



General Education Council
March 11, 2024 - 1:00 - 4:00pm
Colorado Department of Higher Education
Remote ONLY

To join the webinar: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 882 4402 0402
Passcode: 764341

AGENDA -- NOTES

I. GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS

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

In attendance: Wayne Artis (CFAC-PPSC); Lynette Bates (CCCS-TSC); Juliet Beckman (CCCS-ACC); Kelsey Bennett (WCU); Morgan Bridge (CMU); Liz Cox (CSM); Andrea Duffy (CSU); Maureen Durkin (CU-SYS); Jacquelyn Gaiters-Jordan (CCCS-PPSC); Danen Jobe (CCCS); Nancy Matchett (UNC); Beth Myers (CU Denver); Andrew Norton (CSU); Katherine Olson (CSU-G); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Scott Reichel (Aims); Nick Saenz (ASU); Shaun Schafer (MSU Denver); Vivian Shyu (CFAC-CU Denver); Patrick Tally (CU Boulder); Susan Young (CCCS-CCA); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Kim Poast (CDHE); Chris Rasmussen (CDHE)

II. Adoption of last meeting's notes

1. [\[See handout: 2024-02-12- GE Council - NOTES.pdf\]](#)
Notes approved

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

Christina informed Council members that the 30-day comment period for Otero College (OC) to join the Communication and Theatre STAAs, as well as the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) institutional curriculum change for the Business STAA, will be opened this week. We will return to these agenda items for discussion and affirmation in April.



IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. 2024 Legislative agenda updates

Kim Poast provided an overview of different bills going through the legislative process that relate to higher education. She and Chris Rasmussen then facilitated a stakeholder meeting on SB24-164, “Institution of Higher Education Transparency Requirements”.

2. Advanced Placement (AP) in African American Studies: February 9 meeting debrief

Department staff informed Council members that an interdisciplinary group of faculty met last month for the final review of the updated course framework for the new AP African American Studies course. A final recommendation was affirmed to award GT-SS3 course credit to students who score a 3 or above on the exam. It was also affirmed that students who score a 4 or 5 on the exam might be awarded both GT-SS3 and GT-HI1 course credit at the discretion of the institution. Some institutions may detail a decision on additional credit for a score of 4 or 5 based on the content and focus of the student’s final course project, which could encompass more of a historical or a social science approach to a topic of choice.

Council members affirmed the recommendation from the February 9 meeting. Department staff will be sending out a request for institutions to affirm/determine their institutional course equivalencies for a score of 3 (and for scores of 4 and 5, if able) later this week. Department staff and Council members also agreed to use this opportunity to review and update other prior learning assessment (PLA) matrices, such as CLEP and IB. Deadline for all information will likely be the end of April.

3. Fac2Fac conference debrief - Friday, March 8, Auraria Campus

Department staff thanked Council members who attended the Faculty-to-Faculty conference this past Friday and invited them to share some of their insights and takeaways from their experiences, some of which included the realization that higher education needs common language and definitions when discussing some of the issues that were raised at the conference (e.g., certificates, micro-credentials, etc.) as it could cause confusion for students.

4. World Languages virtual 2:4-year faculty meeting: Friday, April 19 - 9 am - 12 pm

After discussions during January’s and February’s Council meetings, Department staff informed Council members that they were able to schedule a virtual convening for the two- and four-year world languages faculty for Friday, April 19 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Christina will send



out a request for institutional representatives to attend the convening later this week - she encouraged Council members to please consider also inviting academic advisors and other staff involved in curricular mapping, cross-walking, and credit transfer to this convening.

Council members were able to identify two additional issues for the world languages faculty and staff to discuss during this convening: realign credit awarded for GT-AH4 courses after the revision of the content and competencies in 2016; and to review the number of credit hours for 1000- and 2000-level courses across institutions. Faculty and staff will also be asked to consider a proposal to award GT-AH4 credit after completion of the full first-year of world language study or the equivalent (rather than the current policy to award credit only after demonstrating intermediate proficiency by completion of the third semester course, typically numbered 2011).

5. Proposed Statewide Transfer Articulation Agreement (STAA) in Agricultural Biology (Tom Siller, CSU)

Dr. Andrew Norton, Professor in the Department of Agricultural Biology at Colorado State University, provided an overview of a proposed STAA in Agricultural Biology. Council members asked if other four-year institutions had programs in Agricultural Biology. Unfortunately, there are none. While other four-year institutions may not have programs in Agriculture Biology, Dr. Norton indicated the agreement was a helpful pipeline from community colleges to help grow enrollment in the program at CSU. Council members suggested this may be better as an agreement with CCCS. Chris proposed scheduling a meeting between CCCS, CDHE, and CSU to discuss how to move forward with this agreement.

This brought up a larger question of how the Council should handle one-off proposed STAA requests, as there are other interested parties in pursuing statewide agreements in areas such as construction management.

6. STAA updates (Christina Carrillo, CDHE)

- History

The faculty proposed and affirmed the following revisions to their agreement: changed the written communication requirement to be more flexible; reduced the number of arts & humanities credits from 9 to 6; after further discussion between the two- and four-year faculty, it was agreed that the four HIS courses would stay under “Additional Required Courses” with an added footnote on the final course for CU Boulder and Western Colorado



University indicating which specific courses students must take; moved the oral communication requirement from “Additional Required Courses” to “Electives,” with an added footnote indicating that electives are intended to be *recommendations only* and not *requirements*. These revisions result in 17 elective credit hours, compared to the 11 elective credit hours that are in the current agreement.

There was a question regarding whether the two-year faculty had agreed to move the oral communication requirement to “Electives.” Department staff and others confirmed the agreement was correct as presented; however, clarification on the issue would be sought. Council members approved the revisions and recommended moving the agreement forward for institutional approval pending clarification of the oral communication requirement.

- **Political Science**

Christina informed Council members that due to the lack of two-year representation at the October 2023 meeting, the Department will reconvene the Political Science faculty in the fall to re-review the STAA.

7. New and closed GT Pathways courses

New

Colorado State University - Pueblo

- GT-SS1: POLS 106 Race & Ethnicity in American Democracy (3)

Fort Lewis College

- GT-AH3: PHIL 250 Medical Ethics (3)

Closed

None

