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GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING DATE:** February 28, 2020 11:00 AM–12:45 PM  
**LOCATION:** Sakamaki A-201  
**ATTENDANCE:** [P = Present; A = Absent; E = Excused]

| MEMBERS            |   | MEMBERS         |   | MEMBERS                             |   | MEMBERS       |   |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|---|
| Garrett Apuzen-Ito | P | Mike Nassir     | P | Christine Beaule                    | P | Lisa Fujikawa | P |
| Shana Brown        | P | Jonathan Pettit | P | Ronald Cambra                       | P | Vicky Keough  | P |
| Garrett Clanin     | P | Halina Zaleski  | P | Ryan Yamaguchi                      | E | Cari Ryan     | P |
| Betsy Gilliland    | P | (ASUH rep)      | A | Carolyn Stephenson<br>(SEC liaison) | P | Sheela Sharma | E |
| Kalikoaloha Martin | P |                 |   |                                     |   |               |   |

| SUBJECT           | DISCUSSION / INFORMATION   | ACTION / STRATEGY / RESPONSIBLE PERSON |
|-------------------|--|--|
| CALL TO ORDER     | Meeting was called to order by Garrett A-I.  | Meeting was called to order at 11:02   |
| REVIEW OF MINUTES | Minutes from the 2/14 meeting approved with 4 votes in favor, 0 against and 3 abstentions.   | Minutes approved at 11:09am            |
| INFORMATION ITEMS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working Group reports (Assessment, Curriculum, Governance)</li> <li><i>Assessment</i> (Jon) -- AWG has been working with the Foundations Learning Community to revise SLOs to better resonate with the FG hallmarks. After the SLOs are revised, the AWG will work to develop an assessment for FG courses. This led to a discussion about the origin of the SLOs. Christine explains that these were hastily determined in the spring of 2018.</li> <li><i>Governance</i> (Garrett C.) -- GWG has received a poll that has been sent out to find common times for a meeting with SEC and OVCAA.</li> <li><i>Curriculum</i> -- Betsy spoke about the CWG's development of mock thematic pathways (TP). They are thinking about the</li> </ul> |  |



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number of courses that should be included in a pathway (e.g., 50 credit hours across at least 5 DIV courses). Mike remarks that some of the mock pathways (e.g., Space) were too narrow, so the CWG is considering broadening the parameters. Asks GEC if many pathways should be offered at once or if one TP should be released one at a time. Christine remarks that it has been hard to get small-level changes made. Thus, it is difficult to see how many pathways could all be adopted at the system-level. Christine further notes that one of the problems in bringing TP to UHM is the constant turnover in the GEC. Shana asks if there is support among system-level administrators on the topic; Christine confirms that there is interest at the system-level, but that there is more resistance at Manoa. Garrett C. remarks that there should be more sustained attention by the GEC on how the GenEd curriculum should be changed. Christine notes that the GEC might meet for a half-day in April to brainstorm a master plan.

*GEO Director's report*

- Christine reports on her trip to AAC&U Annual Meeting (Jan. 22-25, Washington DC) and Cari's trip to the February AAC&U conference in General Education and Pedagogy. They show a presentation on [GenEd conferences](#) they have attended. They present on the enduring value of liberal education, student success, implementation of data to assess courses, and pedagogical support. Christine compares UHM to other universities, and notes that while UHM has great diversity, they lack a sense of community for faculty and students. She notes that the current FG FLC is an example of global learning and diversity. Points out some of the GenEd reform experiences that will help UHM move forward such as first-seminar courses and thematic pathways. She points out that there is great concern across the nation over student success (life skills, study skills). But perhaps the greatest challenge UHM faces is the level of trust among faculty members. This is not a common phenomenon in other universities.

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- Cari reflects on her trip to the Feb. AAC&U conference in Florida on Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment. She points out some of the themes of the panels such as Civic knowledge and engagement. She remarks that other universities have shifted away from quantitative assessment and focus on qualitative data (e.g., faculty interviews). There was a sustained discussion about teaching oral communications across the discipline. Other universities are starting workshops to facilitate discussion. They are also incorporating the skill sets in the names of the courses (e.g., Decision Making, Collaboration).
- Shana suggests that faculty may be likely to embrace change to Gen Ed if departments receive assistance in adjusting to possible impacts of curriculum change on SSH distribution, and program funding.

*Liaison reports (E, H, O, W, F, Div, SEC)*

E Board (Garrett C.) is reviewing proposals.

HAP Board (Shana) talked to the committee about increasing oral communication requirements. In general, the HAP board supports offering more Oral communication requirements at the foundation or focus level. However, creating a new O-foundation may create an undue burden for a single department. The board suggests adding another O focus requirement at the lower-division level that many departments can offer.

O Board (Cari) is reviewing proposals.

W Board (Betsy) is reviewing proposals. Discussed the Oral Communications focus. The board members support adding a O requirement and even taking away a W required course. They also noted that in the case of creating an O Foundations requirement there would need to be an English Language Institute (ELI) equivalent for second-language speakers at UH.

F Board (Jon) considered transfer course designations. Discussed the SLOs from the FG FLC. Shana reported that there was a

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|                          | <p>meeting between some History faculty and staff with members of the Council of Academic Advisors about the FG “Western Civ” transfer waiver. This topic is included in the 2019-20 GEC agenda.</p> <p>Div Board (Mike) is considering transfer credits</p> <p><i>SEC Liaison’s report</i><br/>The SEC has taken the schedule of all parties. The proposed meetings are only on Mondays; there is no open meeting until the end of March. The SEC is currently drafting a reply on the governance document.</p>  |  |
| <b>ACTION ITEMS</b>      |   |  |
| <b>DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>  | <p>Betsy reports on the W Board members’ discussion on the current policy on how many members are needed to review a course- vs. individual-based proposals. All members were in agreement that there did not need to be a separate process for the two kinds of proposals. Christine notes that the W Board is different than other boards since there are so many more (5x) proposals per faculty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion to change W Board policy from 5 reviewers for a course-based proposal to 1.</li> <li>• Motion is passed 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.</li> </ul> <p>A discussion of changing the policy to the following: Any focus proposal with 3+ designations needs to be submitted by the priority deadline so the GEC can review them. All other proposals (2 or fewer designations, whether they be course- or instructor-based) need not be reviewed by the GEC and thus can be accepted at the later deadline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion is made to change the policy.</li> <li>• Motion is passed 5 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>NEW BUSINESS</b>      |   |  |
| <b>UPCOMING MEETINGS</b> | <p><b>SPRING 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE: Fridays from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in Sak A201</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March 13</li> <li>• March 27</li> </ul>   |  |



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|             |  |                               |
|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• April 3</li><li>• April 17</li><li>• May 1</li><li>• May 8</li></ul> |                               |
| ADJOURNMENT |  | Meeting adjourned<br>at 12:12 |

Respectfully submitted by Jonathan Pettit, Secretary.  
Approved on 03/13 with 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.