



**General Education Oversight Committee**  
Monday, February 28, 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 12:01 pm.**

**1. Welcome and Regrets**

- a. **Regrets:** Tania Huedo-Medina

**2. Past and Future Meetings**

- A. Minutes of February 14, 2022 meeting.
  - No changes.

**M. Ortega motioned to approved the Minutes. O. Hiob-Bansal seconded. The minutes were accepted as submitted with one abstention.**

- B. Future Meetings:  
(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. Nothing Imminent. Just work on clearing your dockets in a timely manner.

**4. Chair's Report**

- A. University Senate, Special Meeting TODAY (2/28/22): <https://ait.uconn.edu/university-senate-meeting/>
  - There will be an introduction to the process, then a panel will present the document and answer questions.
  - There will be limits on how often and how long Senators can speak.
  - There is no end time set for the meeting.
- B. Members Whose Current Term Ends after Spring 2022:
  - a. Michele Back (Rotating off)
  - b. Oksan Bayulgen (Rotating off)
  - c. Brenda Brueggemann (Eligible for 2<sup>nd</sup> term)
  - d. Lori Gresham (Renewing for a second term)

- e. Morty Ortega (Renewing for a second term)
- C. Other Members Rotating Off
  - a. Richard Dunn (CA4)
  - b. Tania Huedo-Medina (Q)
- D. GEOC Co-Chair Needs for Fall 2022
  - a. Two CA4 Co-Chairs
  - b. One Q Co-Chair
  - c. One Second Language Co-Chair
    - Please let us know if you know anyone.
    - We will reach out to the Regional campuses as well.

## 5. Subcommittee Dockets

- A. CA1 Docket
  - a. ARTH 2020 Global Jerusalem [CA1, CA4-Int] (#10286) [New course]
  - b. DMD 2020 Design Thinking [CA1] (#8104) [Revise prereqs and description]
  - c. HIST 2845/W Global History of Capitalism [CA1, CA4, W] (#9324) [New Course]
  - d. LLAS/HIST/WGSS 3675 Latina History and Biography [CA1, CA4] (#10855) [Add course]
  - e. PHIL 1109 Global Existentialism [CA1, CA4] (#11145) [Add CA1]
  - f. SPAN 3232 Literature of Crisis in Modern Spain [CA1] (N/A) [**Intensive Session Request**]
    - K. McDermott noted that the CA1 report is mainly informational. This course was approved and already sent on.

**The CA1 Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of SPAN 3232).**

- B. CA2 Docket
  - a. SOCI 1251 Social Problems [CA2, CA4, W] (#10285) [Revise description]
- C. CA3 Docket
  - a. KINS 2227 Exercise Prescription [CA3] (#10305) [Add CA3]
    - A. Skoog presented the report. The subcommittee is recommending approval with a caveat; they would like more standard scientific language incorporated into the course.

**The CA3 Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of KINS 2227).**

- D. CA4 Docket
  - a. GEOG/URBN 1200 The City in the Western Tradition [CA1, CA4-Int] (#8724) [Revise title; add CA4-Int]
  - b. SOCI 1251 Social Problems [CA2, CA4, W] (#10285) [Revise description]
- E. Q Docket (N/A)
  - a. COGS 2500Q Coding for Cognitive Science [Q] (#9226) [Add course]
- F. W Docket
  - a. HIST/LLAS 3608W The Hispanic World in the Ages of Reason and Revolution [W] (#11045) [Add LLAS cross listing]
  - b. LING 2700W Field Methods in Linguistics [W] (#10826) [Add course]
  - c. ME 4974W Ethics for Engineers [W] (#9404) [New course]
  - d. MEM 4971W Senior Design Project I [W] (#11581) [Revise prereqs and credits]

- e. MEM 4972W Senior Design Project II [W] (#11582) [Revise prereqs and credits]
- f. PNB 3253W Current Topics in Molecular and Developmental Neurobiology [W] (#10285) [New course]
- g. POLS 2803W Legal Reasoning and Writing [W] (#10585) [Add course]
- h. POLS 2807W Women and the Law [W] (#10547) [Add course]
- i. POLS 2827W Criminal Justice in Practice [W] (#10645) [Add course]
- j. WGSS 4994W Senior Seminar [W] (#8684) [Add enrollment restriction]
  - O. Hiob-Bansal presented the report.

