

1. Announcements from Associate Dean Cornelia Lang
 - a. Work on the +1 courses (title, description, learning outcomes) for **the 3+1 GE CLAS Core World Language pathway** is moving forward through collaboration among DWLLC, GECC, and UEPC. Information on the pathways, including how current students can opt in, can be found on the [CLAS website](#).
 - b. GECC and UPECC have approved two **GE CLAS Core Sustainability** courses this semester (GEOG:1070 and POLI:1510), and Sustainability status for those courses is updated in MyUI. Proposals to add GE status for spring 2024 and later courses will be due the first week of the fall 2023 semester.
 - c. Associate Dean Lang encouraged instructors to make sure all students understand clearly what their course letter grade is at midterm. Being unsure of how they are doing causes anxiety and stress for students and can affect their mental health. Please review this recent [DEO memo](#) about midterm check-ins with students.

2. The group discussed the recent resolution that Undergraduate Student Government (USG) passed, which calls for the University to add two excused absence Mental Health Days to current attendance policies. (In CLAS, individual instructors, course supervisors, and departments determine the details concerning class attendance and absences. The current guidelines can be found [here](#).) Members of USG visited UEPC last week to discuss ways to support student mental health. Associate Dean Lang framed the DUS conversation with these questions:
 - a. How are instructors already handling students missing classes? What kind of flexibility, if any, are they building in?
 - b. What challenges or perspectives do instructors have around allowing students leeway to be absent from class?

Discussion points from the group included normalizing mental health struggles, trusting students, moving to lower stakes exams and assessments, and OTLT Center for Teaching strategies for inclusive teaching.

Associate Dean Lang welcomes faculty feedback on the USG resolution and on ways to support student mental health.

3. The group also discussed [CLAS grading guidelines](#) with a focus on the messaging CLAS is sending to instructors. The current language may not reflect how most instructors are grading, and it does not support alternative grading methods. The group had a robust conversation, and UEPC will also discuss this topic soon.

Associate Dean Lang welcomes faculty feedback on grading guidelines, policies, and alternative grading.