

## MINUTES

GWAR Committee

### Join Zoom Meeting

[Meeting Link for Every 3rd Friday of the Month](#)

1:30 – 3:00

Meeting Number 10

April 16, 2021

**In Attendance:** Joseph Aubele, Eve Baker, Donna Binkiewicz, Lori Brown, Jason Deutschman, Annel Estrada, Sarvenaz Hatami, Kerry Johnson, Eileen Klink, Elizabeth Lindau, Tina Matuchniak, Cynthia Pastrana, Dina Perrone, Loretta Ramirez, Lizzet Rojas, Alexandra Wilkinson

The committee welcomed Dina Perrone, director of Graduate Studies, and new members of the GPEAC as **guests**. Matuchniak is to chair the newly formed GPEAC.

The **minutes** from the previous two meetings were approved after a small clarification about committee's ability to change GWAR policy. Golden moved, Aubele seconded, and the committee voted to approve the minutes from March 5, 2021. Aubele moved, Wilkinson seconded, and the committee voted to approve the minutes from February 19.

Matuchniak moved, Aubele seconded and the committee voted to approve the **agenda**.

The committee heard a **data analysis report from Lizzet Rojas**. Rojas discussed pass/non-

late to demographic characteristics of students. In students had a higher non-pass rate, s. She also examined whether e are some of Rojas's findings.

ughly 40%

but pass rates are relatively equal in

s, followed by Asian American students,

ian American students. The largest odian, and Chinese American students.

higher than average.

rates.

s of passing (15% did not pass). Those r did not pass the course had even lower the GPE).

don't have data to explain this trend.

The committee asked Rojas a series of follow-up questions. Matuchniak asked how we might use this data to respond to the Chancellor's demands to re-think testing. (Johnson later reiterated the Chancellor's aversion to testing, and how questions may be raised about the GPE even though it may not be technically high-stakes.) Rojas responded that students who don't pass 100A seem to still be having issues when they take the GPE, suggesting that performance in that course might be used to identify students in need of additional writing assistance. However, the sample for 100A is smaller (only 1500 students). Matuchniak suggested looking at 100B, which has a larger sample size of 32,000 students. Rojas responded that students who don't do well in 100B tend to perform more poorly on the GPE. Furthermore, students who elected to take 100B for "CR" had a 47% non-pass rate on the GPE. Rojas recommended looking at the correlation between 100B performance and WI. (Rojas also noted that students who earned grades of "F" in 100B actually had GPE pass rates on average. She thought that this could be because they had to repeat the course.) Brown asked whether a grade of "C" in 100B should be a cutoff for determining whether students need more writing courses. Rojas replied that a significant number of students who earn Cs in that course still do not pass the GPE.

consideration with multiple measures. Matuchniak said there was no time to implement multiple measures for the fall. Brown concurred: to waive or not to waive. That is the question.

Brown noted that suspending the GPE would mean that international graduate students would have no option but to take a course. Perrone thanked the committee for including graduate students in the conversation. She also shared the Executive Vice Chancellor's February 23 memo. Pastrana asked for clarification on when graduate students are required to take the GPE. She understood that the policy required them to take it in their first semester. Brown