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**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 8:30-9:30 AM
LOCATION: Bilger 106 and Zoom
ATTENDANCE: [P = Present; A = Absent; E = Excused]

MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS		MEMBERS	
Sonja Giardina (ASUH rep)	P (Zoom)	Nadine Ortega	P (Zoom)	Garett Inoue (Admissions rep)	E	Ashley Maynard (GEO Director)	P
Mahealani Kaneshiro	P (Zoom)	Sarah Post	P (Zoom)	Paul McKimmy (OVPAE rep)	E	Lisa Fujikawa (GEO liaison)	P
Keahiahi Long	P (Zoom)	Shauna Sibonga	P (Zoom)	Marguerite Butler (SEC liaison)	P	Vicky Keough	P
Laura O'Rourke	P (Zoom)	Brad Taylor	P			Rose Paradise	P

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION / INFORMATION	ACTION / STRATEGY / RESPONSIBLE PERSON
CALL TO ORDER		Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:31 AM.
REVIEW OF MINUTES	1. Reviewed minutes from 25 September, 2024.	1. Minutes from 9/25 meeting approved by unanimous consent.



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INFORMATION ITEMS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Association for General and Liberal Studies (AGLS) Conference Report. Ashley shared conference experience. Effective term for discontinuation of course description modification. Clarification that courses with course-based Focus approval <i>effective Summer 2025 and later</i> will no longer be required to modify their course description to reflect the inherency of the approved Focus. Courses currently being reviewed for a Spring 2025 Focus will modify their course descriptions upon approval as proposed on their Focus proposal forms. Focus Exemption Form modifications. Focus Boards are being asked to review the E Board's suggestions for modifications and to propose their own changes as well. SEC Meeting. Brad, Ashley, and Patsy Fujimoto (CAPP Chair) were invited to the SEC meeting on Monday, 07 October, 2024. Discussed proposed changes to Regents Policy 5.213 with VP of Academic Strategy Debora Halbert and iVP for Community Colleges Della Teraoka. Proposed changes have been rescinded, with no plans to bring them back. SEC liaison report. Potential new GEC member to fill the current vacancy; depends on the faculty member's schedule. Liaison reports (as collected by a Google Form prior to the meeting) can be found at the bottom of this document. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No action. No action. No action. No action. No action. No action.
ACTION ITEMS		



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DISCUSSION ITEMS		
	<p>1. Language Substitution List (LSL) - Would the GEC support adding a statement to the list that would cover courses that have a specific language and/or culture in their title? For example, could a course titled “Western Music and Japan” (MUS 348) be considered a Japanese culture course? Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An LSL course addition shouldn’t be determined from only the title of the course. The department needs to explain why adding the course to the LSL is appropriate. b. Learning another language gives insight into other cultures and their similarities/differences with our own and builds diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Language substitution/”culture” courses should strive to meet these same goals. c. Hawaiiinuiakea is talking about ways to revise the current system of modifying or waiving the HSL requirement by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of that School/College’s faculty. <p>2. ENG 200 as a universal W course (from annual report) – Last Spring, the W Board proposed allowing courses that transfer as equivalent to UHM’s ENG 200 be accepted as fulfilling a W Focus requirement. (Currently, Focus credit is not awarded for courses taken outside the UH System; instead, Focus requirements are prorated based on the number of credits students transfer into the UH System.) GEC discussed the W Board’s proposal but plans to consult with other parties (e.g., advisors, OVPAE, transfer credit specialists, other campuses) before making a decision.</p> <p>3. Gen Ed Redesign Patsy, Brad, and Ashley started working on a Gen Ed presentation after the September MFS meeting based on the town halls CAPP held last spring. Brad also tried to include a proposed curriculum that reflected one version of the GEC’s discussions last year. Currently, the video version of the presentation is being assembled with Loom (free video software) for easy sharing in the future, first with faculty and then more widely. Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Question about long-term plans, timing, process, etc. and what the GEC should do with existing 	<p>1. No action.</p> <p>2. Tabled for next meeting.</p> <p>3. All GEC members were asked to look at the streamlined Gen Ed Ideas document and create their own proposed Gen Ed due by Friday, 18 October to Gen Ed (gened@hawaii.edu).</p>



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	<p>models. Goal is to have MFS vote on a new Gen Ed curriculum by the end of the academic year (May 2025).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Suggestion to start thinking about assembling a “consulting committee” to see how proposed changes would affect different majors, degrees, programs, etc. c. UH community colleges are also discussing Gen Ed. There is concern that a reduction in Gen Ed requirements will result in students moving to the four-year campuses sooner. Is this being done to make room for additional major requirements? No, the intent is to give students more flexibility. If “free electives” could be added to Gen Ed, these “exploratory” courses would be covered by financial aid/Course Program of Study. d. The proposed modification to the Regents Policy on Gen Ed focuses on condensing the requirements, which is what both the BOR and administration want. How do we do this without losing the integrity of our requirements? e. It was pointed out that the AA degree/“major” is essentially the Gen Ed requirements, so modifying Gen Ed means changing the AA degree. Consequently, we should be thinking about how proposed changes affect the UH System. Ashley is in communication with the CC Gen Ed Inquiry Team and will let them know that our focus is improving the quality of the requirements and our assessment results. 	
NEW BUSINESS		
UPCOMING MEETINGS	<p>REMAINING FALL 2024 MEETINGS: Wednesdays 8:30-9:30AM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● October 23 ● November 6 ● November 13 or 20 (S25 reg begins Nov. 18) ● December 4 ● December 18, if needed (finals week) 	



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ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by
the Chair at 9:51 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Mahealani Kaneshiro, Secretary.
Approved on 10/23/2024 by unanimous consent.

LIAISON REPORTS & UPDATES

- **F Board (Keahiahi Long)**: Committee met and discussed transfer course exemptions. There weren't many, as it's early in the semester; the committee expects more proposals in the coming weeks. I (Keahiahi) also gave an update about the new Chair and Vice Chair of GEC. Committee members had questions about status / progress of GenEd Redesign. I replied that GEC has been focused on committee business for our first two committee meetings and will turn our attention to the redesign in future meetings.
- **Div Board**:
- **E Board**:
- **HAP Board (Mahealani Kaneshiro)**: The HAP Board welcomed a new member, Julie Walsh, and proceeded to discuss the status of four active HAP proposals. All proposals have multiple focuses and one is instructor-based. There was a discussion about how the multiple focuses are approved, whether or not instructor-based proposals are still accepted, and deadlines for GEC review. The board will continue their discussion about the four active HAP proposals during their next meeting in two weeks on 09 October.
- **O Board (Shauna Sibonga)**: Did not attend last meeting (prior to confirmation as liaison), but in reviewing notes, Vice Chair was confirmed and the board decided that, given the non-requirement of showing inherency in course descriptions, they will accept requested course description updates but not require it. The board is otherwise continuing its normal work of reviewing applications. The board further discussed the change in focus exemption requirements, suggesting that students be asked to submit work as evidence to justify exemption. Suggestion was also made to require a separate form for each request so that the student can clearly outline how hallmarks, etc. are being met.
- **W Board (Nadine Ortega)**: