



## General Education Oversight Committee

October 28, 2020, 10:00am-11:30pm

Via WebEx

### Meeting Minutes

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

**Manuela Wagner** – Chair, (**Karen McDermott** – Admin, Pooja Hingorany – Admin), **Michele Back**, Fabrice Baudoin, **Oksan Bayulgen**, Lisa Blansett (Alex Gatten for Lisa Blansett), **Brenda Brueggemann**, Kun Chen (sabbatical), **Robert Day**, Kelly Dennis, George Gibson, **Beth Ginsberg**, **Ali Gokirmak**, Lori Gresham, Neal Krishna (student rep), Suman Majumdar, **Morty Ortega**, Tom Scheinfeldt, Eric Schultz (Ex-Officio), **Jennifer Terni**, **Kathleen Tonry**, Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, **Jason Vokoun**

#### Regrets:

Called to order at 10:03 am

1. Preliminaries
2. Welcome and Regrets
3. Past and Future

A. Minutes of October 12, 2020 meeting (see 'Minutes\_10-12-20')

- No changes to the minutes were requested.

**J. Vokoun motioned to approve. M. Ortega seconded. The minutes were approved as submitted.**

B. Fall Meeting Schedule

Nov. 9 (Mon) – 11:00am-12:30pm

Dec. 2 (Wed) – 10:00am-11:30am

#### Chair's Report

A. Delta2GE Update

- The working groups are making progress. In particular, a recently submitted communication plan is looking great.

B. LTE Task Force

- The group met this week. During their big workshop event there were breakout sessions, and members were recently shown the feedback from these sessions. There will be another meeting before the end of the semester, and more information will be forthcoming soon.

C. Environmental Literacy (EL) Meeting – Oct 29

- The meeting had to be rescheduled because a key member had a last-minute conflict.
  - The one thing we do not know is how many students are taking multiple EL courses because it is part of their major. There is no easy way to determine this.
- D. Is FYW Gen Ed?
- This question came up again regarding the question of pass/fail. We need an answer. There appear to be strong opinions on both sides.

### Subcommittee Dockets

- A. CA1 Docket (see 'CA1 Report\_10-28-20')
- a. ART 3375 Indian Art and Popular Culture [CA1, CA4-Int] – Intensive Session Review
- J. Terni presented the CA1 Report.

**The CA1 Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of ART 3375).**

- B. CA2 Docket (N/A)
- a. POLS 3240E Environmental and Climate Justice (N/A) [Intensive Session Request]
- C. CA3 Docket (N/A)
- D. CA4 Docket (See 'CA4 Report\_10-28-20')
- a. ART 3375 Indian Art and Popular Culture [CA1, CA4-Int] – Intensive Session Review
- O. Bayulgen presented the CA4 Report.

**The CA4 Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of ART 3375).**

- K. McDermott gave a brief summary of a decision by SEC regarding workflow for intensive session courses. In short, courses can be approved for one intensive session offering before the Senate needs to review them and permanently approve them. This will help get the courses onto the schedule sooner by delaying permanent approval at one level of the workflow. If the University Senate does not approve the course for intensive session, it cannot be offered again after the one time.
- E. Q Docket (N/A)
- F. W Docket (see 'W Report\_10-28-20')
- a. ANTH/HRTS 3320W Propaganda, Disinformation, and Hate Speech [CA2, W] (#14977/1876) [New Course]
- b. COMM 4222/W People of Color and Interpersonal Communication [W] (#15846/2047) [Revise number, prereqs]
- c. COMM 4410/W Government Communication [W] (#15856/2056) [Revise title, number, prereqs; Add W version]
- d. COMM 4930W Public Relations Writing [W] (#15844/2045) [Revise number, prereqs]

- e. ECON 2327/W Information Technology for Economics [W] (#2121) [Add W section]
- f. HIST 1600W Intro to Latin America and the Caribbean [CA1, CA4-Int, W] (#12724/1509) [Adding W version of HIST cross-list]
- g. HIST 3205/W Personality and Power in the Twentieth Century [CA1, W] (#2594) [Revise level, title; Add CA1 & W]
- n. PHAR 3087W Honors Thesis in Pharmacy [W] (#13865/1688) [Adding PHRX cross-listing]
- B. Ginsberg presented the W Report. The subcommittee is in contact with the proposer of HIST 1616/W and the course should be taken care of shortly.
- She indicated that the W subcommittee is also discussing a number of the topics on their policy list (see Items C.a-c. in “Carryover Business” below).

