



**General Education Oversight Committee**  
Monday, January 31, 2022 at 12:00pm-1:30pm  
Via WebEx  
**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Manuela Wagner – Chair, (Karen McDermott – Admin), Michele Back, Oksan Bayulgen, Lisa Blansett, Brenda Brueggemann, Scott Campbell, Jason Chang (Ex-Officio), Keith Conrad, Lindsay Cummings, Robert Day, Kelly Dennis, Richard Dunn, Ali Gokirmak, Lori Gresham, Linda Halgunseth, Oliver Hiob-Bansal, Tania Huedo-Medina, Andy Jolly-Ballantine, Morty Ortega, Eleanor Ouimet, Annelie Skoog, Kathleen Tonry, Eduardo Urios-Aparisi, Suzanne Wilson (Ex-Officio)**

**Called to order at 12:02 pm.**

**1. Welcome and Regrets**

- a. **Regrets:**
- b. **Welcome New Members:** Scott Campbell and Lindsay Cummings

**2. Past and Future Meetings**

- A. Minutes of December 1, 2021 meeting.
  - The date on the meeting is from November. This will be fixed.

**K. Dennis motioned to approved the Minutes. M. Ortega seconded. The minutes with the correction of the date were accepted with one abstention.**

- B. Future Meetings:
  - Feb. 14, 12:00pm-1:30pm
  - Feb. 28, 12:00pm-1:30pm`
  - (Mar. 14 – SPRING BREAK. No Meeting)
  - Mar. 28, 12:00pm-1:30pm
  - Apr. 11, 12:00pm-1:30pm
  - Apr. 25, 12:00pm-1:30pm

**3. Upcoming Deadlines**

- A. Registration for Fall 2022 begins March 21 (Prioritize new courses before February 14)
  - Proposers often want to add new courses to the schedule for the next semester even if they are not officially in the catalog. In order to get them in before registration starts, we would need approvals in GEOC by February 14. Please prioritize new courses.
- B. GEOC Terms (Added)
  - K. McDermott will have news in the next meeting about members whose terms are ending.

**4. Chair's Report**

- A. Provost's Competition Results
  - a. ANSC 2XXX Everyday Biotechnology

- b. ENGL 2XXXW/ENGL 3XXXW Introduction to Professional & Technical Writing and Special Topics in Professional & Technical Writing
- c. ENGL 3XXXE(W) Environmental Justice Writing
- d. HIST ANTH EDLR 1XXX (POLS later) Introducing Decolonization and Indigenous Worlds
- e. PHYS 1010Q Elements of Physics
- f. POLS ENGR HRTS 3209 Sustainable Energy in the 21st Century
- g. PSYC 2XXX Racism and Anti-Racism in the History of Psychology
- Congratulations to our winners from GEOC, B. Brueggemann and O. Bayulgen.
- Please do not share this list yet, however, as winners have not yet been officially notified. (With apologies to Brenda and Oksan.)

B. Alignment Reports Due February 28

- Members were reminded about the deadline.
- As an FYI, W may be getting a couple syllabi from last year to review for alignment follow-up.
- As a reminder, co-chairs do not need to follow up with instructors for the alignment. Just report on whether or not courses are aligned.

C. Delta2GE Document Update

- The University Senate will be looking at three documents. The first to hit Senate will be the guidelines.
- A special meeting to discuss the guidelines is likely to happen on February 28. The Senate is voting on this.
- The guidelines will be sent around shortly and posted on the Senate website.

D. Second Language Guidelines

- Senate C&C made a couple slight changes to the document.
- Both E. Urios-Aparisi and M. Back approved these changes.
- What happens if the student is a heritage speaker? Why are they being left out? Heritage speakers have a different process. They go straight to the director.
- How often does UConn offer courses for heritage speakers? They occur occasionally but are rare.

**K. Dennis motion to approve. M. Ortega seconded.**

- E. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work on the Anti-Racist Course Working Group
- What is the timeframe on this? The charge is that the group should have a recommendation by the end of the semester.

**5. Discussion of Academics Adjustments Policy**

- M. Wagner summarized the changes in the document. The main change is the elimination of the committee, which was deemed redundant. These changes align more with ADA compliance and practices at peer and aspirant institutions.
- One member noted that having a disability is already a stigma, so we want to make sure that we are not further stigmatizing students.
- It was clarified that this change takes a layer of review out of the process rather than adding one.
- One member explained that the change takes faculty with no direct connection to the student out of the process, and replaces them with faculty who do have direct connection.
- One member noted that they support the work the Center for Students with Disabilities (CSD) does, but having this separate unit to ensure compliance creates a kind of “otherness.”
- One member noted that working with CETL can help with universal design that will make a course accessible to all students.

- One member noted that they had an unpleasant interaction with a member of CSD who insisted on a homework extension for one student. The member did not understand how this would help the student. Logistically, the course ends at some point and the student will be behind.
- There was additional discussion about faculty's views on the types of accommodations that some students need and why.
- One member noted that faculty used to just show up and teach, but that often left people out. We need a more systematic and coordinated way of incorporating accommodations, one that is more forward-looking rather than reactive. Faculty need to feel supported.
- M. Wagner will start a Google doc to collect thoughts on this. GEOC can invite someone from CSD to come talk to us.
- One member noted in the chat: "Karen Skudlarek in CETL also does an excellent brief workshop on UDL (universal design for learning) and why it's important. I'd recommend her as a speaker-guest at one of our meetings (along with CSD). [K. Skudlarek] takes more of an access-for-all approach (that's what UDL is about) while CSD focuses more on individual student needs, etc. BOTH are important, but different approaches with different philosophies behind them..."

