

COGE Monthly Report to UCC 20/21/22

COGE has a regular meeting time: the first Friday of the month at 9am via Zoom
Meeting Dates for Fall, 2022: 9/2; 10/7; 11/4; 12/2

<https://ri-college.zoom.us/j/5855579750>

Meeting ID: 585 557 9750

COGE Membership 2022-23

1. Rudy Kraus, FSEHD –new voting member
2. Jennifer Fearon-Lynch, Nursing –new voting member
3. Joan Dagle, Associate Dean, FAS – new voting member
4. J. Zornado, (chair) English
5. S. Costa, Math
6. M. Reddy, FYS Coordinator
7. B. Caouette, Director of First Year Writing
8. W. Martin, Art
9. E. Miller, History
10. S. Oliveira, Modern Languages
11. K. Almeida, Physical Science
12. D. Gill, Library
13. J. Capece, BSW
14. P. Gullapali, Anthropology
15. H. Shadoian, Provost’s designee
16. E. Simson, Dean, FAS

COGE Workflow for Fall, 2022

1. Communication with faculty about assessment in the spring of ’23.
2. Plans for a small beta test of a new assessment process are in process. COGE is working with Tanni Chaudhurri, the college’s assessment coordinator. Gen Ed Assessment Update
COGE remains on track to roll out a new and improved process of General Education assessment. The coordinator of FAS assessment has helped to prepare a Qualtrics tool that will allow faculty to input their assessment data. T. Chaudhuri will offer COGE a tour, and seek feedback for the assessment tool, at the November COGE meeting.
COGE also raised the question of whether or not COGE wanted to begin a process of Learning Outcomes review in light of our plans to assess our current (and future) gen ed program. This would also entail updating—or revising entirely—our Learning Outcomes Assessment Rubrics. No decision was made.
3. Communication with faculty about the work of the General Education Task Force. COGE meetings are open to all faculty. The Task Force has communicated its mid-term report to faculty in our efforts to share information and resources while

transparently. Up to date information is available on the college's General Education website, including data gathered from COGE over the past two years along with the ad hoc Committee on General Education.

4. The appointment of J. Zornado as a Presidential Faculty Fellow. I have been in contact and discussed the situation with the President, the Provost, the chair of English, the chair of College Council, the president of RIC AFT and numerous faculty. While some are worried of a conflict of interest, most are supportive, or have taken a wait and see attitude. I have reported to all of them that COGE's and the Task Force's plans were developed well before the interim president arrived, and to some degree before the Provost, and those plans have changed only in response to faculty concerns. That said, the Task Force co-chairs share the interim president's sense of urgency.
5. COGE has gathered information about the institutional challenges to General Education that go beyond gen ed curriculum and are instead a part of institutional processes that are currently broken, especially in regards to issues related to transfer. COGE largely agreed that the college needed some sort of Transfer Coordinator who could take responsibility for the various ways Transfer information is shared, updated, and aligned with websites from the state, CCRI, and URI. COGE agree that this should also be included in our mid-semester report to the administration.
6. General Education Task Force Update
The Task Force work has gathered momentum and the group looks forward to exploring specific ways to improve our current program while capping it at 40 credits and working to lower transfer barriers. Make sure that what we do well in gen ed is accessible to all of our students, and to improve where we can.
7. Second Language Requirement
COGE continues to discuss the current Second Language milestone requirement and whether a decision might be made as to its future by Modern Languages.

COGE Friday, 9/2/22

In attendance: J. Zornado (chair); K. Almeida; S. Costa; P. Gullapalli, J. Fearon-Lynch; E. Miller; S. Oliveira; B. Caouette; M. Reddy;

Guests: E. Basile

Excused: J. Dagle; E. Simson; H. Shadoian; R. Kraus

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Announcements from the Chair:

1. COGE has a regular meeting time: the first Friday of the month at 9am via Zoom

- 9/2 10/7 11/4 12/2

2. Welcome and Introduction of new members -- 5-10 mins

1. Rudy Kraus, FSEHD

1. Jennifer Fearon-Lynch, Nursing
2. Joan Dagle, Associate Dean, FAS

Meeting Agenda:

2. Discussion of COGE agenda for the Fall term

1. Communication with faculty about assessment in the spring

1. Some discussion followed. P. Gullapalli recommended early communication with faculty about any assessment process.
2. M. Reddy suggested any assessment should be limited to only a small number of learning outcomes each year with a schedule that would allow them to be all assessed over a longer time period.

2. Communication with faculty about the work of the General Education Task Force. COGE and the Task Force would serve as supporting committees, sharing information and resources while working towards transparency and engagement in the ongoing work on General Education

2. Update on General Education Task Force and open discussion – 30-45 mins

K. Almeida offered an update on the Task Force on General Education: The task force has met once, with 14 members. She discussed the Task Force's goals for the term. Discussion followed. S. Costa asked if the Task Force was reviewing Gen Ed or revising Gen Ed. Discussion followed. K. Almeida explained that the Task Force is reviewing the current program in order to determine how to improve it while also reviewing it for its strengths. The Task Force is also looking forward to possible options for a revised gen ed program in order to understand how best to address the issues raised by the ad hoc committee's recommendations on Gen Ed.

COGE Meeting Minutes Friday, 10/7/22

In attendance: J. Zornado (chair); K. Almeida; S. Costa; P. Gullapalli, J. Fearon-Lynch; E. Miller; S. Oliveira; B. Caouette; M. Reddy; J. Capece; J. Dagle; R. Kraus; W. Martin; G. Dragan

Guests: D. Ramirez; E. Papa; M. Medevide; E. Zito; Laura; (iPhone;

Excused: H. Shadoian;

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Announcements from the Chair:

2. The Chair discussed his appointment as Presidential Faculty Fellow. Discussion followed. COGE recommended that Chair of College Council, (V. Endress) and the President of the RICAFI issue a statement of support for the Chair of COGE in his capacity as Chair of COGE and Co-Chair of the Gen Ed Task Force as way of assuring faculty the process has not been compromised. The Chair shared the RIC President's plan to support the SoB's desire to quickly come up with a Gen Ed program suited to their students, and potential students, by-passing COGE and the Task Force. COGE

agreed to produce a mid-semester General Education report to the President and Provost sternly objecting to such a plan.

3. Gen Ed Assessment Update

COGE remains on track to roll out a new and improved process of General Education assessment. The coordinator of FAS assessment has helped to prepare a Qualtrics tool that will allow faculty to input their assessment data. T. Chauduri will offer COGE a tour, and seek feedback for the assessment tool, at the November COGE meeting.

The Chair also raised the question of whether or not COGE wanted to begin a process of Learning Outcomes review in light of our plans to assess our current (and future) gen ed program. This would also entail updating—or revising entirely—our Learning Outcomes Assessment Rubrics. No decision was made.

4. E. Miller and P. Gullapalli reported on current institutional challenges to General Education that go beyond gen ed curriculum and instead focus on institutional processes that are currently broken, especially in regards to issues related to transferring. Discussion followed. COGE largely agreed that the college needed some sort of Transfer Coordinator who could take responsibility for the various ways Transfer information is shared, updated, and aligned with websites from the state, CCRI, and URI. COGE agree that this should also be included in our mid-semester report to the administration.

5. General Education Task Force Update

K. Almeida reported that the task force has met twice. Task Force work has gathered some momentum and the group looks forward to exploring specific ways to improve our current program while capping it at 40 credits and working to lower transfer barriers. The Task Force has been exploring, among other fundamental design principles, the question of our current “distribution model” versus a “learning outcomes” model.

6. Second Language Requirement

COGE took up the question of the current Second Language requirement. Unfortunately, some stakeholders had to leave the meeting before we came to this topic. S. Oliveria spoke to the need to think not about “eliminating” the Second Language requirement, but rather, reframing it in terms of General Education. Discussion followed. The Chair explained that reimagining the Second Language requirement does not eliminate language study, rather, it removes it as a universal requirement while leaving it intact for those who want to pursue it. D. Ramirez spoke to the importance of language and cultural study and what it means for students now and after graduation.

Respectfully submitted,

JZ

Joseph L. Zornado, PhD