

Minutes
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Committee
Meeting 12
April 17, 2026
1:30pm-3:00pm

In attendance: Rebekha Abbuhl, Nicollette Brant, Lori Brown, Lisa Fascia, Katherine Guerra, Loretta Ramirez, Henry O'Lawrence, Deepti Singh, Jayden Sandstorm, Maiyoua Vang, Alexandra Wilkinson

Call to Order: 1:33 PM

Approval of Agenda

Wilkinson moves to approve the agenda, and Guerra seconds the motion. The agenda is approved.

Approval of Minutes (March 20, 2026)

Abbuhl moves to approve the minutes, and Guerra seconds the motion. The minutes are approved with some amendments for clarity.

GWAR Coordinator's Report

The GWAR Coordinator shares some information about a recent student case. The case involves a student who requested that a CSU – Fully Online course taken at San Bernardino County be counted as their WI class. GWARC previously did not allow Fully Online courses to meet the GWAR. However, the student claimed they could not find a WI class to enroll in on this campus. Fully online classes can be problematic for administrative reasons. Furthermore, the newly approved GWAR policy does not allow students to use CSU – Fully Online courses to meet the GWAR unless they are enrolled at that college during the time of taking the class. GWAR will continue to handle CSU – Fully Online classes the same way it has been in the past. It is also noted that there have also been discussions about the new CSU policy potentially contradicting the overall CSU policy.

CSU – Fully Online misinformation has been a challenge in the past. Therefore, with the new policy, the GWAR coordinator and GWARC chair plan to speak with campus advisors. Advisors should not advise students to use CSU – Fully Online classes to satisfy the GWAR on this campus. Websites will also need to be updated to remove outdated language.

In future meetings, the GWAR Committee will focus on reviewing the policy for implementation for Fall 2026. Progress will also be encouraged on online models to support instructors teaching GWAR classes and students taking them. The committee needs to discuss what information the modules should include, ideally by the final meeting.

Furthermore, the committee will continue assessing WI/GWAR courses. Therefore, GWARC will need to develop an assessment plan.

Continued Business: Discussion on new GWAR policy

The Chair of GWARC continues to review the new GWAR policy within the committee, beginning with Section 3.0. The policy is available on Canvas for further review.

During the discussion, a question was raised about whether the GWAR Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) remain the same as in the previous version for GWAR classes. This will be important for the development of future GWAR course applications and review of current courses.

A discussion of course assessment at the campus and department levels also occurred. Under the new policy, departments are required to assess the GWAR courses they offer. This means that GWAR will need to come up with a system to request those assessments. One suggestion was for departments to submit their assessments directly to GWAR in a digital format such as OneDrive. Nuventive was also mentioned as a potential platform to use for submitting documents. It may be useful next year to ask colleges to invite GWARC representatives to their meetings to better understand existing assessment practices, while ensuring the process is not intrusive for departments.

A consistent discussion occurred about the use of discipline-specific writing. This wording is used consistently throughout the policy, despite the discipline-specific class being removed from it. This may present some challenges with implementation.

The committee notes that moving forward, it will be important to clearly articulate the potential conflicts that have been identified. Additionally, developing a loose template for assessment prior to meeting with departments may help guide these conversations and provide structure.

GWAR Charge:

The committee moves to review the new charge of the GWAR committee. The charge is available on Canvas for further review.

Overall, much of the committee roster appears very similar to the previous version, with CPaCE being added. A specific update notes that faculty appointment terms are now set at three years, rather than listing lecturers and tenure/tenure-track faculty separately. A key question involves the role of lecturers in this process, as they were specifically mentioned in the previous policy with a 1-year appointment specified. In the new policy, there is a blanket 3-year commitment rather than a 1-year commitment.

Furthermore, Section 1.1 in the GWAR charge highlights a significant charge focused on supporting faculty, particularly around writing in the majors. This emphasis on writing in the majors suggests a more discipline-specific approach. Assessment is also a point of discussion,

including whether the committee's role includes advising the Provost on assessment. There is also an emphasis on monitoring and ensuring that departments are engaging in assessment.

Further conversation occurs about section 1.2, particularly in reference to the sixth bullet point, which states to assess the GVAR program at CSULB periodically to determine the state of writing instruction at the University. The committee is unsure of the scale on which the assessment of writing instruction should occur. It is unclear if writing should be assessed within CSULB, across other institutions, or at the course level.

Ramirez thanks the committee and reminds them of the upcoming meeting.

Reminders

Next Meeting: May 1, 1:30–3:00 PM (Last of the Academic Year!)

Adjournment: 2:51 pm

Submitted by,

Alexandra Wilkinson