

Minutes

Core Curriculum Meeting

February 6, 2015

WHTC 103

Members Present: Patricia Cantu, Stuart Davis, Juan G. Garcia, Ray Garza, Conchita Hickey, Michael Kidd, Bede Leyendecker, Kevin Lindberg, Mark Menaldo, Paul Niemeyer, Veronica Martinez, Bernice Sanchez, Deborah Scaggs, Marivic Torregosa, Mary Trevino, Richard Wright, Marcus Ynalvez

Members Absent: Frances Bernat, Manuel Broncano, Lorraine Dinkel, Wendy Donnell, Rohitha Goonatilake, Jose Carlos Lozano, Tom Mitchell, Dan Mott, Gilberto Salinas

Approval of Minutes: D. Scaggs moved and B. Leyendecker seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion passed.

Core Assessment Timeline Update: V. Martinez reviewed the assessment matrix timeline that outlined which courses were scheduled to be assessed in 2014-2015. Most core courses were assessed for Communication with the exception of natural science and mathematics courses that chose to assess all competencies but just a few selected courses for the year. Ms. Martinez reviewed the results of assessments in Survey Monkey. One observation of concern indicated that some courses showed high percentages of Exemplary, Accomplished, and Competent ratings in Communication. K. Lindberg reminded the group that this assessment should be conducted with the continuum in mind. i.e. senior student expected performance versus entering students', not the range of performance in a particular class. He suggested that reader training needs to be conducted that clarifies this distinction.

D. Scaggs debriefed regarding the challenge of assessing oral communication skills, one of the areas that had a high percentage of high ratings. Central to this were the technological challenges of trying to capture individual oral skill sets, e.g. microphone attached to web cam did not allow for clear capture.

M. Ynalvez proposed that assessment include using a variant T score which would provide us with more reliable data. Members agreed but noted that this sort of data analysis would need the involvement of core curriculum committee members versed in this analysis. Discussion followed. V. Martinez indicated that she would report on the disaggregated data at our next meeting and that might help clarify some of the questions and identify needs.

R. Wright suggested that we develop a separate rubric for oral assessment. Consensus was that this year was a learning experience regarding implementation of the rubric. V. Martinez reminded the group that it was important to look at the results and use these to improve the assessment process. This would include an improved rubric or assessment strategy.

Proposals for New Core Courses: M. Menaldo proposed consideration of PSCI 2301 (formerly LEDR 2301) for the core which would be cross listed with LEDR 2301. He presented the course description; however, he indicated that the detailed syllabus would not be ready for review until summer. M.

Trevino reviewed the time line for University Curriculum Committee (UCC) approval which would first need to take place and indicated the cross listing needed to be included in that proposal. Once approved by the UCC, the course could be presented to the Core Curriculum Committee for consideration. Deadlines for submission of additions/deletions of core courses to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will be shared as soon as they are available.

Next Meeting: February 20th was identified as the next meeting time. K. Lindberg reminded the committee that they were the representatives for their departments and that if they were not able to come, they should send a substitute in their place since much of the information was critical for understanding and implementing the assessments and staying current with core curriculum matters.

Adjournment: C. Hickey moved and K. Lindberg seconded to adjourn. Motion passed.