



General Education Council
May 8, 2023 - 1:00 - 4:00pm
Colorado Department of Higher Education
Remote ONLY

To join the webinar: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 824 3318 8879
Passcode: 531867

AGENDA -- NOTES

I. GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

1. Welcome (Chris Rasmussen)
2. Attendance (Christina Carrillo)

In attendance: Emily Amedee (CSU-SYS); Wayne Artis (CFAC-PPSC); Lynette Bates (CCCS-TSC); Juliet Beckman (CCCS-ACC); Kelsey Bennett (WCU); Eric Bliss (CSU-G); Morgan Bridge (CMU); Helen Caprioglio (CSU-P); Charlie Couch (UNC); Liz Cox (CSM); Kristen Cusack (CCCS-CCA); Margaret Doell (ASU); Maureen Durkin (CU-SYS); Jacquelyn Gaiters-Jordan (CCCS-PPSC); Alex Ilyasova (UCCS); Danen Jobe (CCCS); Nancy Matchett (UNC); Beth Myers (CU Denver); David Oehler (Aims); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Scott Reichel (Aims); Shaun Schafer (MSU Denver); Tom Siller (CSU); Audra Spicer (CSU-G); Patrick Tally (CU Boulder); Susan Young (CCCS-CCA); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Allana Farley (CDHE); Emily Millican (CDHE); Ruthanne Orihuela (CDHE); Kim Poast (CDHE); Chris Rasmussen (CDHE)

II. Adoption of last meeting's notes

1. [\[See handout: 2023-04-10- GE Council - NOTES.pdf\]](#)
Notes approved

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. CDA certificate (Danen Jobe, CCCS)
Danen announced that he had received votes from all institutions - the CDA credential was unanimously approved. A footnote will be added to ECE 1011 in the Early Childhood Education STAA to indicate that students who earn the CDA credential will receive credit for the course.



IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Faculty-to-Faculty conference update (Ruthanne Orihuela, CDHE):
(1:15 p.m.)

Ruthanne thanked Council members for their assistance in recruiting faculty and other staff to attend the Fac2Fac conference that was held on April 14 - she reported on key take aways attendees reported they were most excited about: 1) being together face-to-face with others; 2) gaining a greater understanding of the micro-credentialing space and how they can center the learner/earner experience; and 3) understanding the concept of unbundling of bachelor's degree and considering general education in a more applied way. Next steps include continued engagement in the form of technical assistance grants to institutions.

2. AP African American Studies course update (Chris Rasmussen, CDHE)
Chris provided an overview of last month's faculty discussion of the revised AP African American Studies course framework. Council members engaged in a lengthy and robust discussion about the merits of allowing students and/or IHEs the option of choosing the appropriate GT Pathways category. Council members ultimately decided the potential pitfalls and harm to students would be too great and affirmed their support to award GT-SS3 credit. Christina will reach out to the remaining IHEs for their equivalencies and credit awards to complete the table by the end of the month.

3. STAA Updates (Christina Carrillo, CDHE)

Christina informed Council members that due to the timing of the academic term, the institutional approval process for revised agreements will likely not begin until the fall. Christina also informed Council members that there are 7 agriculture-related agreements, and 9 other agreements, that need to be opened for revision - Art History, English, French, History, Music, Political Science, Spanish, Studio Art, and Theatre. A schedule for these revisions is forthcoming.

- a. Anthropology

The faculty previously proposed and affirmed the following revisions to their agreement: changed the written communication requirement to be more flexible; reduced an exception to the mathematics requirement; moved the Biological Anthropology requirement from Additional Required Courses to one of the natural & physical sciences requirements - a footnote was added here for UCCS at their request; removed the oral communication requirement; removed the additional GT Pathways courses (9 credits) under Additional Required Courses; decided to list specific, non-GT Pathways anthropology courses in the agreement. These revisions adjust the elective



credit hours from 5-6 to 19-20. One institution indicated that they now have a bachelor's degree in anthropology and would like to join the agreement - they need to send the agreement to their faculty for review. One institution indicated they no longer offer the program. Council members decided to pause on moving this agreement forward for institutional approval until June.

b. Chemistry

Christina informed Council members that language was updated on page 2 (Degree Pathway) to reflect "65-credit." Language was also updated on page 6 under Contractual Language. The Introduction section was updated to reflect an associate degree is 60-credits or more, in certain cases. It was also updated to reflect that completion of an associate degree within two years requires students to complete an average of 16 credits per semester. The Guarantees section was updated to reflect "students who complete ... all 65 credits ..." as well as "junior standing with no more than 55 remaining credits..." Council members approved the revisions and recommended moving forward for institutional approval.

c. Criminal Justice

The faculty previously proposed and affirmed the following revisions to their agreement: changed the written communication requirement to be more flexible; reduced the number of exceptions for the mathematics requirement; updated the natural & physical sciences requirement to include GT-SC2; amended their Additional Required Courses; added footnotes regarding transferability. DHE staff and Council members had questions about the message faculty was trying to convey. Christina and Danen informed Council members that the concern faculty had from the meeting in spring 2022 was that many of the courses on the agreement were taught at the upper division at the four-year institutions and students would not receive full credit. Council members stated that they would follow up with their criminal justice faculty to clarify the purpose of the footnotes in the agreement. Christina will also follow up with the criminal justice faculty to gain clarity.

d. Geography

The faculty previously proposed and affirmed the following revisions to their agreement: changed the written communication requirement to be more flexible; reduced the number of exceptions for the mathematics requirement by half; Adams State University is no longer a participating institution, which negates the need for the note on the natural & physical sciences requirement. These revisions adjust the elective credit



hours from 13-14 to 15. Council members approved the revisions and recommended moving forward for institutional approval.

e. **Sociology**

The faculty previously proposed and affirmed the following revisions to their agreement: changed the written communication requirement to be more flexible; reduced the number of exceptions for the mathematics requirement by half; reduced the arts & humanities requirement from 9 credits to 6 credits; added a note to the social & behavioral sciences requirement to read “must not take additional sociology courses to fulfill this requirement”; updated the natural & physical sciences requirement to include GT-SC2. These revisions adjust the elective credit hours from 6-7 to 11. Council members approved the revisions and recommended moving forward for institutional approval.

4. **Review of STAA/DwD usage/transfer/completion data**

Chris presented data on DwD completions and transfer through the 2021-22 academic year. We have passed 10,000 students who have earned a DwD since the first degrees were awarded in 2014. The data continue to show a greater likelihood of transfer into bachelor’s degree programs and completion of bachelor’s degrees within three years for students earning a DwD, compared to students who earn an AA or AS that is not a DwD. DwD earners also complete their bachelor’s degree in approximately six fewer credits on average, which based on per-credit tuition and the cost of books, has resulted in over \$4,000,000 in savings for DwD earners since 2014.

There were suggestions about different data pulls and analyses that could be helpful, including knowing which bachelor’s degree programs students are transferring into and their completion rates, as well as data on AES transfers. There were also questions about whether a “generic” AA/AS might actually be a more successful route for students in certain fields, including biology.

5. **New and closed GT Pathways courses**

New
None

Closed
None

