



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

GE Council

November 7, 2016, 1:00-4:00pm

Department of Higher Education

1560 Broadway - Suite 1600

Denver, CO

Webinar URL <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/gecouncil/>

Call in Number: 1-877-820-7831; Access code: 368215#

NOTES - Approved

I. GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

Wayne Artis (CFAC-PPCC)
Ann Bentz (UNC)
Darcy Briggs (CCCS-ACC)
Al Buyok (CMC)
Helen Caprioglio (CSU-P)
Linda Comeaux (CCCS-RRCC)
Tony Contento (CSU-G)
Charlie Couch (UNC-Registrar)
Margaret Doell (ASU)
Rhonda Epper (CCCS-CCD)
Kurt Haas (CMU)
Richard Hanks (Aims)
Melanie Hulbert (WSCU)
Alex Ilyasova (UCCS)
John Lanning (UCD)
Jeff London (CFAC-MSUD)
Kelly Long (CSU-FC)
Lara Medley (CSM)
Barbara Morris (FLC)
Casey Sacks (CCCS)
Patrick Tally (UCB)
Mike Lightner (CU System)
Ian Macgillivray (CDHE)
Tim Flanagan (CDHE)
Maia Blom (CDHE)

II. Adoption of last meeting's notes [\[See handout: 2016-10-10 - GE Council - NOTES - Draft\]](#) Adopted.



III. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. December 12, 2016 GE Council meeting will be 10:00AM - 12:00PM because the Constituent Review Team (PLA policy work) will meet following that to consider faculty's recommendations regarding CLEP & DSST from the November 4 Fac2Fac.
- B. Separate registrations for lecture and lab science courses problem resolved. Affected institutions agree to code lectures as GT-SC2 and labs as GT-SC1, if they don't already (CMU, CSU-Pueblo, MSU Denver, UCCS, UNC, WSCU).

UCB noted they are also affected by this situation and will be making this fix.

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. Debrief webinars completed October 26, 27 & 28 on new GT Pathways course approval process. Recorded webinar linked at:

Webinar: <https://enetlearning.adobeconnect.com/p3bigzcnzgz/>

- B. Role of GE Council in the New GT Pathways Approval/Review Process

Discussion held that CDHE made a decision on the new GT Pathways approval process without consensus from GE Council. Two questions raised: 1) Can/should CDHE move forward on decisions without consensus from GE Council, and 2) Are 4-year institutions required to have GT Pathways courses? **Answers:** 1) CDHE noted that GE Council is an advisory group; while consensus is preferable, it is not necessary. It was noted that PLA was another example of CDHE moving forward on something without consensus from GE Council. 2) Yes, all public institutions are required to offer the GT Pathways curriculum. Request was made to clearly note in CCHE agenda items whether GEC was in consensus with the particular topic of the agenda.

GEC's role in the new GTP approval process: CDHE will work in collaboration with GEC to perform the back-end audit. After the first round of submissions, GEC will also help assess what works and what does not in the new approval process. GEC reps as well as campus departments need to be very clear in their communication with faculty about this process. They are also responsible to get faculty buy-in for the process.

When a course is submitted for approval, the effective date for the course will be the following term, i.e., if courses are approved in spring 2017, their effective date will be the start of summer term 2017. Once a course is offered, the back-end audit could be performed.

Request was made that CDHE do a better job of explaining to faculty WHY the new GT Pathways requirements are best practices; HLC accreditation and K12 standards were given as examples. Request was made that CDHE give webinar(s) on this topic and to send mapping examples and options from Fac2Fac out to all IHEs.

C. Debrief Nov. 3 Fac2Fac and Nov. 4 CLEP & DSST Conferences

November 3:

Math: math faculty want to have MA1, MA2, and MA3 (College Algebra, Statistics, Math for Liberal Arts) categories. They want to meet again at the April Fac2Fac to continue working on the content criteria for these 3 categories. CDHE encourages campuses to get partner disciplines together with their math departments to discuss the math requirements.

