



GE Council

June 11, 2012, 1:00-4:00pm
Department of Higher Education
1560 Broadway – Suite 1600
Denver, CO

**** MINUTES ****

1. Greetings and Introductions
 - Tom Christensen (UCCS)
 - Rhonda Epper (CCCS)
 - Erin Frew (CSU-P)
 - Jeff London (CFAC-MSCD)
 - Barbara Morris (FLC)
 - Kevin Nelson (WSC)
 - Richard Nishikawa (UCB)
 - Frank Novotny(ASC)
 - Jeff Reynolds (AIMS)
 - Sunny Schmitt (CMC)
 - Tom Smith (UNC)
 - Sheila Thompson (MSCD)
 - Steve Werman (CMU)
 - Kathleen Bollard (CU System)
2. Adoption of last meeting's notes – May 7, 2012 [*See handout*]
Adopted.
3. Information Items
 - a. Faculty-to-Faculty Alignment Meetings for Mathematics and English/Rhetoric/Communication (*Emmy Glancy*)
Call for assistance to recruit participants, especially for the June 25 meeting. DHE will soon be launching a website for these meetings. RSVP list was sent to GEC after the meeting so members can see who, from their institutions, have RSVP'd so far.
 - *Monday, June 25th - Rifle, Colorado – location changed to the Metro area, still need to get participants signed up.*
 - *Tuesday, June 26th - Pueblo, Colorado – 20 RSVPs so far*
 - *Wednesday, June 27th - Ft. Collins, Colorado – 24 RSVPs so far*
4. Discussion/Action Items

- a. August 13, 2012 meeting? (Historically one summer meeting has been cancelled).
Cancelled.
- b. gtPathways Waivers from CCHE for Non-LAS Degrees
 - Possible process for obtaining waivers: IHEs submit list of degrees that need waivers; DHE staff reviews list – if there are questions the IHE is consulted, then GEC and AC, if necessary; CCHE approves list.
 - What are the implications for Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreements (STAAs)?
 - This statute only applies to bachelor’s degrees.
 - Should there be a list of degrees with waivers on the DHE website?
 - This same discussion will be held with Academic Council (AC) tomorrow.
 - i. Per statute, gtPathways applies to every undergraduate degree at every public institution. See:
 - §23-1-108.5(2)(c) states, “ ‘General education courses’ means the group of courses offered by an institution of higher education that every student enrolled in the institution must successfully complete to attain an associate's or bachelor's degree.”
 - CCHE Policy I, L: Statewide Transfer Policy, section 5.02, states, “...in all majors at all public institutions...” The policy also defines “general education” as “...the general body of knowledge and skills that the recipient of any undergraduate degree conferred by an institution should possess.”
 - §23-1-125(1)(e) does not distinguish between LAS degrees and other degrees.
 - ii. The practice thus far, however, has been to apply it only to LAS degrees. Points that support that:
 - Non-LAS degrees are aligned to national accreditation standards that require specific cores different than the more generalizable cores of LAS degrees.
 - CCHE Policy I, L: Statewide Transfer Policy, section 5.01 refers to “liberal arts and sciences degrees.”
 - iii. The dilemma: statute, policy and practice are not aligned.
 - iv. The solution: This amendment (in CAPS) was added to HB 12-1155, which amends C.R.S. 23-1-125 to read:

23-1-125. Commission directive - student bill of rights - degree requirements - implementation of core courses - competency test
 (3) Core courses. The department, in consultation with each Colorado public institution of higher education, is directed to outline a plan to implement a core course concept that defines the general education course guidelines for all public institutions of higher education. The core of courses shall be designed to ensure that students demonstrate competency in reading, critical thinking, written communication, mathematics, and technology. The core of courses shall consist of at least thirty credit hours, but shall not exceed forty credit hours. Individual institutions of higher education shall conform their own core course requirements with the guidelines developed by the department and shall identify the specific courses that meet the general education course guidelines. Any such guidelines developed by the department shall be submitted to the commission for its approval. IN CREATING AND ADOPTING THE GUIDELINES, THE DEPARTMENT AND THE COMMISSION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER

EDUCATION, MAY MAKE ALLOWANCES FOR BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE ADDITIONAL DEGREE REQUIREMENTS RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSION. If a statewide matrix of core courses is adopted by the commission, the courses identified by the individual institutions as meeting the general education course guidelines shall be included in the matrix. The commission shall adopt such policies to ensure that institutions develop the most effective way to implement the transferability of core course credits.

