

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2019
BUILDING 1A, Room 406**

General Education Committee: Catherine Lavender (Chair), Krishnaswami Raja, Xiaowen Zhang, Deb DeSimone, Linda Coull, Gregory Seals, David Lindo Atichati, Maryann Feola, Carlos Sola Belda, Nancy Guo, Abhijit Champanerkar, Jillian Baez, Karen Arca-Contreras, William Schreiber, Rob Lovering, Florette Cohen, Nafees Alam, Don Selby, Ahmed, Oswaldo Zavala

Staff: Hernan Green, Michael Anderson, Ken Wolpin, Veronica DiMeglio

Guests: Susan Holak, Sarolta Takacs, Jonathan Sassi

Excused: Ralf Peetz, Jonathan Peters, Lisa Manne, Michael Paris

Absent: Mark Aaron Polger, George Sanchez, Anes Amed

Date: April 8, 2019

1. The agenda for April 8th was moved by Deb DeSimone and seconded by Rob Lovering. The agenda was approved with an addition to item # 4 unanimously.
2. The minutes from the March 11, 2019 were moved by Deb DeSimone and seconded by Don Selby. The minutes were approved with a correction to the Guests (J. Sassi, and Deans) unanimously.
3. Michael Anderson directed attention to the draft of the Strategic Plan for Assessment of General Education Learning Outcomes which is located on BlackBoard. The Chair asked Michael Anderson to provide an executive summary with those responsibilities the General Education Committee will take on once the draft is approved. This draft will be voted on at the May 6th GEC Meeting.
4. Discussion of the Impact of the Removal of COR 100 as a Required Course
 - a. Email from Richard Flanagan to Faculty Senate was summarized by the Chair. The Chair recapped the March Faculty Senate meeting and shared with the Committee the report on the impact of the removal of COR 100. The Chair discussed Robert's Rules of Order's rules for reconsidering an already approved motion citing the "new information" represented by the report on the impact. After discussion a motion to reconsider the vote to remove COR 100 as the required course for FUSR

was moved by Catherine Lavender and seconded by Oswaldo Zavala. The motion passed by a vote of nine (Yes) to six (No) with one abstention. This did not meet the 2/3 majority. However, it was later confirmed that the motion did not meet the required 2/3 majority and did not pass. Peter Kabachnik expressed concern that Committee members may have thought that absent votes would be counted as no votes. The Chair clarified that in Fall 2018, the legal office had stipulated that the Curriculum Committees are not Perez committees and therefore absent votes do not count as no votes. However, the Chair asked if this knowledge would change anyone's vote. The Committee confirmed that it did not.

In the reconsideration of the motion to remove COR 100 the Committee discussed delaying further discussion of the item to the May meeting in order to ensure that concerned parties to be present. Several expressed concerns that this merely would delay action on the item as a "stalling" tactic. The motion to postpone the discussion until the May meeting was moved by Deb DeSimone and seconded by Krishnaswami Raja. Catherine Lavender requested that it be amended to include a request that the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate ensure that the vote on COR 100 would be brought to the floor at the May meeting with ample time to discuss. The amendment was accepted by Deb DeSimone and Krishnaswami Raja. The motion was approved by a vote of 14 (Yes) to one (No) and one abstention. The Chair assured the Committee we would bring this item to a vote at the May 6th GEC Meeting. At the May meeting there will be a full discussion of the merits of the proposal with the understanding that affected Departments now have the information necessary (in the provided Report) of the impact of that change. It is hoped that a clear Committee agreement will make the Faculty Senate vote more informed and expeditious.

5. Proposals from the Department of Political Science and Global Affairs for:

- a. Change in existing POL and GEG courses for: Removal of COR 100 as a prerequisite and replacing COR 100 with any US Experience and Its Diversity (FUSR) course as a prerequisite in the Contemporary World Category
 - POL 240 Comparative Politics
 - POL 256 East Asian Politics
 - POL 259 International Security
 - POL 260 International Politics
 - POL 264 Political Geography
 - GEG 225 Cultural Geography
 - GEG 250 Conservation and Humanity
 - GEG 260 Urban Geography
 - GEG 264 Political Geography

Item A was voted on as a package. Moved by Don Selby and seconded by Rob Lovering. The package was approved unanimously.

- b. Change in existing POL courses for: Removal of CORE 100 as a prerequisite from the following courses in the social science category
 - POL 201 Early Western Political Theory
 - POL 202 Modern Western Political Theory
 - POL 204 American Political and Legal Thought
 - POL 221 American Presidency
 - POL 222 The American Legal System
 - POL 231 City Hall and Albany
 - POL 233 CUNY Internship Program in New York Government and Politics I
 - POL 241 Western European Politics: United Kingdom, France, Italy, Germany
 - POL 252 Middle East
 - POL 253 African Politics
 - POL 256 East Asian Politics
 - POL 259 International Security
 - POL 260 International Politics
 - POL 261 International Organizations
- c. Change in existing POL and GEG Courses for: Removal of CORE 100 as a prerequisite from the following courses in the social science category
 - POL 201 Early Western Political Theory
 - POL 202 Modern Western Political Theory
 - POL 204 American Political and Legal Thought
 - POL 221 American Presidency
 - POL 222 The American Legal System
 - POL 231 City Hall and Albany
 - POL 233 CUNY Internship Program in New York Government and Politics I
 - POL 241 Western European Politics: United Kingdom, France, Italy, Germany
 - POL 252 Middle East
 - POL 253 African Politics
 - POL 256 East Asian Politics
 - POL 259 International Security
 - POL 260 International Politics

POL 261 International Organizations

Items B & C were moved as a package by Rob Lovering and seconded by Greg Seals. The vote was approved by a vote of 11 (Yes) to four (No) with 2 abstentions.

The remaining items on the agenda will be discussed at the May meeting.