

University Core Curriculum Minutes

April 26, 2013

WHTC 125

Proceedings

Members present: Carmen Bruni, Pablo Camacho, Stephen Duffy, Chris Ferguson, Rohitha Goonatilake, Conchita Hickey, Kevin Lindberg, Juan Lira, Jose Carlos Lozano, Paul Madlock, Veronica Martinez, Mark Menaldo, Tom Mitchell, Dan Mott, Philip Roberson, Deborah Scaggs, Brendan Townsend (for Bede Leyendecker), Mary Treviño, Carol Waters.

Members absent: Ray Bachnak, Manuel Broncano, Richard Wright

Guests: Pablo Arenaz, James Cohen, Rafael Romo

1. Approval of April 19, 2013 Minutes

Mary Treviño moved and Phil Roberson seconded a motion to approve the April 19, 2013 minutes. Motion passed.

2. Consideration of KINE 1152 Health and Wellness as an option in the Component Area Option Component of the 2014 Core Curriculum

Given the limitations of laboratory space, the current requirement to satisfy two Semester Credit Hours (SCHs) science labs, and the need for staff to conduct the labs, consideration was given to allowing students the option of enrolling in either a science laboratory course or KINE 1152 Health and Wellness. Subsequent discussion revealed that universities in Texas have from 6 (two 3 SCH lecture courses with no labs) to 8 (two 3 SCH lecture course and two 1 SCH lab courses) Semester Credit Hour Science requirements as part of the their core curriculum.

Although the science laboratory course and KINE 1152 were considered viable options under the new core curriculum scheduled to be implemented in the fall 2014 term, the University Core Curriculum Committee reaffirmed that students should have the opportunity to complete 6 SCH of science lecture courses and a 1 SCH laboratory course tied to one of these lecture courses. Staffing the laboratories will be easier because resources have been made available to hire the instructors needed. Furthermore, reducing the required science laboratories from 2 SCH to 1 SCH will enable all undergraduate students completing the core at TAMU to have hands-on experiences implementing the scientific method, rather than just learning about it a lecture course format. Mention was also made that since the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will allow institutions to submit requests to modify their new core curriculum annually each March, there will be ample an opportunity to modify the core curriculum, if it is deemed necessary. Subsequently, Chris Ferguson moved and Deborah Scaggs seconded a motion to leave the component area as it is presently configured. The motion passed. Juan Lira thanked Rafael Romo for his role in preparing the syllabus and Core Curriculum Request Form for KINE 1152 Health and Wellness.

3. New Business

Mary Treviño reminded everyone to review their 4-year degree plans so that they are ready for consideration in the fall 2013 by the University Curriculum Committee and subsequently for inclusion in the TAMIU catalog.

With no further business to conduct, Deborah Scaggs moved and Carol Waters seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion passed.