- v. DHE, with GE and Academic Councils, will work out a process to bring degree programs to CCHE for gtPathways waivers.
- c. Common understanding of gtPathways requirements in regard to each institution's general education requirements. C.R.S. 23-1-125(1)(e), "Students, upon completion of core general education courses, regardless of the delivery method, should have those courses satisfy the core course requirements of all Colorado public institutions of higher education;"
- i. Is it required that every institutions' Gen Ed requirements meet these minimum requirements?:

Ideas expressed include:

- One IHE's understanding: gtPathways is a guaranteed transfer program not a mandatory Gen Ed curriculum. Consequently, students have a choice for Gen Ed: gtPathways (which is possible to complete at any institution) or the institution's own Gen Ed curriculum that is approved by faculty, which may or may not be the same as the gtPathways courses/credits listed below.
- Another IHE's understanding: gtPathways is a mandatory Gen Ed curriculum and it replaced their own Gen Ed curriculum.
- The original intent of gtPathways legislation: to facilitate transfer (assuming a student followed the set of rules).
- gtPathways is a means for students to follow a curriculum that is guaranteed to transfer. The "guaranteed transfer" idea is mandated by legislation.
- There are some language issues with gtPathways, i.e., what does "core" mean? Does it always mean "general education?"
- Is it necessary to "force" the gtPathways curriculum (as it's listed below) on all IHEs just for those few students who might transfer? There are no systemic problems with transfer between institutions in the state. Even though institutions may have different Gen Ed cores, it's similar to the case of out-of-state students transferring to Colorado—each institution can figure out which of the out-of-state student's courses fit into its Gen Ed core and those classes from out of state obviously are not gtPathways approved.
- Do we all agree that the gtPathways curriculum must be available at each IHE? If not, what might be the consequences?
- It is critical that the state policy aligns with statute – policy indicates how statute is interpreted.
- This issue will be discussed again at the next GEC meeting.

Communication-6 Credit Hours-2 courses

[Introductory Writing Course](#) (GT-CO1) and [Intermediate Writing Course](#) (GT-CO2)

OR

[Intermediate Writing Course](#) (GT-CO2) and [Advanced Writing Course](#) (GT-CO3)

Mathematics-3 Credit Hours -1 course (or a series of 3 1-credit hour courses)([GT-MA1](#))

Arts & Humanities, History and Social & Behavioral Sciences-15 credit hours

Arts & Humanities - 2 courses (minimum 3 credits each)

- [Arts and Expression](#) (GT-AH1)
- [Literature and Humanities](#) (GT-AH2)
- [Ways of Thinking](#) (GT-AH3)
- [Foreign Languages](#) (must be Intermediate/200 level) (GT-AH4)

History -- 1 course (minimum 3 credits) ([GT-HI1](#))

Social & Behavioral Sciences -- 1 course (minimum 3 credits)

- [Economic or Political Systems](#) (GT-SS1)
- [Geography](#) (GT-SS2)
- [Human Behavior, Culture, or Social Frameworks](#) (GT-SS3)

Natural & Physical Sciences-7 credit hours

2 courses, one of which must be GT-SC1:

[Course with Required Laboratory](#) (GT-SC1)

[Lecture Course Without Required Laboratory](#) (GT-SC2)

