

General Education/Graduation Requirements Policies Committee
April 6, 2015

Approved: May 4, 2015

Attending: Tanya Altmann, Nicole Buffard, Phipp Flickinger, Lisa Harrison, Andrew Hertzoff, Sue Holl, Dana Kivel (chair), Tom Krabacher, Benicia Martinez, Sheree Meyer (ex-officio, Academic Affairs), Ravin Pan, Reza Peigahi (Senate Chair), Chris Taylor

Guest: Aaron Cohen (History Dept.)

I. Call to Order: 3:05 pm

II. Agenda: approved

III. Minutes: No minutes were approved.

IV. Open Forum:

- Reza Peigahi noted that first meeting of the Committee on Committees will take place the next day, April 7, 2015.
- Reza also provided a retrospective on the outcome of the recent presidential search.

V. History Department Appeal: Chair Kivel explained that a half-hour has been set aside for the topics; 15 minutes will be allocated to the History Dept. to present its case. This will be followed by Q&A, after which guests will be asked to leave the room while Committee discussion ensues.

- Aaron Cohen (History Chair): Presented the History Department's case, noting that much of the problem stems from the lack of clearly defined learning outcomes for the American Institutions requirement. He then cited the state law (Title 5?) as to the intended purpose of the requirement. He argued that the proposed Anthropology course doesn't qualify as a 'foundational course' and thus does not satisfy the American Institutions requirement.
- O & A:
 - Andrew Hertzoff asked whether there had ever been any history courses proposed for the AI requirement that have not been approved. (Answer: No, because there hasn't been much activity in this area.)
 - Hertzoff also asked if this course would be approved if it had been submitted as a history course – he answered "No."
 - He was asked about the nature of citizenship as it applies to the purpose of the American Institutions requirement.
- Committee Discussion: The following points were raised:
 - The threshold for overruling the GE Course Review Subcommittee should be fairly high;
 - The lack of specific learning outcomes makes it difficult to overrule the Subcommittee; it was also noted that the requirements are currently met in a variety of ways – UC accepts high school history courses, other accepted CSU courses do not appear to be 'foundational.'
- Action: It was MSC (vote 6-2-1) to (1) not overturn the Subcommittee decision, (2) institute a moratorium on the approval of new courses as satisfying the A. I. requirement until guidelines

(or earning outcomes) for the American Institutions requirement are developed, and (3) that, all courses currently in A.I. be reviewed against these criteria once they are developed.

VI. 2015-2016 Chair Nomination: The Committee nominated Reza Peigahi for 2015-2016 GE-GRP Committee chair.

VII. Global Awareness Certificate (Sheree Meyer):

Approved, pending addition of language stating courses will be approved based on their satisfaction of the identified learning outcomes.

VIII. Area B Assessment Plan: Approved