

COGE 3/31/2021

J. Wu, J. Zornado (chair), M. Michaud, J. Dagle, W. Martin, B. Caouette, M. Reddy, K. Almeida, E. Miller, M. Baker, S. Oliveira, S. Costa, J. Capece, E. Miller, S. Ross, E. Simson, S. Pearlmutter,

Excused: T. Ender, K. Garabedian, D. Gill,

Guests: P. Gullapalli

The meeting began on Zoom at 12:32.

Announcements from the Chair:

1. Student Survey of General Education is nearly ready. Short discussion followed. J. Dagle asked about wording on one of the questions in the survey and suggested a revision which was accepted.
2. COGE membership terms ending in June: William Martin, Dragan Gill, Jiyun Wu, Jesse Capece. Please let me know if you would like to stay on,

Ongoing Business:

1. Anthropology proposal discussion: P. Gullapalli introduced Anthropology 104 and the proposal to change the title of the course and its description. The proposal was approved 16 in favor, one abstention.
2. History Connections course proposal discussion: E. Miller introduced History 267 and the proposal to rename an existing Connections course. Discussion followed. The committee raised the question of "Connections," its definition, and its purpose, but agreed to revisit the larger discussion about what defines a Connections course while unanimously passing the History 267 renaming proposal.
3. Bachelor of General Studies Discussion: H. Shadoian introduced the general education portion of the BGS and discussion followed. S. Costa asked about the Math requirement and discussion followed. S. Costa voiced approval for the proposal. Discussion followed. M. Baker raised questions about the proposed general education in terms of the current program's requirements, especially in terms of writing requirements, the AQSR requirements, and the lack of a "Connections" requirement in the BGS proposal. Discussion followed. J. Wu asked about the program's chances of success and discussion followed. E. Simson observed that the question of supporting the idea of an alternate general education program had been largely agreed to over the course of our discussions—the question remained whether or not the current proposal's version of an alternate gen ed program was sufficiently aligned with our current gen ed program's requirements, while also providing enough flexibility for types of students it seeks to attract. Discussion followed. J. Dagle spoke up in favor of the overall

idea of the proposal and observed that a Connections requirement may not be appropriate for the kind of students the BGS hopes to serve. J. Zornado raised the possibility of thinking about Connections as a set of learning outcomes rather than as a single, required class, and if the BGS gen ed program might articulate similar goals. Discussion followed. A straw poll was taken at 2:03pm with the remaining voting members. 7 out of 9 voted in support of the proposal, and it was agreed that there would be a second COGE meeting asap to hold an official vote on the BGS gen ed proposal.

4. The meeting ended 2:05 pm.