

July 15, 2021

To: Heike Schotten, Moderator, Faculty Council

From: Neal Bruss, Chair, General Education Committee

Annual Report for AY2021

Course Reviews for Distribution, Diversity, and Seminars Assessment Subcommittee: In AY2021, the Faculty Council approved seventeen Distribution proposals, six U.S. Diversity proposals, two International Diversity proposals, one Quantitative Reasoning proposal, and one First-Year Seminar proposal. The First-Year Seminar, Environmental Studies/Environmental Sciences 214GL, “The Urban Ocean,” was developed under the University’s National Endowment for the Humanities Grant, “Living with the Urban Ocean.” Twenty-six of the 27 proposals have social justice dimensions, a reflection of the Departments’ commitments to bringing the University’s Anti-Racist, Health Promoting mission into the General Education curriculum.

Quantitative Reasoning Reviews: In late spring, 2028, the Quantitative Subcommittee met to hear the results of the Quantitative Reasoning teaching faculty’s review of Mathematics 114Q, the Quantitative Reasoning course for b.a. students. It also heard a report on the Mathematics Department’s proposal to revise the QR placement exercise.

Writing Proficiency Pilot: The General Education Committee and the Writing Proficiency Subcommittee approved a proposal from the WPR staff to allow students whose conventional WPR portfolios were considered on the borderline of passing by the portfolio readers to revise their “challenge” essays once, after one meeting with an appeals reader. This would put the conventional portfolio more in line with the Electronic Writing Proficiency Portfolio (EWRAP), which has been approved by the Faculty Council as a means of satisfying the Writing Proficiency requirement. EWRAP does not have a “challenge” essay. Instead, students write a reflection on their development as writers, referring to the materials they chose to include in their portfolio. The results of the pilot will be reviewed in the fall. If it is considered by the Writing Proficiency Subcommittee and the General Education Committee to have been successful, it will be brought to the Faculty Council for consideration.

These are the members of the 2020-21 General Education Committee and its Subcommittees:

General Education Committee: Serra Acar, CEHD (Early Childhood Education and Care); Cassandra Alexopoulos, CLA (Communication); Janice Foust, CNHS (Nursing); José Martinez-Reyes, CLA (Anthropology); Shannon McHugh, CLA (Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures); and Yijia Eddie Zhao, CM (Finance). *Ex officio:* Neal Bruss, CLA (English) Convener, Seminars Assessment Subcommittee; Elizabeth Marran, CLA (Art), Chair, Distribution Subcommittee; Laurie Marks, Director, Writing Assessment; Daniel Messier, English (CLA), Davis Fellow, Electronic Writing Proficiency Assessment; Brittany Peterson, CLA (English), Davis Fellow, Electronic Writing Proficiency Assessment; Karen Ricciardi, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education; Laurel Wainwright, CLA (Psychology), Chair, Quantitative Reasoning Subcommittee; and Sindiso Mnisi Weeks, CEHD (School of Global Inclusion and Social Development), Chair, Diversity Subcommittee.

Distribution Subcommittee: Lorenzo Buonanno CLA (Art); Neal Bruss, CLA (English); Patrick Clarkin, CLA (Anthropology); Leila Davis, CLA (Economics); Shuai Jin, CLA (Political Science); Sheldon Kovitz, CSM (Mathematics); Elizabeth Marran, CLA (Art), Chair; Anna Mester, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies); Tim Poynton, CEHD (Counseling and School Psychology); and

Jeremy Wanderer, CLA (Philosophy). *Ex officio*: Aimee D'Avignon, Director, Office of Student Success, College of Education and Human Development.

Diversity Subcommittee: Isabel Gómez, CLA (Latin American and Iberian Studies); Ayesha Irani, CLA (Asian Studies and Religious Studies); Luis de León Reyna, CSM (Biology); Denise Patmon, CEHD (Curriculum and Instruction); David Pruett, CLA (Performing Arts); Tim Sieber, CLA (Anthropology); Elizabeth Sweet, SfE and CLA (Africana Studies); and Sindiso Mnisi Weeks, GCOE (School for Global Inclusion and Social Development), Chair.

Quantitative Reasoning Subcommittee: Elizabeth Brown, CLA (Sociology); Arthur Eisenkraft, Physics, CEHD and Honors College; Anne Fitzpatrick, CLA (Economics); Phil Gona, CNHS (Exercise and Health Science); Eric Grinberg, CSM (Mathematics); Georgia Mavrommati, SfE; Josephine Namayanja, CM (Management Science and Information Systems); Jeffrey Stokes, MGS (Gerontology); Elizabeth Sweet, CLA (Anthropology); Laurel Wainwright, Chair, CLA (Psychology); and Lin Zhu, CLA (Communication). *Ex officio*: Jie Chen, University Senior Statistician; Karen Ricciardi, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education; and Charles Wibralske, CSM (Mathematics Department), Coordinator of Quantitative Reasoning.

Seminars Assessment Subcommittee: Shoshanna Ehrlich, CLA (WGS); Susan Irvings, Academic Support Programs; Shannon McHugh, CLA (Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures); and Denise Patmon, CEHD (Curriculum and Instruction). *Ex officio*: Neal Bruss, Convener, CLA (English) Coordinator, First-Year Seminars; and Lauren Sullivan, CLA (Anthropology); Coordinator, Intermediate Seminars.

Writing Proficiency Subcommittee: Neal Bruss, CLA (English); Jennifer Gregg, Chair, CLA (Communication). John Hess, CLA (English); Rachel Skvirsky CSM (Biology); Manu Thrakal, CNHS (Nursing); and Raul Ybarra, CLA (English). *Ex officio*: Kathryn Archard, CM, Director, Writing Programs; Hadi Banat, CLA (English), Director of English as a Second Language; Lauren Bowen, CLA (English), Director, First-Year Composition; Laurie Marks, Academic Support Programs, Interim Director of Writing Assessment; Daniel Messier, CLA (English); and Brittany Peterson, CLA (English), Davis Fellow, Electronic Writing Proficiency Assessment.