



May 11, 2021

To: Mānoa Faculty Senate Executive Committee

From: Jonathan Pettit, Chair

Re: General Education Committee - Spring Report 2021

Committee members included: List the committee officers and other members.

The Chair thanks committee members and the GEO office for their outstanding service this year. These people include: Garrett Apuzen-Ito, Christine Beaulé, Shana Brown, Matt Eng, Lisa Fujikawa, Betsy Gilliland, Cari Gochenouer, Kaylie Keim, Vicky Keough, Laura Lyons, Kalikoaloha Martin, Mike Nassir, Mandy Westfall-Senda, and Ryan Yamaguchi. The chair also thanks our SEC liaison, Christine Sorensen Irvine, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of GEC. Finally, the chair would like to offer a special thank you to Ron Cambra who retired from the GEC this spring after decades of tireless support for General Education at UH-Mānoa.

The General Education Committee met on January 7 and 21, February 4 and 18, March 4 and 25, April 15 and 29, & May 6 of this year.

During the Spring 2021 semester, the committee addressed the following issues and items:

Issue(s) Completed:

January 7, 2021

Ended Staff-based Proposals

Staff-based proposals were focus proposals a department used to apply for a focus designation for a lecturer or other faculty member who is unknown or has yet to be approved at the time of application. Due to the changes in course-based proposals, which can now be made from the outset rather than requiring at least two iterations of individual faculty approvals beforehand, the GEC decided that the staff-based proposals were not needed and could be submitted as course-based proposals. The GEC unanimously voted to end staff-based proposals.

March 8, 2021

Signed a Memorandum of Understanding between SEC, GEC, GEO, and OVCAA

Three years ago, the GEC and SEC started talks on drafting a new MOU. In August 2020, the SEC sent GEC a proposed revised version of a MOU. The GEC submitted a draft approved by all parties except the SEC in late January. This version was approved and signed by the SEC in February. The new MOU will be included in the General Education Handbook for 2021–22.

April 11, 2021

Drafted a New Governance Doc that was Reviewed by and Re-submitted to the SEC

The governance document for the General Education program is over two decades old. There are many discrepancies in the way that committees and boards are represented, and the General Education Office, the hub of GenED activity at UH-Mānoa, is not even mentioned in the old document. This past semester, the GEC circulated final drafts of the governance doc and had consultations with Boards such as Foundations and Writing about their membership and responsibilities. After the GEC chair and GEO director met for a consultation with the SEC, the GEC submitted its final version on April 11.

April 29, 2021

Updated Thematic Pathways for General Education Approved by GEC

In light of the external report on General Education, which pointed out that students saw their GE requirements as disconnected from their purposes in attending college, the GEC held extensive discussion and development in 2019–20 of Thematic Pathways in General Education (TPGE). The initiative passed in May 2020, but the SEC was concerned that its organization might create undue burdens on faculty members. This past spring, the GEC invited Makena Coffman, Director of the Institute for Sustainability and Resilience, to consult us on the application process of TPGE. The GEC chair and the GEO director also met with the SEC to discuss ways to simplify the TPGE creation process. This led to further discussion and revisions of TPGE; a revised application process was approved by the GEC on April 29, 2021.

May 6, 2021

Limited Individual-based Proposals

The GEC voted to limit individual course-based proposals to directed research or directed study and special topics courses. The GEO will notify departments of the change later this summer, and the changes will go into effect for the Fall of 2022 proposal review cycle.

May 15, 2021

Drafted Six Working Group Reports on Key Competencies

The GEC also spent time this semester to consider the external report's call for large-scale curricular reform to allow for greater synthesis and coherence across the entire Gen Ed program at UH-Mānoa. This past semester, the GEC formed two Curriculum Working Groups to brainstorm approaches to two alternative models of Gen Ed curricula. Work began in January and February to select a list of key competencies that were limited or nonexistent in our current curriculum. Over the course of the semester, each working group researched, discussed, and wrote about three competencies for a total of six reports: information and digital literacy, place-based learning, critical thinking & logical/ethical reasoning, civic & community engagement, global citizenship & cultural competencies, and college & life skills. The reports identify what aspects of the competency exist in our present curriculum, what other peer institutions are doing with that competency, and what other information would be useful for making decisions about this competency for revising general education at UH-Mānoa. The reports are being finalized and will be submitted to the GEO in mid-May. These will be shared with participants in the General Education Summer Institute.

Issue(s) Under Review:

May 6, 2021

issuing a report on Hawaiian/Second Language (H/SL) Policy

The Curriculum Working Group produced a report on the H/SL policy at UH-Mānoa. This report identified the need for clearly defined learning objectives and an application process for these substitutions. The GEC Chair, vice-chair, and GEO Director met with representatives from the Council of Academic Advisors and discussed transferring management of the “culture substitution list” currently in use for the H/SL requirement to the GEC. We expect to form a working group in Fall 2021 to consider possible learning objectives that these courses must meet.

May 7, 2021

Reviewing CAB's Amendments to Bylaws

The GEC has worked in the past two months with members of CFS and CEE to review and suggest revision to the MFS bylaws. Representatives of all three committees met with representatives from CAB on May 7 to discuss revising the language in the bylaws specifically around continuing committee membership and governance. This revised wording will be introduced in the May 12 MFS meeting.

May 10, 2021

Preparing Three-year Progress Report to the Provost and the SEC

The GEC is required to send the Provost a 3-year report on General Education at UH-Mānoa. This report has been drafted and reviewed by the GEC. By the end of May, the GEC will finalize the report and send it to the Provost and the SEC.

Proposal Reviews by General Education Boards

Contemporary Ethical Issues Focus Board (E) --- Rayna Fujii, Seungoh Paek, Gregory Ravizza (Vice Chair), Karen Selph, Megan Terawaki (Chair), Matt Eng (GEC Liaison), and Vicky Keough (GEO Liaison)

Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues Board (H) -- Konia Freitas, Patricia Halagao (Vice-Chair), Keahiahi Long (Chair), James Viernes, Kawēlau Wright, Kaliko Martin (GEC Liaison), Christine Beaulé (GEO Liaison)

Oral Communication Board (O) -- Dustin Crowther, Leilani Dawson (Co-Chair), Amy McKee, Jamie Simpson Steele, Jaymian Urashima (Co-Chair), Garrett Apuzen-Ito (GEC Liaison), Cari Gochenouer & Vicky Keough (GEO Liaisons)

Writing Focus Board (W) -- Sarah Allen (Rhetoric & Composition Director, ex officio and regular member), Christine Beaulé (General Education Office Director, ex officio), Shana Brown (General Education Committee liaison), Curt Daehler, Clare Fujioka-Sok, David Gustavsen, Kenton Harsch (English Language Institute Director, ex officio), Peter Hoffenberg, Ji Young Kim, Bob Lipske, Lisa Fujikawa (GEO liaison)

Foundations Board (F)-- Baoyan Cheng, Monica LaBriola (Co-Chair), Ramdas Lamb, Sarah Post (Co-Chair), Lauren Prepose-Forsen, Dawn Sueoka, Diana Thompson, Mandy Westfall-Senda (GEC Liaison), Cari Gochenouer & Christine Beaulé (GEO Liaisons)

Diversification Board--John Gagnon (Vice Chair), Shannon Johnson (Chair), Peiling Kao, Jayme Scally, Philip von Doetinchem (Fall 2020), Howard Shen (Spring 2021), Michael Nassir (GEC Liaison), Cari Gochenouer & Lisa Fujikawa (GEO Liaisons)

For total proposals reviewed, see next page.

Focus Board Review, AY21 (Proposals and Focus Exemptions)

	instructor-based proposals for:			TOTAL	STAFF-based proposals for:			TOTAL	course-based proposals for:			TOTAL	Focus Exemption			TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
	S21	SS21	F21		S21	SS21	F21		S21	SS21	F21		S21	SS21	F21		
E*	27	12	9	48	0	0	0	0	5	0	12	17	0	0	0	0	65
H	1	3	6	10	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	5	0	0	0	0	15
O**	18	7	15	40	0	0	0	0	3	0	18	21	0	0	0	0	61
W***	66	18	51	135	0	0	0	0	18	4	26	48	2	0	0	2	185

*For E, the 27 instructor-based proposals for S21 includes 4 that were reviewed for F20.

**For O, the 18 instructor-based proposals for S21 includes 1 that was reviewed for F20, and the 18 COURSE-Based proposals for for F21 includes 1 that was reviewed for S22.

***For W, the 66 instructor-based proposals for S21 includes 7 that were reviewed for F20. The above also does not include 3 instructor-based proposals still pending decision as of 05/04/21.

GEC Review, AY21

	reviewed in F20	reviewed in S21	TOTAL
multiple Focus	0	1	1

Foundations & Diversification Review, AY21

Reviewed for:	proposals/UHM forms		TOTAL	transfer credit evals		TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
	reviewed in F20	reviewed in S21		F20	S21		
FG	2	4	6	16	11	27	33
FQ	2	1	3	79	29	108	111
FW	0	0	0	4	0	4	4
PR	0	0	0	0	20	20	20
Foundations (total)	4	5	9	99	60	159	168
Diversification	30	10	40	48	33	81	121

05/03 - Total does NOT include 1 PR that is still pending decision (and is on the "active" sheet) as of today

04/28 - Div numbers do NOT include the 4 TCEs still pending on the "active" sheet as of today