

Minutes
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Committee
Meeting 2
September 20, 2024
1:30pm-3:00pm

In attendance: Eve Baker, Nicollette Brant, Lori Brown, Jill De La Torre, Tom Do, Lisa Fascia, Henry O'Lawrence, Loretta Ramirez, Deepti Singh, Courtney Stammler, Alexandra Wilkinson

Call to order: 1:32 PM

Approval of Agenda

Wilkinson moves to approve the agenda and Baker seconds the motion. The agenda is approved.

Approval of Minutes for 5-3-2024

Singh moves to approve the minutes and O'Lawrence seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Minutes of 9-6-2024

O'Lawrence motions to approve the minutes and Baker seconds the motion. The minutes are approved.

Announcements

GPEAC Officers for 2024-2025

Do will serve as Chair for the GPEAC. Wilkinson will serve as the recording secretary for the second year. Other members include Baker, Brant, Ramirez, and Stammler. All are welcome from this committee to join.

Academic Senate Vote on GE area A3: Critical Thinking (now 1B: Critical Thinking)

Brant notes that GEGC and the Cal – GETC policy went to Academic Seante on Aug 26th. During the meeting, there was an amendment to combine critical thinking and composition. Brant notes that right now, critical thinking is in its own area of classes. The amendment included a composition component with the critical thinking component and aligned with the current UC transfer system. Brants states that the combined composition and critical thinking did not pass. The most prominent concern was adding a writing component to colleges already impacted, or having more unit requirements, which can cause students to take longer with their degree.

Testing Update

Baker notes that the May/June 2024 GPE test had 1381 students test, while the September 2024 GPE saw 2310 students tested. Brown asks if any challenges or concerns occurred for students. Baker says not to her knowledge; however, in one classroom during the in person 10:30 session, a few students could not read the graph provided. However, they asked the proctor and they were able to provide this information.

GWAR Coordinator's Report

Brown notes that the Geography department has reached out regarding their WI courses. Geography has been increasing the number of WI courses and chose a WI course to evaluate for their Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation. The program essentially took writing samples from their WI and evaluated them using the GWAR requirement rubrics. A question arose as to whether it is acceptable to count rough drafts toward the required word count. One problem that they ran into was that many students did not make any changes from the rough draft to the final version. Brown will meet with them about ways to replace the rough draft with something more beneficial for students.

Brown attended the CEPC meeting last Wednesday. Brown notes that when the policy goes to Senate the chair of CEPC will present the revised policy from CEPC and the original policy from GWAR. The chair of CEPC does not plan to be at the meetings afterward. Brown notes that GWAR most likely does not have to be there but may want to be there.

Brown informs the committee that some questions have arisen, including what the writing committee should be called now that the policy has lost two proposed classes. Our current committee is called GWARC, but that could change depending on whether the college has one committee or two separate ones. This will be important for determining the committee that will oversee the development and review of the proposed writing modules.

Brown notes that WAC and GWAR are similar. GWAR's duties will be expanded if the college only has one writing committee. A significant consideration for the inclusion of a new committee is that our policy includes a WAC director. Wilkinson states she is disappointed in the policy that may come out of CEPC but hopes that if there is only one upper-division writing intensive class that enough resources can be allocated to it.

Another factor discussed with CEPC was the possibility of GWAR submitting the original policy we created. If so, this policy needs to be submitted before the Senate committee meets to discuss the GWAR policy so it can be officially voted on. Brant States that it would be helpful if GWAR attended and could share the example of how writing classes are benefiting the Geography department.

Ramirez asks if the CEPC chair submits the current CEPC edit and the original GWAR proposal policy, could Senate choose between the two? Brown notes that it would need to be submitted as an official proposal. Brants states that being added to the agenda for Senate is a good idea. Stammler has had personal experience serving on Senate and states that it is very helpful to have multiple perspectives present. Stammler suggests emailing the Senate chair to get on the agenda.

Brown notes that a new GWAR policy was proposed in 2010. After going through CEPC and arriving at the Senate, one person submitted their own proposal, which stalled the entire procedure. Singh suggests preparing slides comparing the CEPC proposal and the original policy submitted by GWAR.

Note: There is a motion for the GWARC to maintain the new committee formed titled GWACC as written in our original proposal to CEPC.

Wilkinson makes the motions, and Singh seconds the motion. The motion passes.

New Business

Tactics for when the policy goes to the Senate floor should be discussed at future meetings.

Adjournment: 3:05 PM

Submitted by,

Alexandra Wilkinson