**The W Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of ANTH/HRTS 3320/W, COMM 4222/W, COMM 4410/W, COMM 4930W, ECON 2327/W, HIST 3205/W, PHAR 3087W).**

- G. EL Docket (Pending)
  - a. MARN 1002 Introduction to Oceanography [CA3, EL] (#15079/1892) [Revise description, add EL]
  - b. MARN 1003 Introduction to Oceanography with Laboratory [CA3-L, EL] (#15078/1891) [Revise description, add EL]
  - c. NRE 3245 Environmental Law [EL] (#3019) [Add EL]
  - d. PHIL 1108E Environmental Philosophy [CA1, EL] (#2694) [New Course]
  - e. POLS 3240E Environmental and Climate Justice (N/A) [Intensive Session Request]
- K. Tonry presented the EL Report.
- She noted that the two MARN courses need a little more review because they are more general science courses, so the human interaction element is less clear.

**The EL Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of PHIL 1108E, POLS 3240E).**

- H. Information Literacy Docket
- I. Second Language Docket

### **New Business**

- A. Provost’s Office General Education Course Enhancement Grant Competition
  - One member suggested that we specifically solicit courses that highlight social justice/anti-racism.
  - There was discussion on how broad we should make the call. Just anti-racism? Anti-black racism? Diversity, equity, and inclusion? Social justice? Member felt that definitely anti-racism in general should be included. The feeling seemed to be that anti-racism should be first, and social justice, equity, and inclusion could be included after.
  - There was a question as to exactly what “anti-racist” meant. The term is more active than simply diversity awareness. It includes active work toward deconstructing institutional racism and institutional biases.

- One member expressed concerned that placing too much emphasis on race and color is only exacerbating the problem. Others disagreed, suggesting that we have tried being a color-blind society for the last several decades, and it has not worked. A number of members expressed that at this point we needed to address the issue head-on.
  - M. Wagner gave a brief overview of how the competition is determined.
  - One member suggested including a call for courses on public health and/or trust in science. There seemed to be support for the suggestion.
  - M. Wagner asked the two members who offered suggestions to send quick bullet-point drafts.
- B. Ex-Officio Representation by Social Justice and Diversity Institutes
- There was a question as to whether the institute members should have a vote.
  - One member supported the idea of allowing them to be voting members given that members would be rotating through the institutes.
  - One member wondered if a rep from one institute could really represent the interests of all the others. M. Wagner noted that this question came up in initial discussions and was ironed out between the institutes earlier. There is a trust between them that they could do this.
- C. De-Designating courses that no longer meet the general education requirements
- There was concern about de-designating a course that students might need to fulfill major requirements. It was agreed that this would have to be part of the discussion with the department since we could not have students taking Gen Ed courses that do not meet requirements.
  - One member suggested that department heads have four weeks upon notification to respond instead of two weeks to allow them to meet with their curriculum committees. There was support for this change.

**J. Vokoun motioned to approve the document with the edit. B. Ginsberg seconded. Motion to approve the document and send it to Senate C&C was approved with one abstention.**

- Students and organizations are planning a number of post-election events. B. Ginsberg informed the committee of a number of events.

### **Old Business**

- A. General Education and COVID-19

### **Carryover Business**

- A. Gen Ed Goals and Syllabi
- B. Q Criteria Discussion
- C. W Guideline Changes?
- Possible requirement that at least one W course should be in the English language
  - Possible change of W requirement on paper length, from page length to word number
  - W Course Instruction (aka "W Course Faculty Drift")
- D. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed

## **Course Action Requests in the Queue**

### Full-Committee Review

A. N/A

### Requests on Hold

A. N/A

### Requests Awaiting Chair Review

- A. GEOG 2300 Introduction to Physical Geography [CA3, EL] (#3176) [Add EL]
- B. GERM 1920 Cyborgs, Robots, and Androids in the German Imaginary [CA1, CA4-INT] (#2935) [New Course]
- C. HRTS 2100W Human Rights and Social Change [CA2, CA4-INT, W] (#2715) [New Course]
- D. MATH 2710/W Transition to Advanced Mathematics [W] (#3119) [Revise description]
- E. PNB 3252 Physiological Model Systems [EL] (#3217) [Add EL, revise prereqs and description]
- F. WGSS 3265W Research Methodology [W] (#3040) [Revise title and description]

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 am.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Karen C. P. McDermott.**