<http://higher.ed.colorado.gov/Academics/Transfers/gtPathways/curriculum.html>

d. Degrees with emphasis or concentration participating in agreements

- We need to have a process/protocol for degrees with emphasis (DWEs). A subcommittee has been formed to address this issue. Scott Thompson will create a draft protocol and circulate it to the subcommittee (Scott, Jeff, Nish, Alan & Kevin) to get things started.
- Could this process be embedded in the Curriculum Worksheet?
- Part of the process should be for DHE staff to cross check the institution's "approved degree list" in SURDS to see if the degree in question is offered at the institution, what it's called, and what the CIP is.
- Another part of the process should be for the discipline group to review the curriculum of each degree/degree with emphasis and make a recommendation to GE Council as to whether or not the institution should participate.

i. Discussion in regard to CRJ emphasis at WSCU.

- Western removed itself from the Criminal Justice agreement based on today's discussion, which focused on the difference between Criminal Justice and Criminology. CRJ is an applied practice; Criminology is a discipline much like Sociology. Western's degree with emphasis is more of a criminology degree. The comparison of CRJ between various institutions revealed that if a CRJ student transferred to Western, the only CRJ course left to take would be Juvenile Delinquency and all the other classes were criminology/sociology classes.
- [See **handout**: Criminal Justice response from WSCU]

- [See **handout**: Copy of CRJ comparisons]
 - ii. Art History: See below.
- e. ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS
- i. **Phase 4: Procurement of Signatures – NONE**
 - ii. **Phase 3: Final Review**
 - a) **Criminal Justice** – need to hear from CMU, MSCD, UCD, UNC.
CMU ok'd. Maia to follow up with the other schools.
 - iii. **Phase 2: ICIR – NONE**
 - iv. **Phase 1: Curriculum Worksheet Creation & Verification**
 - a) **Art History** – Need to resolve “degrees with emphasis” issue. Then, depending on the determination:
 - Art History will be put on hold until the DWE subcommittee has developed a protocol for DWEs.
 - The degrees with emphasis in Art History in Scott’s email of March 5, 2012 show some of the emphases being 21 and 24 credits, which is very close to a minor and GEC agreed minors would not be included in articulation agreements.
 - UCCS has a DWE and needs to be included in the curriculum review when that review takes place.
 - CSU-Pueblo has an emphasis in Art History, which is new and so they were not at the fall Fac2Fac. They should be included in the review.
 1. WSCU’s and CMU’s curricula need to be reviewed by discipline group.
 2. WSCU and CMU need to “verify” the CWS.
 3. CWS moves to Phase 2, ICIR.
 - b) **English** – CWS, V.4C forwarded to discipline group with GEC’s questions. [See **handouts** – CWS, V.4C and email/tally.] Deadline: Friday, April 13, 2012.
Richard Nishikawa will review all previous emails regarding these issues and the new issue raised by UCD. He’ll discuss with John Lanning and they will report back to the GEC. Maia will send an email to Nish and John regarding these issues with appropriate documents attached.
 1. Re-sent the questions on 5/29/12 with deadline of June 1, 2012.
 2. AIMS, ASC, TSJC, NJC, UCCS (no rep) have not responded.
 3. Qtn 1: originally the majority (11) were in favor of leaving AH-2 out. When re-sent (to nudge those who hadn’t yet responded), people changed their minds: 12 did not want AH-2 removed; 6 were okay with it being removed. Issue is AH-2 should stay so students have the option of counting it as a Gen Ed or Major requirement. It is a way for students to get more LIT courses that they might be interested in, but would not count towards their major; they would

not have to give up a LIT class they may want to take. If it is kept, a note should be added to inform students that courses used for Gen Ed cannot be counted twice, i.e., toward the major as well.

