

Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 29, 2022

10-11:30am

BDC 134

<https://csub.zoom.us/j/84286075913>

Meeting Minutes

Present: Daisy Alamillo, Janet Armentor, Andreas Gebauer, Heidi He, Debra Jackson, Maureen Rush, Mary Slaughter, Danielle Solano, Michael Szolowicz, John Tarjan (Chair)

1. Welcome and Introductions

This was Andreas Gebauer's first meeting, so he introduced himself to the committee.

2. Approval of the Agenda

We removed the Department Formation Criteria (was item 5b) from the list of potential referrals as this mostly an informational item.

3. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2022 (attached and in AAC Box folder)

The minutes were approved.

4. Announcements/Reports

- John Tarjan reported that the current Department Formation Criteria resolution will be sent to the Senate.
- At 1pm today the Senate will be meeting with Cozen O'Connor regarding Title IX/DHR Assessment.
- John Tarjan expressed frustration that the Senate Executive Committee is not getting through its agenda.

5. Potential Referrals (Materials can be found in AAC Box folder.)

- a. Academic Programs Assessment Quality Feedback (draft resolution attached and in Box)

John Tarjan shared the current draft resolution and modified Assessment Leadership Team (ALT) charge. We discussed who should provide the

“appropriate resources” and agreed that the Provost should provide funding for assessment; we also discussed what “appropriate resources” meant. Andreas Gebauer expressed concern about the lack of support/rewards for program assessment, and several committee members agreed that support for program level assessment was critical. It was suggested that assessment be tied to resources (i.e., MOUAPs).

We reviewed the current draft of the ALT charge and added a line that they would provide feedback on program assessment quality. Maureen Rush is the assessment coordinator for NSME and mentioned that many programs were not putting assessment into Taskstream; discussion ensued as to why that is, many suggesting a lack of support (e.g., release time) and/or rewards. The committee decided to add a line to the ALT charge having them define what appropriate compensation would be. **John Tarjan will forward this resolution to the Senate Executive Committee for consideration by the Senate.**

b. **GWAR (attached and in Box)**

During the pandemic, the Chancellor’s Office asked that the GWAR be suspended. However, our campus did not comply and continued the GWAR exam in a virtual format. In March 2022, the CO issued a memorandum stating that the GWAR requirement is not a requirement for post-baccalaureate students; and additionally, the use of a stand-alone examination may no longer be used to demonstrate competence in writing under the GWAR. They issued a subsequent memorandum in May that indicated programs would have to list a 3-unit course to meet the GWAR requirement. Debra Jackson compiled a list of programs (there are several) that do not have enough units to add a 3-unit GWAR class. Currently there is only one class that meets both JYDR and GWAR, and this course will not work for every impacted program. This goes into effect by Fall 2023, so catalog changes need to occur this semester.

Debra Jackson will send out a memo to the university clarifying what we must do to comply with the Chancellor’s Office requirement. It will include the following points:

1. The GWAR is no longer required for post-baccalaureate students.
2. Students must meet the GWAR requirement through a 3-unit course.
3. Students can challenge any course through examination and thus we can provide the test as an option, but it cannot be required.

Mary Slaughter shared that the GEAR committee is concerned that faculty who don't teach writing will be teaching courses that meet the GEAR requirement. Andreas Gebauer pointed out that there was some confusion as to who should be signing off on GEAR course substitutions/waivers because there is a GEAR committee. He asked that we look into clearing this up. **John Tarjan will draft an email to Chair Aaron Hegde regarding the clarification of the role of the GEAR committee and its relationship to GEECo.**

John Tarjan clarified our charge. We have been asked to draft a statement to the CO regarding: (1) The CSUB practice of shared governance; (2) The current conduction of GEAR exams. GEAR exams can be retaken multiple times, and as such, are not considered "high stakes" testing; and (3) Impacted programs do not have the units or faculty staffing to accommodate the addition of 3-unit upper-division writing courses to satisfy GEAR requirements. **John Tarjan will draft a statement addressing these issues.**

6. Open Forum

We did not discuss any open forum items.

7. Adjournment

We adjourned the meeting at 11:29 am.