



April 20, 2021

To: Faculty Senate

From: Michelle Igarashi, General Education Committee Chair

Subject General Education Committee/Foundations Board Annual Report

Purpose

The General Education Committee affirms the core designations that a course must meet to fulfill Leeward Community College's AA requirements. There are six designation boards. Each board works from agreed hallmarks to review core designation applications. A list of approved courses for each designation is maintained by the boards. Please find the year-end report from each designation committee chair in this document.

The Foundations Board oversees courses intended to give students skills and perspectives that are fundamental to higher education. Designation requirements for Associates degrees include Global and Multicultural Perspectives (FG), Quantitative Reasoning (FQ), Symbolic Reasoning (FS), and Written Communication (FW). The Leeward Board sits below the University of Hawai'i General Education System-wide Foundations Board facilitating articulation requirements and implementation processes.

Membership (AY 2020-2021)

General Education Committee

- Peterson Gross (Curriculum Committee)
- Blake Hunrick (Counselor)
- Michelle Igarashi (chair)
- Eiko Kosasa (E Focus)
- Michele Mahi (Oral Communication)
- Michael Oishi (Diversification)
- Brandi Reyes (Writing Intensive)
- Kale'a Silva (Hawaiian, Asian, and Pacific Issues)
- Jim West (Chair, Arts and Humanities)



Foundations Board

- Blake Hunrick (Counseling)
- Michelle Igarashi (Student Services, chair)
- Tina Lee (Business)
- Bruce Lindquist (Social Sciences)
- Eric Matsuoka (Math and Science)
- Lance Morita (Language Arts)
- Jay Sakashita (Arts and Humanities)
- James West (former Foundations chair, Arts and Humanities)

Meeting Dates

The General Education Committee met two times in the academic year, once per term: September 14, 2020 and February 17, 2021. The Foundations Board met three times: October 8 and November 16, 2020 along with February 4, 2021.

The board and committee had intended a more robust schedule but COVID-19 and 2020-2021 in general brought uncertainty and rolling changes including modality alterations, social distancing protocols, the reconsideration of UH's General Education requirements with the proposed transition of designations to competencies as well as the System-mandated rightsizing and unit centralization across all ten UH campuses. Both groups intend to pursue future opportunities for structural, procedural, and institutional progressive action.

Motions Proposed

While the Foundations Board made no motions this academic year, the General Education Committee made one. The UH System will reconceptualize the [General Education](#) core beginning summer 2021. A task force will convene in July with duties continuing through the upcoming academic year. The UHCC System office requested Faculty Senate Chairs submit three to five nominees from which one will be chosen to serve by the General Education Design Team. Six instructors applied; two were eliminated as they were lecturers who by the nature of their position neither officially work on curriculum nor are guaranteed stipend support come fall. The four professors sent forward are all full-time Leeward faculty members. The Senate passed the motion below unanimously.



Motion: On behalf of the General Education Committee, Senator Igarashi moves to forward four candidates for participation in the Summer 2021 General Education Institute.

Cawdery, Michael
Gross, Petersen
Lewis, Andrea
Lindquist, Bruce

Following the All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs (ACCFSC) meeting on April 16, 2021, Leeward's FS Chair, Michael Oishi, reported there were 86 candidates for the UH General Education Summer Institute. The GE Design Team selected members to create a balance of discipline and skill sets in addition to proportional representation across the campuses (see [faculty and undergraduate student counts/proportions](#)). Michael Cawdery from Education (CTE) was selected from Leeward CC.

The GE Design Team has been identifying individuals who can supplement materials and perhaps lead discussions or present during the institute. An estimated timeline and list of topics may be found on the [Summer 2021 General Education Institute](#) page. As the redesign moves forward, please note:

- Campuses can create groups to follow institute proceedings.
- Neither campuses nor their senates will vote to approve the new GE core. Instead, there will be a system vote of faculty.
- Estimated implementation: 2026.
- [FAQs](#)

Accomplishments, Goals/Priorities, and Potential Endeavors

General Education Committee

This was a transitional year as we had four new board members: Michelle Igarashi (chair), Kale'a Silva (HAP), Brandi Reyes (WI), and Michele Mahi (OC).

The Curriculum Committee, in addition to approving new courses, combed through Leeward Community College's course catalog and struck classes not offered in some years and ergo deemed inactive. Furthermore, as communication of designation additions, changes, and eliminations has been an issue, it was decided all Focus chairs would carbon copy the Curriculum Committee chair on semester updates to Banner Specialist, Janel Oshiro.



Here is what Janel would like sent to her when courses are updated

- If no changes, we request that focus chairs send an email stating no changes so we know that it wasn't just missed.
- If there are changes, we need the effective term, course alpha/number, course title, designation (only if the chair is responsible for multiple designations).

Similarly, the Leeward website does not include the most up-to-date information. Pages currently list outdated information about requirements or “dead” links thus hindering students’ ability to know what courses to take to earn certificates or degrees. Leeward Community College has contracted an outside vendor to review and update our website.

Finally, there were two discipline-specific changes. (1) In Fall 2021, Geography will become "Geography and Environment" to align with UHM. The GEOG alpha will consequently change to GEO. (2) Women’s Studies will now include LGBTQ+ courses. Such classes will carry the alpha WGSS (Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies). This addition is anticipated to be active in fall 2022.

Board Annual Reports

Curriculum (excluded here – report sent directly to Faculty Senate Officers)

[Diversification](#)

[Ethics](#)

[Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Issues](#)

[Oral Communication](#)

[Writing Intensive](#)

Foundations Board

In addition to new chair, Michelle Igarashi, the Board welcomed Tina Lee as Business representative. Her addition completed faculty voices from every division at the college. Moreover, chair Michelle Igarashi built a new [website](#) to improve ease of updating and clarification of hallmarks and application access. Application forms were also updated to mirror UH Manoa’s processes and requirements. This alignment, better reflective of university-level qualifications, will improve course transferability not only to other UH campuses but other 4-year and Research 1 institutions across the nation as well.

Along this technological updating vein, UHM has created a [Global and Multicultural Perspectives](#) website. Furthermore, the Office of the VP for Academic Planning and Policy has officially been changed to the VP for Academic Strategy. The URL for the Foundations website



has been updated to reflect this move. See [General Education System-wide Foundations Board](#).

As of Fall 2020, Symbolic Reasoning, FS, has been replaced by Quantitative Reasoning, FQ. Therefore, there is no reason for a dual listing of FS and FQ from this point forward. That said, divisions have the prerogative to include language about a specific course moving from FS to FQ in the comment section of Class Availability. Students who entered Leeward after Fall 2018 must take an FQ course to fulfill degree requirements. Those, however, who entered prior to Fall 2018 still have the option to use FS courses to fulfill this designation in the articulated AA with the caveat that said course must have held the FS designation during the enrolled semester.

New Courses Approved in 2020-2021

HIT 176 (FQ)

Renewed Courses Approved in 2020-2021

ANTH 152 (FGB)

ART 175 (FGA)

BUSN 277 (FGB)

BUSN 279 (FGB)

GEOG 102/GEO 102 (alpha change for fall '21) (FGB)

MUS 107 (FGC)

Conclusion and Goals

A goal for next year is to utilize and leverage the committee and board's membership, leaders in their disciplines and divisions, to make a wider campus-level impact to improve the student experience, course taking, and ultimately degree/certification success.

Leadership Changes

Pete Gross will be stepping down as Curriculum Committee Chair in spring 2021. Jiajia Garcia, current Curriculum Support Coordinator, will be taking over the mantel come fall. The committee thanks Pete for his years of campus service in this capacity.