

CAL POLY

SAN LUIS OBISPO

THEATRE & DANCE DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

1 Grand Avenue
Building 45, Room #104
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

(805) 756-1465 Main Office
(805) 756-7059 FAX

<http://cla.libart.calpoly.edu/thtdanc/>

To: Gladys Gregory
Academic Senate

Date: Friday, June 14, 2013

From: Josh Machamer, Theatre and Dance
Chair, GE Governance Board

Copies:

Subject: Spring Quarter GE Governance Report

This memo should serve as a brief summary of activity for the General Education Governance Board (GEGB) for Spring Quarter 2013.

- The committee met eight (8) times throughout the quarter, on Thursdays;
- The bulk of the discussion revolved around ideas to implement a four (4) unit savings within the GE template. The attached memo should serve as a summary;
- Dr. Lisa Nicholson will be stepping down at the end of the Spring term; her place as a CAFES representative will need to be filled beginning Fall 2013;
- Plans for Fall quarter includes planning and creation of the GE Program Review.

State of California

E - M E M O R A N D U M

General Education Governance Board

A committee of the Academic Senate

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, California 93407

Date: 6/14/13

To: Steve Rein, Chair, Academic Senate

From: Josh Machamer, Chair, General Education Governance Board

CC: Andrew Schaffner, Chair, ASCC
GEGB members (en masse)

Re: **GE savings of four (4) units**

Steve,

Over the past 6 weeks, per your charge, the GEGB has met to discuss and investigate the ways in which programs could find a savings of four (4) units within the current GE template. The conversations have led to many terrific dialogues around the table focused on the larger aspects of what our GE program at Cal Poly is, as well as what it should be. Additionally, the time has also opened the door for other exciting ideas that can help shape GE as it heads into program review next year.

In responding to your request, as well as the President's memo (*Response to Legislative Action on Implementation of Trustees Title 5 Changes to Baccalaureate Degrees, April 23, 2013*), the GEGB would like to put forward the following idea for the programs most impacted by the 180-unit mandate.

The committee found many possible ways in which many 180+ programs might be able to take advantage of double-counting courses in the D2 and D4 areas of GE. We see this as an opportunity for these programs to work with colleagues to create new partnerships for cross-listed courses as well as collaborate with specific departments to adapt current support courses into GE certified options.

As an example, many high unit programs within CENG have IME314 Engineering Economics as a part of their curriculum (either in support or technical elective areas). We see this as a place where with some dialogue between programs, as well as an understanding from the GEGB, a course like IME314 could have the potential to become a GE D2 option. This same type of strategy could also be implemented for transforming many courses into D4 equivalents. Katie Tool, in Academic Programs, can provide a list of other possible courses.

We release that the initial charge for a four (4) savings realization was intended for all programs at Cal Poly. However, the committee feels that the immediate need to address the most effected majors on our campus outweighs any larger restructuring ideas to the GE template. Considering the timeline for program review that GE is slated to undergo, the committee felt that any type of holistic transformations that might need to be implemented should be informed by the data collected as a part of the review process. While not a clean, one-size-fits-all solution, if this type of D2/D4 investigation and creation strategy can be implemented, it does have the potential to create an eight (8) unit savings impact for several programs instead of just four (4).

Additionally, we support the idea of specific resources that could be made available to these high unit programs and partner departments to help facilitate the type of necessary dialogue with "service" departments in adaptation/creation.

I'm more than happy to talk further about this strategy, as well as encourage the administration to see this as a real viable option that can address many of the issues raised by the President in his memo.

Please feel free to contact me for any questions you might have (jmachame@calpoly.edu, 756-5560).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JM', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Josh Machamer
Chair, GEGB
Associate Chair & Professor of Theatre Arts