Mapping: this information was helpful. GEC requested copies of the PPT and handouts. These documents have been posted on the website.

November 4:

It was noted that the comment made about the legislature mandating CLEP and DSST credit if faculty are unable to agree was perceived by faculty as a threat. This perceived threat was not a good way to begin a faculty conference. Requests were made for more deliberation and consensus. CDHE will summarize faculty recommendations and share with faculty groups and GEC.

D. Prior Learning Assessment Policy Update

Non-standardized amounts of credit in [AP & IB tables](#) causing transfer problems. [\[See handout: student complaint re AP credit.pdf\]](#). Potential solutions:

1. Standardize amounts of credits by going with the highest amount of credit any one institution awards; or

There was some support for going with the LOWEST amount of credit.

2. Make explicit in PLA and GT Pathways/Transfer policies that receiving institutions will honor the decisions/credit awarded of the sending institutions.

Several issues identified:

- a. The number of PLA credits institutions award for English Comp varies. Some institutions prohibit awarding PLA credit for both English Comp I & II, so if this were mandated then some institutions would have to change their policies.
- b. Opens the possibility that transfer students could get more PLA credit than native students are allowed to get.
- c. Some AP & IB exam credits get applied to more than one GT Pathways content area. For example, AP English Literature & Composition gets applied to GT-CO1 credit at some IHEs and GT-AH2 at others. This discrepancy needs to be standardized.
- d. Point was raised that students do not get more credit for earning an A in a class so why do we give more credit for a higher cut score?
 3. Relatedly, can we add to the tables the other [AP](#) and [IB](#) exams that could qualify for GT Pathways credit?

Yes, it seems we can. UCD has already done this. CDHE will take the first crack at creating AP & IB tables for these other exams using UCD as example and bring back to GE Council.

“Last, one of the main goals directing this work is to ensure that PLA credits earned at one public institution will be accepted in transfer and apply to equivalent general education requirements at any receiving public institution and to unify equivalently applied cut scores for major and elective credit to the greatest extent possible.” – last sentence of summary of CCHE’s approved process for a PLA policy. CCHE meeting May 8, 2015, Agenda Item 5A

E. Upper-Division Coursework in GT Pathways

GE Council “...shall recommend to the commission a list of general education courses to be included in the course numbering system. In identifying said general education courses, the council shall review the course descriptions, and may request summaries of course syllabi for review, focusing first on lower division general education courses.” [23-1-108.5(3)(c)(I), C.R.S.]

1. CDHE interprets this to mean that upper-division courses are not prohibited from being in GT Pathways. But, if GE Council decides that upper-division courses should not be allowed, then the Commission has the authority to enforce that.

V. FOR FUTURE PLANNING (PARKING LOT)

A. Science Courses in Current STAAs

1. When the original STAAs were made, the CCCS system had no GT-SC2 (non-lab) science courses, so there was no way to finish the Science requirement in 7 credits. Now that the CCCS system has non-lab GT-SC2 courses, it is possible to complete an associate’s with 7 science credits. Older STAAs might benefit from revising these course options?

B. GPA Calculation for Transfer Students

1. Some 4-year institutions recalculate students’ community college GPA upon admission.

C. Track Transfer Complaints (quantity, nature of complaint, etc.)

1. Provide regular updates to GEC (every 6 months? every 3 months? once a year?)

VI. OTHER BUSINESS?

A. Course Substitutions in DwDs

1. Discussion around Arapahoe Community College’s course substitution form that was shared with registrars and advisors at 2-year institutions. Point made that if a course substitution is allowed and it is not noted on the transcript then other receiving institutions will not know that a substitution was made. CCCS will create a comment for transcripts that notes what substitution was made.

B. Discussion of possible STAA/DwDs for Cybersecurity. Ian will query GE Council for others.