**The W Report was approved as submitted unanimously (Approval of WGSS 4994W).**

- G. EL Docket
  - a. ME 2232E Engineering Thermodynamics [EL] (#10192) [New course]
- H. Information Literacy Docket
- I. Second Language Docket

## **6. Alignment Reports**

### **A. CA1 Report**

- L. Cummings presented the report.
- The ECON course just barely passed. The committee was very split. Members had to read very deeply into the assessments. Some feedback to the proposer is certainly warranted.
- One member expressed disappointment that CA1 members had to put so much effort into determining alignment. It is the proposer's job to make things clear.

**The CA1 Alignment Report was accepted as submitted. (Aligned: AMST 1700, ECON 2102W (with feedback), MAST 1200)**

### **B. CA2 Report**

- B. Day presented the report.
- There was an issue raised by one member regarding ECON 1201, so CA2 recommended the addition of certain elements.
- There was discussion of what this meant.
- B. Day amended the report to read "CA2 approves ECON 1201 with the following recommendations..." for clarity.
- Was there any evidence presented of ethical consideration? To a degree, it was taken on faith. Most debate in CA2 is around this clause. This is where the most uncertainty is.

**The CA2 Alignment Report was accepted as amended. (Aligned: PSYC 1011, ECON 1201 with recommendations)**

### **C. CA3 Report**

### **D. CA4 Report**

- O. Bayulgen presented the report.
- The AMST course was quite variable. The subcommittee recommend that the instructors try to work on coordinating with each other or drafting a more standard syllabus so that students across sections have a more consistent experience.

**The CA4 Alignment Report was accepted as submitted. (Aligned: AAAS 3212, AFRA 3505, AMST 1201, PSYC 3102)**

E. Q Report

- K. Conrad presented the report.
- The courses were pretty straightforward. All were approved.

**The Q Alignment Report was accepted as submitted. (Aligned: CHEM 1127Q, ECON 2211Q, PSYC 2100WQ)**

F. W Report

- L. Gresham presented the report.

**The W Alignment Report was accepted as submitted. (Aligned: ACCT 4997W, AFRA 4994W, ECON 2102W, SLHS 4254W; Does not Align: MARN 4030W, PSYC 3100W)**

**7. Discussion (and [Document](#)) on Accessibility**

- M. Wagner brought this issue to the Senate Executive Committee. SEC confirmed that it is not GEOC's role to enforce this, but GEOC will write up a document and bring specific concerns back to SEC for action.
- Who enforces the ADA?
- There was a suggestion to have Karen Skudlarek come speak to us.
- While GEOC is not an official enforcer, we do need to start tagging courses that do not meet ADA compliance.
- Members supported that GEOC should take a leading role in making sure courses are accessible.
- It was noted that we need a wider campus conversation beyond CSD about what accessibility means and how we implement it.
- One member noted that he has a student who uses a robot to attend class. What other possibilities are there that faculty may not know about?
- It was noted that there should not be one place where courses are reviewed for accessibility. There should other layers of review.
- One member felt that GEOC should be able to put the brakes on a course that does not meet accessibility.
- One member noted that they have what the Provost's Office would consider a 'radical accessibility' statement in their syllabus. They promise something they are not supposed to promise.
- One member noted in the chat, "I have the same 'radical' accessibility statement too. The provost/office is only sending out the basic 'letter of the law' (they don't even know what it means, I think). And again: there is no one here paying attention to any of these things..."
- One member expressed concern about how meaningful it would be to include this information in the syllabus. Most students do not read anything in the syllabus but the schedule.
- How much do we know about ADA as a whole? One member noted they personally knew a little about it, but not a lot.
- One member asked in the chat, "Do we have any statistics on types of disabilities students have at UConn?" We will ask CSD for this data.
- One member noted that we should be cautious about making faculty legally liable for more things.
- One member noted that – despite constant reference to the syllabus as a contract – the syllabus is not a "contract"; it is a "user agreement." This is a technical point, but we should step away from talking about syllabi as contracts.
- What are the resources? What is the current enforcement?

- There will be additional discuss next time about where we want to go with this.

## **8. 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

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

### Full-Committee Review

- A. N/A

### Requests on Hold

- A. N/A

### Requests Under Chair Review

- A. ENGL 1301 Major Works of Eastern Literature [CA4-Int] (#11706) [Revise Prereqs]
- B. POLS/MAST 2460 Maritime Politics [CA2, EL] (#10206) [New course]

Meeting adjourned at 12:40pm.

M. Ortega motioned to adjourn. E. Ouimet seconded. Motion passed unanimously.