

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 6, 2021

ZOOM MEETING, 2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

Present: Angela Anderson, Aaron Ansell, Molly Hall, Grant Hamming, Janet Hilder, Earl Kline, Victoria Lael, Greg Novack, Hannah Shinault, Jill Sible, Zack Underwood, Anita Walz, Sparke Williams

Absent: Sara Arena, Brian Collins, Nicole Pitterson, Richard Rateau

Guests: Stephen Biscotte, Jenni Gallagher

Call to order by Hannah Shinault at 2:31 pm

Announcements

- SBIO 3954: Ireland: Culture, History, and Environment, which the committee reviewed last month, is being put on hold for the time being at the proposer's request.

1. Faculty Governance Change Update (Stephen)

Stephen attended the University Counsel meeting this week, where they discussed a movement to change faculty governance such that the course and minor proposal review process would transfer from committees to administrative units. Thus, UCC, PGECRC, and potentially GCC would be eliminated, and the Office of General Education (in conjunction with the Registrar's Office) would conduct the reviews for Pathways courses and minors, bringing any proposals with significant concerns or a need for disciplinary expertise before UCCGE for final approval.

2. Update on Pathways and Study Abroad (Stephen)

Historically, awarding Pathways credit for non-VT study abroad courses was often handled by advisors/colleges without input from the Office of General Education. The OGE and the Global Ed office are trying to construct an efficient process for reviewing study abroad for Pathways credit in a manner that both ensures appropriate alignment, but is also not overly administratively burdensome. Any committee members who have experience with study abroad are encouraged share their thoughts/experiences with Stephen.

3. Review of Study Abroad Proposals (Hannah)

- Study Abroad - ENGL 4954: Land into Legend: Northern Lights on the Saga Road, for Pathways Concept 2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities). Proposal linked [here](#).
 - Unanimously approved for Concept 2.
- Study Abroad – HIST 3954: The Making of England, for Pathways Concept 2 (Critical Thinking in the Humanities). Proposal linked [here](#).
 - Unanimously approved with the modification listed below.

- The committee would like to see the learning outcomes listed, with a brief explanation of how the course will meet those outcomes and how they will be assessed.

4. Subcommittee Reports

- Advising
 - Quant/Comp foundational/advanced credits: The subcommittee discussed whether the Pathways requirements for Quant/Comp should be revised from the requirement of 6 foundational and 3 advanced credits to students having the option to completed 6 foundational and 3 advanced *or* 3 foundational and 6 advanced. They recommend that this change be made and will draft a resolution to move the issue forward.
 - Discourse sequence requirement: The subcommittee discussed whether the discourse requirements should be amended to require that students complete a sequence to satisfy the 6 foundational credits. The committee, however, does *not* recommend these changes. If departments prefer that students complete a sequence to satisfy foundational discourse, they can specify that in their major requirements.
 - The subcommittee plans to review batch registration selections for CLAHS this year, as they did last year for PCOB.
- Assessment
 - Assessment grants for fall are underway. Approximately 25 courses are participating in Part I, and about 15 are participating in Part II.
 - The subcommittee met to talk about how they could better support Pathways instructors with assessment, specifically how they may help them complete assessment in a way that's not overly burdensome and that also allows them to identify areas for improvement within their courses. They would appreciate any thoughts/suggestions from committee members.
- Collaboratory
 - During their first subcommittee meeting of the semester, Anita and Jenni provided an overview of the Collaboratory to new members and did some preliminary usability testing. The subcommittee then talked through next steps: how to obtain feedback, processes with regards to peer review, copyright and fair use, creative commons licensing, and how to add folks to the Collaboratory. The subcommittee hopes to launch the resource to the campus community in Fall 2022. They will be soliciting feedback from UCCGE members within the next month or two, asking folks to sign up for 10-minute usability studies.
 - Anita, Jenni, and Hannah Wildman-Short presented the Collaboratory at the AGLS constitute in September. Anita shared the presentation [slides](#).

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm by Hannah Shinault.

Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher