

**MINUTES**  
**GWAR Committee**  
**PSY 148**  
**1:30-3:00**

**Meeting Number 2**  
**September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Members in Attendance: Rebekha Abbuhl, Max Rosenkrantz, LEEANNE BERGERON, Rebecca Lemme, Deborah Fraser, Lori Smurthwaite, Carol Comfort, Jason Deutschman, Lei Sun, John Scenters-Zapico, Jonathan O'Brien, Lori Brown, Kerry Johnson

1. **Approval of agenda.** M/S/P.
2. **Approval Minutes of meeting on Sept 1, 2017.** M/S/P.
3. **Announcements:**
  - a. Meeting being convened by a non-voting guest to committee, Rebekha Abbuhl; her membership on the committee is pending AS approval.
  - b. There is a GPE on Sept 16; approximately 1,300 students have registered.
  - c. CSULB is heading into its renewal of WSCUC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Senior College and University Committee) accreditation in 2020. Sharlene Sayegh has requested longitudinal data on how many students test directly into a WI GE capstone course. Rebekha has made a request to Institutional Research to obtain this information.
  - d. Meeting location will be MHB 315 on Oct. 6, Oct. 20, and Nov. 3.
4. **Update on ASI student representative.** Rebekha has contacted ASI about obtaining a student representative but has not yet heard back from them.
5. **Update on roster.** There were some errors on the roster. Rebekha will send the corrected roster to Aracely Montes.
6. **Executive order 1100 and its impact on the GWAR**
  - a. Recap:
    1. EO 1100 limits students to 9 units of upper division GE capstone courses (3 units each in B, C, and D). Of the 76 WI GE capstone courses, only 31 are in the B, C, or D category. If we do not address this, there will be a huge bottleneck in the fall, as about 90% of undergrads and transfer students place directly into a WI GE capstone course.
    2. According to Alison Wrynn, State University Associate Dean, students will be strictly limited to the B, C, and D categories, and we cannot require a student to take a GE capstone course if it is not in one of those categories.
  - b. Possible solutions:

1. Whatever we propose has to be able to be put in place for Fall 2018 and has to be in line with what the GEGC is doing to address the lack of capstones in the B, C, and D (particularly B) categories. We cannot add additional requirements.
2. There are two major possible solutions to discuss:
  1. **Proposed solution 1: Keep everything as it is, with minor modifications.** Students would take the GPE, and based on their scores, placed into one of three pathways.
    1. Since there would not be enough GE WI capstone courses, one or more of the following would need to occur:
      1. Other GE WI capstones, not currently in the B, C, or D category, would need to be retooled so as to fit into one of these categories. This would need academic senate approval.
      2. Instead of limiting students to an officially approved GE WI course in the B, C, or D category, we could say that students could take *any* upper division GE capstone in the B, C, or D category *if* the current GE policy is enforced (this policy, which is not currently enforced, states that all upper division GE capstones must have 2,500 words of writing and opportunities for revision).
      3. We could decouple the GEAR and GE, so that students would not be limited to a GE WI or GE capstone course for the final course in the pathway. They could take some other course, criteria to be determined, designated as “writing intensive” or “writing across the curriculum.” This course would have to double count. We cannot add more units.
    2. This solution preserves the jobs of GEAR portfolio course instructors and makes use of existing structures. It could also be combined with efforts to expand resources for struggling writers, such as the writing modules, an expanded LAC, a university writing center, more tutors, etc.
  2. **Proposed solution 2: Get rid of the GPE and GEAR portfolio courses, while expanding support for struggling writers.** Students would still need to take (1) a WI GE capstone course in the B, C, or D category OR (2) any GE capstone course *if* the policy is enforced. Alternatively, we could get rid of altogether any university-wide writing requirement and allow departments to determine how writing will be assessed within their majors.
    1. Since there would be a perception that the university is “giving up” on writing, one or more of the following would need to occur:

1. Expand support services for struggling writers, including expanding the LAC, making use of the writing modules, and offering faculty development workshops on helping struggling writers.
  2. We could encourage writing across the curriculum through faculty development workshops and creating a culture of writing on campus (long-term goal).
  3. We could conduct outreach to departments to let them know of different possibilities for addressing writing within their majors.
2. This solution would require more roll-out time, consultation with all impacted parties, and approval by the academic senate. It was noted that the academic senate may not be receptive to this idea.
  3. **Plan of action.** EO 1100 is going into effect in Fall 2018, so we need to devise a timeline of who we will consult, what information we will need in order to make a recommendation, and when we would need to make a recommendation by. It was suggested that we invite the following to the GVAR meetings: Ruth Piker (chair of GEGC), Norbert Schurer (chair of Academic Senate), GVAR portfolio instructors, representative from enrollment services, Eileen Klink (chair of English department), Cheryl Chapman, and faculty who teach WI courses.

## 7. **Student waiver petition**

- a. Leeanne has revised the student waiver petition. The main changes are that the petition should be on the GVAR website, not on the testing website; students must submit the waiver directly to GVAR e-advising; all GVAR related requests or inquiries should be directed to [GVAR-Advisor@csulb.edu](mailto:GVAR-Advisor@csulb.edu); and the GVAR advisory should have the ability to update the “GVAR completion milestone satisfied” if the petition is approved, so that the waiver request does not have to go back through testing.
- b. The committee examined the revised student petition; it needs to be reviewed by testing for their approval as well.
- c. Suggestions were made for revising the form: location of the LAC needs to be updated, grammar in red portion needs to be corrected, and information about the provision of services to non-matriculated students needs to be clarified (non-matriculated students are not eligible for these services). Leeanne will revise the form and send it to Rebekha.
- d. Discussion of this topic will continue at the next meeting, 10/6.
- e. One student’s waiver petition was approved.

## 8. **GVAR coordinator’s report**

- a. E-Advising is going well, as is communicating with the colleges about the GVAR.
- b. EO 1100 is being discussed by the GEGC, of which John is a member.

These minutes were submitted by Leeanne Bergeron.  
(These minutes were approved on 10/6/2017.)