
Absent: Brian Collins, Shelley Martin, Annie Ronan, Matthew Zarbatany

Guests: Stephen Biscotte, Jenni Gallagher, Gary Costello

Call to Order by Rob Stephens at 2:30 pm.

1. Composition of PGECRC (Rob)

The PGECRC currently has two seats allotted for UCC members. One seat is currently vacant. The committee considered whether the composition of PGECRC should be changed due to the challenge of filling both seats.

- Gary Costello, Associate Registrar for Academic Governance, provided some historical context. Prior to Pathways, CLE courses went through both the UCC and the UCCGE for approval. When Pathways was created, a special Ad Hoc committee was approved to streamline the process and remove the dual path of governance. Last year, the Ad Hoc was formalized into PGECRC.

- Gary suggested that reducing PGECRC to one UCC member doesn’t really represent the spirit of the function of the committee. He proposed two options for moving forward:
  - Continue as-is through AY 2020-21 and revisit the issue next year, recognizing that COVID is likely contributing to the difficulty of filling the second seat.
  - Pursue reverting to just one committee, which would represent both Pathways Gen Ed and the non-Pathways undergraduate curriculum.

There was consensus to take the first option, maintaining the status quo.

2. Pathways Special Study Review (Stephen)

The committee considered whether ALS 1984 should offer credit for Pathways Concept 1 (Discourse). The proposal documents can be found on the UCCGE Canvas site.

- It was unclear whether the proposal was seeking credit for foundational or advanced Discourse, but the committee noted that advanced Discourse courses must be at the 2000 level or above.

- There was reference to past discussions about a course needing to teach discourse, as opposed to using papers as a means to assess content knowledge, in order to qualify for Discourse. There was consensus that this proposal did not contain the level of discourse instruction needed to qualify for Pathways Concept 1 credit.

- It was noted that further discussion on how to integrate discourse could help the proposers meet all of the outcomes for advanced discourse.

1 See current PGECRC roster in Appendix A
A motion that ALS 1984 not be approved for Discourse was made, seconded, and passed (12 approvals, 1 abstention).

3. VA Transfer Passport (Stephen)

The committee was asked by the Registrar’s Office to review a number of VCCS courses to see if/how they might carry Pathways credit for transfer students statewide. The committee addressed two questions: 1) should the course be included in the state gen ed passport? and if so 2) for which Pathways CORE concept(s) should it be approved. The syllabi for the courses can be found on the UCCGE Canvas site.

Two reviewers were assigned to each course. In cases where the reviewers could not reach a consensus, or had questions to bring to the group, the courses were discussed by the full committee. There was discussion regarding the following courses:

- **ART 100**
  - The reviewers had an issue with the students not creating artwork, so were hesitant to approve for concept 6.
  - A motion that ART 100 not receive any Pathways credit was made, seconded, and passed (12 approvals, 1 abstention).
- **HUM 201**
  - There was discussion over whether it could qualify for concept 6, with a consensus that it does not.
  - A motion that HUM 201 be approved for Concept 2 was made, seconded, and passed (12 approvals, 1 abstention).
- **ENG 210**
  - A motion that ENG 210 be approved for Concept 1a was made, seconded, and passed (13 approvals).
- **REL 100**
  - Based on the amount of information provided on the syllabus, the reviewers did not find alignment with a majority of the learning outcomes. However, they felt that, with more information, this course might indeed qualify for Pathways credit. They would like to see one or two actual course syllabi, if possible.
- **PHIL 260**
  - As with REL 100, the reviewers could not find alignment with a majority of the learning outcomes based on the information provided. They would also like to see one or two actual course syllabi.

The committee approved 11 of the 14 courses for Pathways credit.²

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² See the table in Appendix B for the courses and review outcomes.
4. Subcommittee Reports

The subcommittee leaders briefed the group on their subcommittee’s work over the last month.

- Advising (Zack Underwood)
  o The subcommittee discussed putting together talking points (to use in conversation with students) about why gen ed is useful. Stephen shared with the subcommittee a draft AGLS document that has been created for this same purpose. The subcommittee will be working with the Office of Gen Ed to adapt the AGLS document for use by VT advisors.
  o They had further discussion on researching which courses students within each major take to meet Pathways requirements, and compiling that data in a way that helps advisors identify trends. They plan to pilot this effort with Pamplin, working with Gary from the Registrar’s Office to obtain the necessary data.

- Assessment (Molly Hall)
  o The subcommittee presented the assessment mini-grant final proposal for review.
    ▪ Small suggestions were offered by the full committee, with general approval of program.
    ▪ Assessment will begin again in the spring, and the hope is that the mini-grants will help instructors get back into the swing of assessment.

- Collaboratory (formerly known as the Resource Repository) (Anita Walz)
  o The subcommittee renamed the project, wanting to introduce the idea that it is more than a place to just find “stuff.” Rather, it is an active, dynamic resource that instructors can both add to and take from.
  o Reminder to committee members to complete the brainstorming activity by 12/11.

Meeting adjourned at 3:31 pm by Rob Stephens

Minutes compiled by Jenni Gallagher
Appendix A

Pathways General Education Curriculum Review Committee

2020-2021 Roster

Two representatives from the UCC, selected annually by UCC (one-year terms)

Alex Brand  Civil and Environmental Engineering  2021
Vacant           2021

Two representatives from the UCCGE, selected annually by the UCCGE (one-year terms)

Annie Ronan   School of Visual Arts     2021
James Wilson   Department of Entomology    2021

One faculty representative from each undergraduate college curriculum committee (three-year terms)

Hannah Shinault  Liberal Arts and Human Sciences     2022
Kevin Jones   Architecture and Urban Studies     2021
Kimberly Carlson  Business     2023
Xinghua Gao  Engineering     2022
Gebre Gebremarium  Science     2021
Chad Bolding  Natural Resources and Environment     2021
Matthew Eick   Agriculture and Life Sciences     2023
Kerry Redican  Veterinary Medicine     2023

One representative from University Studies selected by the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs (three-year term)

Nick Sano-Franchini  University Academic Advising Center     2023

One representative from University Libraries selected by the Dean of University Libraries (three-year term)

Katlyn Griffin  University Libraries     2022
# VCCS Transfer Passport Reviews

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<th>Pathways? y/n</th>
<th>If yes, which concept(s)?</th>
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<td>6a</td>
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Note: For REL 100 and PHI 260, additional information is needed, possibly two example syllabi.