member noted that the response presented a very ethos-based argument; i.e. it was not based on the content of the course itself but on the instructor's qualifications.
- There are a number of options:
  - Take the subcommittee report as-is and approve or decline based on the overall vote
  - Invite the proposer to either a subcommittee meeting or a GEOC meeting to discuss the course
- One member noted the recommended preparation in the course, which suggests that there is some major-specific knowledge that is needed to take it. In general, the course seems too specialized. How many non-KINS will actually take this course as a Gen Ed?
- It was decided that GEOC needed to go back to the subcommittee to get clarification on why members felt the course was adequate.

#### D. CA4 Report

- ARTH/AFRA 2222 Race, Gender, and the Power of Looking [CA1, CA4] (#11079) [New CA1, CA4]
- EDLR 2001 Contemporary Social Issues in Sport [CA4] (N/A) [Winter Intensive Session Request]
- HEJS 2200 Israel: History and Society [CA1, CA4] (#12865) [New CA1, CA4-Int]
- HIST 1600W Intro to Latin America and the Caribbean [CA1, CA4-Int, W] (#12724) [Adding W version of HIST cross-list]
- HIST 3570 American Indian History [CA4] (#13443) [Revise Number]
- ILCS 3248W The Italian Novella [CA1, CA4, W] (#11941) [New CA1, CA4-Int, W]
- POLS 2023/W Political Theory in Film [CA1, CA4-Int, W] (#12847) [New course]

#### E. W Report (see 'W Report\_11-11-19')

- CSE 4939W Computer Science and Engineering Design Project I [W] (#12023) [Revise Prereqs]
- ECE 4900W Communicating Engineering Solutions in a Societal Context [W] (#9644) [New W]
- ENGL 2020W Technical Writing and Design [W] (#11357) [New W]
- HEJS/CAMS/HIST 3218/W Palestine Under the Greeks and Romans [W] (#12284) [Number change, add W, revise pre-reqs]
- HIST 1600W Intro to Latin America and the Caribbean [CA1, CA4-Int, W] (#12724) [Adding W version of HIST cross-list]
- ILCS 3248W The Italian Novella [CA1, CA4, W] (#11941) [New CA1, CA4-Int, W]
- KINS 3545W Resistance Training for Health and Performance [W] (#11322) [New W]

- h. KINS 4205W Exercise Science Capstone [W] (#11327) [Revise title and credits; Change non-W to a W]
  - i. KINS 4510/W Advanced Topics in Health and Sport Performance [W] (#11325) [Revise title, description, and prereqs]
  - j. MARN 2801W Marine Sciences and Society [W, E] (#11738) [Revise description; add E]
  - k. MCB 3844W Microbes and the Media [W] (#7029) [New W]
  - l. POLS 2023/W Political Theory in Film [CA1, CA4-Int, W] (#12847) [New course]
  - m. POLS 3603WQ Congressional Apportionment and Redistricting [CA2, Q, W] (#11843) [New CA2, Q, W course]
- No discussion.

**K. Tony motioned to approve the report. B. Day seconded. The report was approved unanimously. (Approval of CSE 4939W, ENGL 2020W, MARN 2801W, MCB 3844W)**

F. E Report

- a. GSCI 1055 Geoscience and the American Landscape [CA3, E] (#9975) [Add E; remove “formerly offered”]
- b. NRE 3145 Meteorology [E] (#9697) [Revise prereqs, add E]
- c. NRE 3146 Climatology [E] (#9812) [Add E]

G. Second Language Report (N/A)

**7. Q Assessment – Report Expected Prior to Thanksgiving**

**8. Old Business**

A. Learning Outcomes for Second Language General Education courses – Under Consideration

B. W Guideline Changes?

- a. Possible requirement that at least one W course should be in the English language
- b. Possible change of W requirement on paper length, from page length to word number
- c. W Course Instruction (aka “W Course Faculty Drift”)

C. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed

**9. New Business**

A. Gen Ed Requirements for Students with International Degrees

**10. Course Action Requests in the Queue**

Suggested for Full-Committee Review

- A. Omnibus Motion for Hyphenated Courses
- B. ENGL 1007 Seminar in Writing and Multimodal Composition [W, IL] (#10738) [New FYW course]
- C. ENGL 1008 Studio for the Seminar in Writing and Multimodal Composition [W, IL] (#13108) [New FYW course]

Requests on Hold

- A. N/A

Requests Awaiting Chair Review

- A. ECON/MAST 2467 Economics of the Oceans [EL] (#13402) [Add EL]
- B. ENGL 2640/W Studies in Film [CA1, W] (#13582) [New course]
- C. ENGL 3640/W British Film [CA1, W] (#13567) [New course]
- D. GEOG 1302 GIS Modeling of Environmental Change [CA3-Lab, EL] (#13906) [Add EL]
- E. GEOG 2300 Introduction to Physical Geography [CA3, EL] (#13905) [Add EL]
- F. GEOG 3410 Human Modifications of Natural Environments [EL] (#13642) [Revise description; add EL]
- G. GEOG 4001W Writing in Geography [W] (#13945) [Revise enrollment restrictions]
- H. HIST 1200 World History, 1200-1800 [CA1, CA4] (#13644) [New Course]
- I. HIST 2222 Global Environmental History [CA1, CA4, EL] (#4998) [New Course]
- J. MARN 4210 Experimental Design in Marine Ecology [Q] (#13805) [New course]
- K. PHAR 3087W Honors Thesis in Pharmacy [W] (#13865) [Adding PHRX cross-listing]
- L. PSYC 3104 Environmental Psychology [EL] (#13925) [Revise prereqs, Add EL]