

Minutes of the Carolina Core (General Education) Committee Meeting

August 9, 2011

12:30-2:00 p.m.

Thomas Cooper Library

**Members Present:**

Cheryl Addy, Elise Ahyi (ex-officio), Mary Ellen Bellanca, Pam Bowers (ex officio), Mary Ann Byrnes, Kenneth Campbell, Helen Doerpinghaus (Administrative Co-Chair), Don Edwards, Kris Finnigan (ex officio), Kimberly Glenn, Janet Hudson, Carolyn Jones, Sheryl Kline, Allen Miller, Joseph Rackers (Faculty Co-Chair), Teresa Smith, Irma Van Scoy, Jerry Wallulis (ex-officio), Virginia Weathers

**Members Absent:**

Jim Burns, Stuart Hunter, Gene Luna, Phil Moore (ex-officio), Patrick Nolan (ex-officio), Susan Parlier, Peter Binev (ex-officio)

**Faculty Content Consultants Present:**

Christy Friend, Sam Hastings, Ken Kelly, George Khushf, Camelia Knapp, Doug Meade, Wiebke Strehl

**Guests:**

John Gerdes

**Handout materials:**

- Agenda
- July 12, 2011 minutes – draft
- Carolina Core Form Processing Draft (080911)
- Draft rubrics
  - o Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding (LO – foreign language)
  - o Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding (LO – social sciences)
  - o Effective, Engaged and Persuasive Oral/Spoken Communication
  - o Scientific Literacy

Helen thanked the group for working throughout the summer, and introduced Joe Rackers, Professor of Music, as the new faculty co-chair of the committee.

Kris described the process that will be used to submit proposals for approval as CC designated courses (see handout - Carolina Core Form Processing Draft (080911)). She and Elise are working with University Technology Services (UTS) to develop the online process. It will be available online as soon as final modifications are completed; all other electronic course review processes will go live on January 1.

The following comments and questions were discussed, regarding this process:

- The proponent for a new CC course designation could be an individual faculty member or curriculum chair; this is a decision that will be determined by academic departments
- When Faculty Senate approves a course for inclusion in the Carolina Core, a notice of this approval will be sent to Academic Program Liaisons (APL)
- The same review process will be used for new and existing courses.
- There will be opportunity for Informal communication among parties in the review process (CC committee members could contact the course proponent to clarify information, for example)
- The course proponent will have access to the proposal request throughout the process, so will be able to see the review and approval status
- The process will include no physical documents (although the information can be printed); rather, it is one of providing access to electronic information entered by the course proponent and stored electronically, with notifications of action taken sent to the next party as the various reviews are completed.

- CC members will be able to access course proposal information at any time.
- It would be helpful for CC to be able to access a list of courses approved, and courses in the review process (to determine whether adequate numbers of courses are available to meet student enrollment needs).
- Archetypal course syllabuses of approved courses will be posted on the CC website.

Helen said that in order to provide adequate availability of courses for student enrollment, current general education courses may be “grandfathered” in through December, 2012. Several questions were raised about this:

- Will new freshmen enrolled during this transition period be held to old or new general education requirements?
- How will Carolina Core requirements be described in the bulletin during this transition period?
- How will Carolina Core courses be identified?

After much discussion about the role of the CC committee in the CC course approval process, the following plan was suggested:

- If specialty team unanimously agrees that a proposed course should be approved for CC status, Helen or designate will provide cursory review and pass proposal to Faculty Senate for review
- If specialty team unanimously agrees that a proposed course should be denied CC status, Helen or designate will review proposal and return to course proponent for possible revision
- If specialty team is unable to reach consensus on a proposed course, Helen will bring proposal to CC committee for review

We reviewed the following rubrics, and made suggestions for revisions to specialty team chairs in attendance:

- o Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding (LO – foreign language)
- o Global Citizenship and Multicultural Understanding (LO – social sciences)
- o Scientific Literacy

We also reviewed the rubric for *Effective, Engaged and Persuasive Oral/Spoken Communication*. Since the specialty team chair was absent, the committee suggested that Helen convey the group’s concerns to the chair and agree on rubric revision. The discussion centered on the statement of recommendations regarding class size by the National Communication Association. Some indicated that this was important pedagogical information for faculty planning to propose an overlay course. Others indicated it was not appropriate to suggest class size in the syllabus. One alternative could be to more specifically define “significant number and variety of cumulative oral performances” that should be part of the course. Also, on page three of the rubric, the last paragraph in the “foundation-level course” column was perhaps intended to be placed in the “integrative-level course” column. This change would seem to more accurately align the content of these columns with statement number 3 on the first page of the rubric.

Joe asked that we send via email any additional comments or suggestions for the rubrics. The goal is to have these posted by September.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next Carolina Core meeting will be September 13, at 12:30 in Room 204 of the Thomas Cooper Library.

Submitted by Pam Bowers.