**M. Back motioned to approve the Second Language guidelines change. L. Cummings seconded. The revision to the policy was approved.**

## 6. Subcommittee Dockets

### A. CA1 Docket

*Older*

- a. CLCS 2010 Media Literacy and Data Ethics [CA1, CA4-Int] (#6015) [Add CA1]

*New*

- b. HIST 2845/W Global History of Capitalism [CA1, CA4, W] (#9324) [New Course]

### B. CA2 Docket (N/A)

### C. CA3 Docket

- a. KINS 2227 Exercise Prescription [CA3] (#10305) [Add CA3]

### D. CA4 Docket

*Older*

- a. GEOG/URBN 1200 The City in the Western Tradition [CA1, CA4-Int] (#8724) [Revise title; add CA4-Int]

*New*

- b. AH 5330 Italy's Mediterranean Food and Our Health MS Option [CA4-Int] (#10165) [New CA4-Int Grad Course]
- c. HIST 2845/W Global History of Capitalism [CA1, CA4, W] (#9324) [New Course]
  - R. Dunn presented the report.
  - There was a question about whether the grad course had prereqs. No, it does not.
  - One member noted that the syllabus for the course indicates a period of several weeks that the class does not meet. Can faculty say a course won't meet for X number of weeks? We will check policy and the by-laws.

**The CA4 Report was accepted as submitted (Approval of AH 5330 & HIST 2845/W).**

### E. Q Docket (N/A)

F. W Docket

*Older*

- a. AFRA 4997W Senior Thesis in Africana Studies [W] (#6837) [New course]
- b. EEB 3244W Writing in Ecology [W] (#6496) [Revise credits]
- c. ME 4974W Ethics for Engineers [W] (#9404) [New course]

*New*

- d. EEB 2254W Current Topics in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology [W] (#9384) [New Course]
- e. EEB 2256W Current Topics in Evolutionary Medicine and Disease Ecology [W] (#9444) [New Course]
- f. EEB 2258W Current Topics in Conservation and Climate Change Biology [W] (#9445) [New Course]
- g. ENGL 2055WE Writing, Rhetoric, and Environment [W, EL] (#8325) [New Course]
- h. HIST 2845/W Global History of Capitalism [CA1, CA4, W] (#9324) [New Course]
- i. WGSS 3265W Producing Intersectional, Interdisciplinary and Transnational WGSS Scholarship [W] (#9944) [Revise title]
- j. WGSS 4994W Senior Seminar [W] (#8684) [Add enrollment restriction]
  - O. Hiob-Bansal presented the report.
  - The W co-chairs asked M. Wagner or K. McDermott to reach out to EEB 3244W and ME 4974W.
  - The W subcommittee is looking for more members.

**The W Report was accepted as submitted (Approval of AFRA 4997W, ENGL 2055WE, HIST 2845/W, WGSS 3265W) with one abstention.**

G. EL Docket

- a. ME 2232E Engineering Thermodynamics [EL] (#10192) [New course]

*New*

- b. ENGL 2055WE Writing, Rhetoric, and Environment [W, EL] (#8325) [New Course]
  - M. Ortega presented the report.
  - The subcommittee has not heard back from the ME proposer yet.
  - EL is also seeking new subcommittee members. A. Jolly-Ballantine indicated an interest in also being on EL.

**The EL Report was accepted as submitted (Approval of ENGL 2055WE).**

H. Information Literacy Docket

I. Second Language Docket

**7. Old Business (on hold)**

- A. Aligning the Alignment Process
  - a. Requiring Regional Campus Syllabi
- B. PR and Mentoring Campaign for Gen Ed in the Spring:
  - a. Awareness of importance of Gen Ed (students, staff, faculty: presentations of Gen Ed courses, videos about what Gen Ed did for..., student focus groups on specific topics,...)
  - b. Mentoring: Lack of knowledge about EL
  - c. Outreach to Student Organizations
  - d. Suggestions for student initiatives
- C. Number of EL Seats

- D. Gen Ed Goals and Syllabi
- E. Study Abroad and CA4 Gen Ed

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

#### Full-Committee Review

- A. N/A

#### Requests on Hold

- A. N/A

#### Requests Recently Reviewed by Chair

- A. ARE 3305E Economic Development, Environment, and Policy [EL] (#11065) [New course]
- B. ARE 3438E Climate Economics [EL] (#11066) [New course]
- C. ARTH 2020 Global Jerusalem [CA1, CA4-Int] (#10286) [New course]
- D. DMD 2020 Design Thinking [CA1] (#8104) [Revise prereqs and description]
- E. ENGL/WGSS 3609 Women's Literature [CA4] (#9744) [Revise Prereqs]
- F. ENGL/WGSS 3611 Women's Literature 1900 to the Present [CA4] (#9764) [Revise prereqs]
- G. KINS 3155W Athletic Training Administration [W] (#10766) [Drop course]
- H. KINS 3165W Current Research and Issues in Athletic Training [W] (#10752) [Drop course]
- I. ME 3260W Measurement Techniques [W] (#10966) [Drop course]
- J. PNB 3253W Current Topics in Molecular and Developmental Neurobiology [W] (#10285) [New course]
- K. SOCI 1251 Social Problems [CA2, CA4, W] (#10285) [Revise description]

**Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.**