

Minutes
Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Committee
Meeting 12
April 18, 2025
1:30pm-3:00pm

In attendance: Eve Baker, Nicollette Brant, Lori Brown, Tom Do, Lisa Fascia, Katherine Guerra, Lorenzo Gutierrez-Jarquin, Deepti Singh, Courtney Stammler, Alexandra Wilkinson, Mark Williams

Call to order: 1:32 pm

Welcome Katherine Guerra from Cinematic Arts to GWARC!

Guerra is a professor in the College of the Arts. Guerra has experience with writing instruction with a particular interest in pedagogy and AI rethinking.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes for 3-21-2025

Baker motions to approve the minutes. Do seconds the motion with an amendment. The minutes were amended and approved.

Announcements

GPE Testing Update: Eve Baker

Baker states that scores have been uploaded from the April exam for students to review. Testing had 2215 students in total take the exam.

GPEAC Update: Tom Do

Do notes that because the campus no longer requires the GPE, the committee is no longer holding meetings. The committee will await further instructions from GWAR.

GWARC Chair Updates: Loretta Ramirez's Notes

Stammler notes that she is filling in for Ramirez for this meeting. Stammler provides notes on Ramirez's work on the GWAR self-study. The program Self-Study was submitted on 4/1/2025. The document can be found on the GWAR Canvas page for more information.

Stammler also discusses the recent GVAR changes from the Provost. Stammler notes that the Provost canceled the GPE and GVAR pathway classes, such as English 301A and 301B, effective summer 2025. Writing-intensive classes will remain in place as is.

Brown notes that during Spring break, the Chancellor's office sent a letter to our Provost stating that CSULB is not in alignment with a previous mandate sent from the Chancellor's office regarding testing and additional classes not being allowed to meet graduation requirements for GVAR. Brown states that the May GPE is canceled, and students will receive refunds for the May exam. Students who took the exam in March will receive their scores as planned. However, they can move into a WI class regardless of their scores. Brown notes that portfolio classes are either being closed or revamped into something else depending on the department. The Senate will continue to review GVAR policy proposals.

Do asks why this is being done so quickly rather than a slower rollback. Brown notes that previously it was suggested to wait until a new GVAR policy was in place prior to removing portfolio classes and the GPE. Brown states that she created a phase-out calendar, but some parties may have perceived it as more of a hassle. Brown notes that removing the GPE and the portfolios classes slowly requires that student cohorts be reevaluated every semester and follow up continuously for 2 years. This creates a challenge with scheduling courses. There are strong arguments for both sides. However, the decision was made over spring break, and Brown was recently informed shortly after.

Do asks about the policy proposals and if a decision was made about the party responsible for overseeing the modules. Brown states that it is still being discussed. Brown believes that GVARC, along with academic affairs, may be responsible, but anything is possible at this time.

Wilkinson asks if there is any plan for faculty teaching portfolio classes to transition to other classes. Brown states that currently there is not. However, departments have a few options, but making these decisions is up to them.

Singh asks how the GVARC charge could change. Brown notes that there are no changes planned at this time. The campus is required to have a group on campus to represent GVAR. Brown also encourages GVARC representatives to help combat misinformation with other committees and colleges that members participate in. Brown notes that there is already some misinformation and conflicting messages about portfolio classes. To reiterate, Brown states that as of Summer 2025, portfolio classes will not be required, but students currently enrolled in them should complete them. Brown notes that if students have questions, they can be directed or referred to academic advisors or the [question and answer page](#) on the GVAR website. If faculty members have questions, they should go to their department supervisor or chair.

Brown also notes that at this time, this committee does not know what policy will be in place next year. The committee can encourage their programs/departments to be involved and attend senate meetings. Brown sadly notes that GVAR may not work as closely with the testing department, which means the committee may see less of Baker from testing. Brown states that there is some good news regarding writing on this campus. The new Upper-division C GE class requires 2500 words written within the class.

Stammler asks if there are any additional questions or items to be discussed. Stammler thanks the committee for their time and dismisses them for the day.

Next Meeting: May 2, 1:30-3:00pm

Adjournment: 2:17 pm

Submitted by,

Alexandra Wilkinson