

**Power, Equity, and Justice (PEJ) GUR Proposal**  
**Task Force Charge**  
January 2022

The Academic Coordinating Commission (ACC) hereby moves to convene a task force to evaluate, revise, and further develop the Power, Equity, and Justice (PEJ) GUR proposal forwarded by the Committee on Undergraduate Education (CUE) in May 2021.

**Charge:**

To evaluate, revise, and further develop proposed revisions to the General University Requirements (GUR) program recommended by the CUE in May 2021, the task force is charged with the following:

1. Refining and defining the course categories in response to the substantive feedback received from the two campus-wide survey processes, the first of which informed the current CUE proposal, but still provides valuable context;
2. Exploring revisions to the implementation of the plan in response to feedback that has been received, including addressing the complexity of the proposed structure;
3. Consulting with Advising staff to understand how the PEJ GUR would be experienced by Advisors and Students;
4. Consulting with technical staff in the Registrar's Office regarding operational feasibility as ideas are explored;
5. Working with student leadership to ensure that students are informed about the process and can meaningfully contribute and provide feedback;
6. Carrying out a resource study to assess relevant curricular resources that may be untapped or underutilized under the current GUR structure and potential impacts of the proposed changes in terms of student credit hours within departments and colleges;
7. Developing a revised proposal for the CUE and ACC to consider; and
8. Making recommendations regarding assessment of the proposed program.

The task force is to provide a report, documenting completion of these tasks and inclusive of a revised proposal, to the Academic Coordination Commissioner and to the Committee on Undergraduate Education by the end of the 2021-22 academic year.

**Membership:**

The PEJ task force is to consist of approximately 16 members, including the following:

- **Enhanced representation from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS)** [4 faculty members]. Because the Humanities and Social Science departments are most involved in the current and future courses involved in the PEJ proposal, it is vital to have enhanced participation from both areas within CHSS. Two faculty representatives each from the Social Sciences and Humanities, to be nominated by the college's faculty governance committee and selected and appointed by the ACC. The college is invited to submit more nominees than there are seats and is encouraged to consider subject-matter expertise, inclusion of non-tenure-track faculty, and involvement in teaching GUR courses in its selection of nominees.
- **Representation from other WWU Colleges** [up to 7 faculty members]. One representative from each college other than CHSS and the Graduate College and inclusive of the Libraries, to be

nominated by the respective college governance committee and selected and appointed by the ACC. Colleges are invited to submit multiple nominees, though only one will be selected, and are encouraged to consider subject-matter expertise, inclusion of non-tenure-track faculty, and involvement in teaching GUR courses in their selection of nominees. Seats allocated to colleges that do not submit nominees will not be filled.

- **Representation from the CUE** [1 faculty member]. One CUE liaison, to be selected by and from the membership of the CUE.
- **At-large faculty members** [2]. Because it is essential to have individuals involved who are knowledgeable about the topics and subjects proposed to be part of the PEJ GUR, two at-large seats are allocated to subject matter experts to be identified and appointed by the ACC after or concurrent with the appointment of college representatives. Nominees for college representative seats not selected as college representatives will be considered for at-large positions.
- **Staff advisors** [2]. Expertise in how students navigate GUR requirements will provide necessary support in the final design of the PEJ GUR requirements. Nominees are to be submitted by the Academic Advising office and appointed by the ACC.

### **Concurrent ACC Actions:**

While the PEJ Task Force is completing its tasks, ACC will work with Senate and UPRC to consider how to address the resource related aspects of implementation of a GUR revision, including the following:

1. Investigate resources available to support offering the courses required to implement a revised GUR system and pursue resources to augment teaching capacity where needed.
2. Discuss how the PEJ Initiative can be best presented in light of the new WWU Strategic Budget Process in order to fund any resources needed to implement the new PEJ GUR requirements.
3. Consider the need for specialized training and course development opportunities for faculty engaging in teaching these courses, with particular emphasis on how the classroom experience will unfold for BIPOC students.
4. Engage in faculty and faculty/administration discussions regarding the recommendation in the proposal that WWU set a priority of hiring significantly more BIPOC faculty.