

**SEC AGENDA - Emergency Meeting**

June 23, 2022

Online via [Zoom](#)

2:00 to 4:30 pm

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**1. Call to Order, Land Acknowledgement, and Principles of Shared Governance:**

**Land Acknowledgement**

We stand upon a land that carries the footsteps of millennia of Kumeyaay people. They are a people whose traditional lifeways intertwine with a worldview of earth and sky in a community of living beings. This land is part of a relationship that has nourished, healed, protected and embraced the Kumeyaay people to the present day. It is part of a world view founded in the harmony of the cycles of the sky and balance in the forces of life. For the Kumeyaay, red and black represent the balance of those forces that provide for harmony within our bodies as well as the world around us.

As students, faculty, staff and alumni of San Diego State University we acknowledge this legacy from the Kumeyaay. We promote this balance in life as we pursue our goals of knowledge and understanding. We find inspiration in the Kumeyaay spirit to open our minds and hearts. It is the legacy of the red and black. It is the land of the Kumeyaay.

Eyay e'Hunn My heart is good.

Michael Miskwish – Kumeyaay

**Principles of Shared Governance:**

Trust is recognized as a fundamental ingredient that is essential for effective shared governance. Without trust, the practices of partnership, inclusion, open communication, ownership, and accountability are likely to break down. SDSU community members have identified three key principles for shared governance at SDSU that all rely on the fundamental ingredient of TRUST: Respect, Communication, Responsibility.

## 2. Approval of Agenda (Fuller)

## 3. President's Report (de la Torre)

- 3.1. Criminal Sexual Assault Investigation and Title IX Report (Mendez)
- 3.2. GA and TA Workloads and Benefits Report (Love-Geffen)

## 4. UAW 4123 Report

- 4.1. Pres. Lark Winner & VP Pete Uhl, Teaching Assistants

## 5. Committee of the Whole

- 5.1. How can SDSU promote victim and survivor advocacy in Title IX and the reparations necessary to restore trust and re-Integration into the SDSU Community?

- 5.1.1. AS-3534: PROMOTING VICTIM AND SURVIVOR ADVOCACY IN CSU TITLE IX PRACTICE:

<https://www.calstate.edu/csu-system/faculty-staff/academic-senate/resolutions/2021-2022/3534.pdf>

- 5.1.2. GA/TA Workloads and Benefits: Impacts on shared governance, academic freedom, and excellence?

## 6. Action Item

- 6.1. Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) Proposal SDSU time sensitive compliance issue (McCall). Suggested motion:

The following 6 GE classes (2 from each explorations category) shall be designated as 3-unit Upper Division Writing courses:

### **Social Sciences**

History 404 - Hist of Human Rights  
BRAZ 325 - Brazilian Democracy and Society

### **Humanities**

ENGL 301 - Psychological Novel  
ENGL 305 - Literature and Environment

### **Natural Sciences**

ENV S 301 - Energy and the Environment  
MATH 303 - History of Mathematics

## 7. Unfinished Business

## 8. New Business

## 9. Adjourn.

## GWAR Proposal

### Background

SDSU has used an in-person exam, the Writing Placement Assessment (WPA), and a course to satisfy the Graduation Writing Requirement (GWAR) requirement. Students who scored highly on the WPA satisfied the requirement, however many SDSU students did not score high enough on the WPA to satisfy the requirement and were required to complete a 3-unit upper division writing course to fulfill the GWAR. The GWAR requirement has been clearly articulated in student degree evaluations and in the University Catalog. As students could potentially place out of requiring a 3 unit upper division writing class, SDSU did not include the possible units for those classes on student Major Academic Plans (MAPs), which are an advising tool used by students to determine appropriate course sequencing to complete their program in 4 years.

On April 11, 2022, the revised CSU GWAR policy was published. Among other changes, the revised policy **requires that all students subject to the 2023-24 or subsequent catalogs must satisfy the GWAR via a 3-semester unit, upper division course.**

On April 25, 2022, the CSU sent a memo clarifying the policy change. Text from the memo is copied below for clarity.

**Subject:** Clarifications on the CSU Policy on the Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)

We would like to provide clarification on the recently revised Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) policy, as questions have arisen in relation to effective dates. We apologize for any confusion.

- The GWAR remains suspended until the start of the fall 2023 semester for campuses whose students were required to take an examination to fulfill GWAR. No student shall be asked to take an examination to meet GWAR; this includes students with catalog years prior to fall 2023.
- If your campus met GWAR with a course-based requirement for undergraduate students, you may continue to have students take the courses as part of their degree programs.
- If your campus is transitioning away from a writing exam and does not yet have sufficient GWAR courses for students, or if asking students, especially seniors, to take an additional course delays their degree completion, *the GWAR requirement should be waived.*

If you have any questions or if your campus needs additional time to develop writing policy and to create GWAR experiences within classes, please contact Dr. Brent Foster, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Dean, Academic Programs, at [bfoster@calstate.edu](mailto:bfoster@calstate.edu).

After consulting with the Chancellor's Office, we have developed a plan on how to meet these new provisions within our current process.

**Majors where the 3-unit GVAR can be added and still meet 120:** SDSU has 142 majors that would not go over 120 units if a 3 unit writing class was required (i.e. Anthropology, Sociology, Communication, Psychology). For these majors, there are sufficient elective units listed on the MAP to allow a 3-unit upper division writing course. SDSU has already added the 3-unit upper division writing class in place of an upper division elective consistent with new CSU policy.

**High Unit Majors:** SDSU has majors that will exceed 120 units if we mandate a standalone 3-unit upper division writing class to fulfill the GVAR. For these students, we will designate 6 upper division GE classes as W courses because of the significant writing component *already in the course*.

The 6 W GE classes would be (this is 2 from each explorations category):

**Social Sciences**

History 404 - Hist of Human Rights

BRAZ 325 - Brazilian Democracy and Society

**Humanities**

ENGL 301 - Psychological Novel

ENGL 305 - Literature and Environment

**Natural Sciences**

ENV S 301 - Energy and the Environment

MATH 303 - History of Mathematics

Interim AVP McCall has updated the chair of APP, the incoming chair of Senate, CAL, RWS, Provost, President, AVP FASS, AVP Enrollment Services, Registrar, and Dean of Students on this plan - all of whom have expressed support - and is now bringing it to SEC. Because continuing students are registering for the Fall and students joining SDSU in Fall 2022 start registering in early July, it is necessary to designate W classes quickly.

From: Madhavi McCall  
Subject: GWAR Policy  
Date: June 17, 2022  
To: SEC

## **Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement Determination of Competence in English**

*The California State University Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement has been temporarily suspended, pursuant to the attached memorandum dated February 23, 2021.*

### **Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR): Baccalaureate Level**

1. All students subject to the degree requirements of the 2023-24 or subsequent general catalogs must demonstrate competence in writing skills at the upper division level as a requirement for the baccalaureate degree. Students who are undertaking a second baccalaureate degree will be deemed to have met the requirement if their first baccalaureate degree is from an institution of higher education accredited by a U.S. regional accreditor.
2. **Students shall meet the GWAR requirement via a 3 semester unit, upper-division course as determined by the campus.**
3. **Campuses shall integrate the assessment of writing into the demonstrated continuous improvement process of institutional accreditation.**
4. Campus catalogs shall clearly identify the courses that meet the GWAR.
5. Certification of graduation writing competence shall be transferable from one CSU campus to another.