

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

May 12, 2015

2:00-3:30 pm

LSC 4th Floor Conference Room

Attendance: Cecilio Alvarez, Fred Chambers, Lucy Dwight, Manuel Espinoza (Chair), Jeff Franklin, Phil Gallegos, Carol Golemboski, Kent Homchick, Ann Martin, Hans Morgenthaler, Gwen Persons, Karen Sobel, Sam Welch

Agenda

1. Core-course evaluation form: The chair described revisions to the form used by the committee for evaluating existing Core-course syllabi. The most substantive revision was a new primary criterion, "Core Area Learning Outcomes." He stated that he made this change because it is supported by the committee's vote in late 2014 to adopt the General-Education Assessment Project's learning outcomes for each Core Area as the official learning outcomes. The committee concurred.
2. Reform of Core Composition: The committee revisited this issue, at the end of an academic year of consideration, in light of the revised draft "Proposal to Reform Writing Requirements at CU Denver." The chair posed the question of whether the committee supports Option #1 or Option #2, also considering no change to current requirements or any other option. After discussion, Fred Chambers moved for a vote in favor of Option #1, requiring all undergraduates to take an upper-division, writing-in-the-disciplines course, and Ann Martin seconded.

Vote: The voting members of the Committee voted 8 in favor of Option #1 with one abstention.

Action: Manuel Espinoza and Jeff Franklin will work on revising CCOC policy and procedures in-line with this reform, preparing documents for committee review in fall 2015.

3. Process for implementing this reform to Core Composition requirements: The chair put the question of whether making this change should require a campus-wide vote of the faculty or rather could be enacted on the authority of the CCOC, though in thorough consultation with the schools and colleges. The members expressed justifications in both directions. The consensus was in favor of moving forward through a process of thorough consultation at the level of the associate deans.

Action: Jeff Franklin will complete the ongoing conversation about this with the associate deans, then communicate the nine-month process of consideration and consultation to the provost, reporting the CCOC's recommendation and the positions of the associate deans, and request his support for enacting this reform. If Provost Nairn

approves, then the new requirements will be enacted on the authority of the CCOC and the schools and colleges, as represented by their CCOC member(s) and their associate dean.

4. Evaluation of existing Core-course syllabi in the Humanities and the Arts areas.

Action: The committee agreed to review within the next two weeks the approximately 50 syllabi already received. Each member of the committee (both voting and non-voting, unless unavailable) will evaluate an equal portion of the syllabi and submit evaluation forms for those.