4. Qtn 2: all who responded are in favor of adding COM 225 with an “or.”
5. Qtn 3: The main issue seems to be preserving Creative Writing as an option. So if adding ENG assists with that, then it should be added. Originally, the majority did not favor including ENG. After the re-send, the majority favored including ENG.
 - Question: does the Creative Writing footnote adequately address this issue?
 - Question: Could we change the “please note” language to the following: “Additional *Literature* courses beyond the 5 courses (15 credit hours) identified above may not count toward the *English with Literature emphasis major* at the receiving 4-year institution. See explanation in Limitations section.”
6. CONFIRM: Draft CWS language in “Additional Required Courses” to be changed to the following: **It was decided by the GEC to keep the language: “within the GT-AH2 category” – the clearer the language is, the better for students and advisors.**

	15		<p>Five gtPathways Arts & Humanities <u>LITERATURE</u> (LIT) courses within the GT-AH2 category*</p> <p>*NOTE: Students are required to take a total of 5 (five) LIT courses (15 credits), 4 (four) of which must be at the 200-level. Please consult with your receiving institution regarding best choices for literature courses.</p>
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7. New issue from UCD: “. . . UCD would only be able to count two 200-level ENGL LIT classes towards the UCD ENGL LIT major. This does not mean that the other classes wouldn’t transfer – just that only two would count toward the major. Thus, the “please note” section at the bottom of the table would need to reflect this limitation for UCD.” **Nish to review with John Lanning and they will report back to GEC.**

- c) Philosophy – **Need to clarify the following questions before sending to discipline group.** [See **handout**: Draft Philosophy CWS, V.3] **Philosophy is on hold until Alan can follow up with Dr. Archie.** Maia to send email to discipline group asking the following questions regarding the 6 credits of “additional required courses” listed as PHI 214 (Philosophy of Religion), PHI 218 (Environmental Ethics), or PHI 220 (Death and Dying) **[these 3 courses are the only 200-level Philosophy courses that are gtPathways-approved]:**

- *Do the majority of 4-year campuses require 2 of these 3 courses for the Philosophy major? The answer was “no.”*
 - *Rather than listing PHI 214, 218 and 220, is it okay to simply say “Take any PHI courses to equal 6 credits?”*
 - *Do these 6 credits need to be at the 200-level?*
 - *For the footnote, use the standard language from the note in the History agreement to check with the receiving institution, but don’t use gtPathways.*
- d) **Physics/Biology** – to be reconvened at spring 2013 Fac-to-Fac.
Chemistry – still need to hear from 6 campuses (ASC, CMC, CSM, UCB, UCD, UNC) re the best rep to participate in the summer discussions regarding curriculum.
- e) **Communication** – draft CWS sent to discipline group for verification. Deadline – April 27, 2012. Draft CWS re-sent 4/30/12 to those IHEs who have not yet responded. Still waiting to hear from ASC, CMC. **Sunny and Frank will check. An email was sent to the Chair on 5/29/12 re the UCD footnote; no response yet from the Chair.**
- f) **Geography** – draft CWS, V.3 sent to discipline group for verification on 5/29/12. Deadline: June 8, 2012. **Still need to hear from CCA, FRCC, UCD (2).**
- g) **Geology** – draft CWS sent to discipline group on 5/4/12; deadline 5/21/12. Re-sent on 5/29/12; still need to hear from CCA, PPCC.
- h) **Studio Art** – draft CWS, V.2 sent 5/29/12; deadline June 1, 2012. Re-sent 6/5/12; deadline 6/8/2012. Need to hear from Aims, CCD, FRCC, OJC, PPCC, CMU, CSU-FC, CSU-P, UNC. **Aims ok’d.**

5. Other Business?

- **ELED statewide transfer articulation agreement:** its form will stay the same; DHE staff will remove Metro’s B.A. Behavioral Science from the cover page and update names of institutions that have changed. Will also need to update accompanying “other 19” document.
- **As of July 1, 2012:** MSCD becomes “Metropolitan State University of Denver” – MSUD.
- **As of August 1, 2012:** WSC becomes “Western State Colorado University” – WSCU.
- July meeting will take place.