

Minutes
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Committee
Meeting 3
October 4, 2024
1:30pm-3:00pm

In attendance: Eve Baker, Nicollette Brant, Lori Brown, Jill De La Torre, Tom Do, Lisa Fascia, Lorenzo Gutierrez-Jarquin, Henry O'Lawrence, Loretta Ramirez, Deepti Singh, Courtney Stammler, Maiyoua Vang, Bruce Veal, Alexandra Wilkinson

Call to Order: 1:34 pm

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes for 9-20-2024

Singh moves to approve the minutes, and Do seconds the motion. The Minutes are approved.

Announcements

Ramirez notes the importance of officially being approved for the committee. The Senate roster to find the person to email is on Canvas. Documentation is essential for future reviews. Ramirez notes that she asked the Senate to extend the roster to include additional representatives. Senate has advised waiting to add Cpace representation to avoid opening the committee policy and roster. Brown notes that the new policy proposal already adds additional representation. Ramirez also welcomes new GWARC members Maiyoua Vang (Educational Leadership) and Bruce Veal (ASI).

Testing Update – Baker is preparing for the Nov 1st and 2nd exams.

GPEAC Update – Do – the chair of GPEAC – notes that the committee is working on prompts.

GWAR Coordinator's Report: Lori Brown

Student Case – AH49

Brown presents the student case for AH49. AH49 left the university without a degree. When they were a student, the only available option to meet the GWAR was the WPE – exam only. They took the exam ten times but did not pass. Fascia notes that students can be retroactively awarded their degree, allowing them to stay in the previous catalog. This means the student's courses do not need to be re-evaluated. Fascia also confirms this is the last degree requirement for the student.

Vote: Fascia motions to approve the waiver request for AH49, and O'Lawrence seconds the motion. The motion passes.

Update on the policy and CEPC – Brown notes that little progress was made. However, the committee did start a review of the modules. There was a discussion on making the modules mandatory or eliminating them altogether. Brown reminds the committee that a detailed description of the modules is available in the proposal policy on Canvas. Brown also asks the committee if they want to submit our amendments or another policy completely to Senate.

Brant asks if a vote on removing the two courses has already happened. Brown states yes. Brant believes if amendments need to be made, they may need to come from within the Senate. Brant states this was the case for the committee she chairs. Perhaps Stammer or someone on the Senate can submit amendments on behalf of GEAR. Stammer notes she is an alternate, but she can make amendment requests. Ramirez asks how amendments are made in Senate. Brant notes that the document amendments are set up to go line by line. Brown notes that the committee does not need to go line by line. The committee can submit amendments where we want them. However, submitting an entirely new policy comes with additional work for the Senate because they will have to review two policies simultaneously (post-GEAR meeting Brown notes that this it is not possible to review two policies at once). Brown states that it is up to this committee to decide if we want to suggest small or large changes to the policy.

Stammer states that creating modules will require a budget, but Brown notes that a promise of money is not happening at this time. Stammer also notes that if the modules are voluntary, students will opt not to complete them. Stammer asks a clarifying question. If two courses are already removed from the policy, and the GPE is also removed, what is the college left with from the policy originally submitted? Brown notes that only the WI class and the modules, which may or may not be optional. Wilkinson, Ramirez, and Stammer are disappointed with the idea of removing modules completely. Singh notes that if we are persistent as a committee, maybe we can make a small difference for our students. Brant suggests going line by line for amendments.

Brown offers an alternate perspective on requiring modules. Brown notes that some colleges already have plenty of writing in their degree or have their own modules and may not want to add additional writing modules. Brant notes that we could put exceptions into the policy. This was the case with the new GEGC policy. Colleges could implement their own modules or use the provided set as long as they have some form of support to offer students. Ramirez notes that the modules were not just for the students but also for the WI instructors.

Fascia explains that the committee was charged with creating a new writing policy by removing portfolio classes and the GPE, but would like to clarify how this will not add units for students if two additional classes are required. Brown notes that the additional writing classes would be incorporated into classes already being taken. Fascia worries that adding additional writing classes could make it difficult for students to graduate, but if the safety nets of the portfolio and the GPE are removed then she sees the value of them. Brant adds that if students are not passing the exam the college does not provide enough opportunities for students to practice writing in lower division classes. Stammer agrees and notes that the real issue is the skill sets students are not building on. Brown asks Fascia if there is data on students not passing writing intensive

classes and also not graduating. Fascia says no, and it would require an individual review. Fascia notes that it may not be a high volume of students, but it does happen.

Ramirez recognizes that the committee is interested in bringing the two removed classes back into the policy. Ramirez ends the meeting noting that the committee will wait for the final proposal to come out to CEPC.

Next Meeting: October 18, 1:30-3:00 pm

Remaining meetings: Nov. 1, Nov. 15, Dec. 6, Dec. 20, Jan. 17, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, Mar. 7, Mar. 21, Apr. 18, May 2, May 16

Adjournment: 2:54 pm