

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
MAY 6, 2019  
BUILDING 1A, Room 406**

**General Education Committee:** Catherine Lavender (Chair), Jonathan Peters, Lisa Manne, Krishnaswami Raja, Xiaowen Zhang, Deb DeSimone, George Vachadze, Gregory Seals, David Lindo Atichati, Maryann Feola, Mark Aaron Polger, Carlos Sola Belda, Tom Tellefsen, Abhijit Champanerkar, Jillian Baez, Karen Arca-Contreras, Florette Cohen, Barbra Teater, Don Selby, Anes Ahmed, Oswaldo Zavala

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

**Ex-Officio:** Ralf Peetz

**Guests:** Susan Holak, Ken Gold, Nafees Alam, Linda Coull, Jonathan Sassi, Jane Marcus-Delgado

**Excused:** Sarolta Takacs, Marcus Tye, Rob Lovering, Michael Paris

**Absent:** George Sanchez, William Schreiber

**Date:** May 6, 2019

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1. The agenda for May 6<sup>th</sup> was unanimously approved (M. Feola moved, Don Selby seconded).
2. The minutes from April 8<sup>th</sup> were unanimously approved with minor corrections.
3. Proposals from the Department of Biology for:
  - a. STEM Waiver: Medical Technology BS was unanimously approved. (Jon Peters moved, Lisa Manne seconded)
  - b. STEM Waiver: Biology BS was unanimously approved. (Deb DeSimone moved, Jon Peters seconded)
4. Proposals from the Department of Computer Science for:
  - a. Change in existing course: CSC 140 Algorithms and Computation was tabled and moved to the October agenda. The proposal has yet to be approved by the UCC.
  - b. Change in existing course: CSC 141 Algorithms and Computation Laboratory was tabled and moved to the October agenda. The proposal has yet to be approved by the UCC.
5. General Education Assessment Plan: Michael Anderson provided a summary of the proposed Assessment procedures for general education. Minor corrections were made to the procedures specifically bullet 6: GECAS will manage the random sampling process with an aim to do effective assessment with workload shared across curriculum. With those corrections, Deb DeSimone moved to approve the plan and Lisa Manne seconded the motion. The plan was unanimously approved. The GECAS election will be held in September for the 2019-2020 academic year. For the remainder of the year

and through the summer, Catherine Lavender, Jon Peters, and George Vachadze agreed to serve as GECAS members. As a reminder, the membership of the committee should be a minimum of three representing at least two schools and 1 Division.

Assessment information collected will be stored on a SharePoint repository managed by Michael Anderson and Mel Pipe.

6. Compliance Issues/Hidden Prerequisites: Catherine Lavender reminded the committee that CUNY recognizes the college does not comply with Pathways policy that allows students to choose freely among the courses offered within each of the Pathways areas, except in cases where degree program have received waivers to specific particular courses for each area. If COR 100 were removed there would be a significant impact on degree programs and exacerbate the hidden prerequisite issue. In addition, CSI is still addressing the issue of hidden prerequisites for many degree programs. A hidden prerequisite is a major course requires a prerequisite not included in the degree requirements. This prerequisite automatically becomes part of the degree requirements and the credits are added to the total credits required for that major. This issue is not unique only to COR. There are potential issues with the Macaulay general education course offerings, which are only open to those students and required by the program. In addition, for the majority of the BA programs students are advised to take 112-level language to satisfy the World Cultures and Global Issues to serve as prerequisites for the 213-level language requirement in the major. Maryann Feola noted that more than 4000 students have graduate CSI without taking a literature course. Ralf Peetz announced that CSI is part of the first wave of a CUNY audit by the NYS Comptroller's Office. The compliance issue and the hidden prerequisite issue may have an impact on the audits findings.
7. Discussion (not for voting): Draft of Suggested Policy
8. Common Experience: Jane Marcus Delgado announced that she is working with Gerry

Milligan and Ralf Peetz on designing a Common Experience program at CSI. This program may consist of a thematic bucket or a discipline and/or be an overlay across many general education areas that will incorporate a required summer reading that will be discussed in the first year. Ad hoc committees for First Year and the General Education Task Force (one in the same) have yet to be formalized. Susan Holak asked if there would be a call for volunteers to serve on these committees.

9. Re-examination of the 200-level College Option courses was withdrawn and moved to the September Agenda.
10. Informational: Liberal Arts & Science Policy: Catherine Lavender shared with the Committee the suggested change made on the Liberal Arts & Sciences Memorandum presented at the March Faculty Senate Meeting. The suggestion was to include that courses, in an area traditionally not considered LAS, would be both a broad survey and theoretical rather than the original language of broad survey or theoretical. When this was presented to the UCC, the committee agreed to keep the language of broad survey or theoretical that they had originally approved.
11. New Business: Michael Anderson suggested that the Committee review the seven Standards of Middles States on the web.
12. Items for September Agenda:
  - a. Elections for GECAS subcommittee
  - b. Computer Science course proposals (CSC 140/141)
  - c. Impact of the changes to the Liberal Arts AA degree on en route degree applicants
  - d. 200-level College Option course prerequisites