

MINUTES
General Education Committee
January 16, 2024
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Montecito Room

Members present: David Hunter (Professor of Mathematics), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director, Library & Information Services), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Felicia Song (Professor of Sociology), Tara Sturges (Recording Secretary, Associate Registrar)

Absent: Michelle Hardley (Registrar), Telford Work (Professor of Religious Studies)

I. Prayer - Felicia Song

II. The minutes from November 30, 2023

The minutes from November 30, 2023, were unanimously approved.

III. Thinking Globally Syllabus Audit

A committee member presented preliminary details concerning the spring 2024 audit of the Thinking Globally syllabi. A reminder was sent to the faculty to post their updated syllabi to the Westmont website so the most updated versions are available for review. The outcomes of this audit will be included in the Global Awareness report. It is anticipated that the audit will begin in two weeks, and further information will be forthcoming at that time.

IV. PE Student survey and proposal to the Senate

The committee reviewed various aspects of the pending proposal to the Senate, including the introduction of a proposal submitted by the Westmont Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) - "Athlete PE Requirement Proposal." The SAAC proposal requests that two varsity sport units (instead of one unit) be allowed to count toward the PEA activity requirement. If the Athletic Committee votes and approves the SAAC proposal, it may be added to the GE Committee proposal to the Senate due to its related content.

Additionally, a GE Committee member will connect with the Athletic Committee to discuss how different student groups might be impacted by the changing all PEA courses to P/NC instead of traditional grades. It appears that there are some student groups that might benefit from such a change while others may depend on the traditional grading system to remain in good standing (athletes and non-athletes).

The committee also reviewed the results of the PE student survey. Further discussion of the survey and proposal to take place with the Kinesiology department after the report for the external reviewer (Dr. Hunter Paris, Pepperdine University) is received and after hearing from the Athletic Committee on the SAAC proposal and possible grading changes.

V. 2023-2024 GE Committee Update Report

The committee reviewed the report to be presented at the faculty meeting, and suggestions were made for minor amendments.

VI. IB Exams - Review in Spring 2024

A committee member explained that several IB exams exist which might be appropriate to fulfill Common Inquiries (CI) GE requirements similarly to AP exams. Thus, the Registrar's Office requested that the GE Committee review the IB exams to make these decisions. It was suggested that the exams in question should be grouped and reviewed according to their possible CI GE association. The current IB and AP articulation sheets will be added to the GE shared Google drive to assist with the review.

VII. Other business

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges