

**Core Curriculum Committee Minutes
January 22, 2010
Welty Board Room**

Members Present: Twila Alpe (Chair), Glenn Rhyne, Scott Tollison, Paul Mack, Amy Pardo, Holly Krogh, Judy Raymond (for Tammie McCoy), Joy Townsend, Gail Gunter, Cay Lollar, Eric Daffron

Members Absent: Josh Oubre

The minutes from November's meeting were approved with the following changes; writing and critical thinking results were from CAAP and the reference to the benchmark of 75% was from the 2009 commencement survey.

Twila Alpe presented the results of the recent faculty vote on the CORE. A total of 106 faculty members voted. Seventy-two or 67.9% voted yes and thirty-four or 32.1% voted no. The results were presented to Dr. Jenkins who then sent them to Dr. Limbert. Once approval is confirmed, something should be sent to the faculty. The committee felt this should come from Dr. Jenkins. A change will also need to be made in the bulletin. This must be received by Cay Lollar by mid-march in order to get it in the bulletin. This completes CCC's part of the MAG.

Eric Daffron was next on the agenda. He presented highlights of the responses from first-year students from the 2009 NSSE which had been requested in the November meeting. This assessment is given to first-time freshmen in their second semester. There were several areas under the writing and communication portion of the survey where the mean comparison is statistically significant. These results were reviewed by PIE Council in November and a recommendation was made that the committee chair, Eric Daffron, would go to groups which could develop strategies to improve writing skills by requiring more writing and writing sequences at the freshmen level. The committee asked if this was given at the first of the semester or in the middle. Eric was to check.

The next item discussed was Assessment and Alignment Protocols for Written and Oral Communication, Spring 2009. Under the Assessment protocol, the Gen ED five year assessment plan will begin with written and oral communication, which has been presented to Rita Hinton and Marty Hatton. Each of these areas will identify one common assignment in EN 300 or COM 101 for the spring 2010 semester. A random sampling of papers or speeches from the common assignment will be submitted to the CCC assessment subcommittee for scoring and tabulation of scores. This sampling will equal 25% of the students taking the course for that semester. All identifying marks on the papers or speeches will be removed. When completed, the results will be submitted to both CCC and the departments. Department chairs and faculty representatives will be invited to a CCC meeting to discuss the results and future plans. By April 30th, the English and Communication faculties should submit by to their respective CCC assessment subcommittees brief narratives explaining how EN 101/EN300 and COM 101 support GEN ED outcomes. This falls under the Alignment Protocol. Information cited does not need to refer to specific sections or instructors of the course, but rather to common elements of all sections of the course. When the departments meet with CCC to discuss the assessment results, they will also discuss their alignment narratives. During this time, Cay Lollar reminded the group that there are some 300 courses which

are not vetted. Some of the faculty is using the core curriculum checklist for advising and these courses are listed. Cay Lollar will send an email to Twila Alpe of the courses in question. Since advising begins March 10th, this item will be a topic of discussion for the February meeting.

Eric Daffron shared with the group that General Education should have a SMART plan just as other areas have. CCC set a target of 70% for Achievement Targets 1a, writing assessment, and 1b speech assessment.

The final topic discussed was the commencement survey. The number of surveys given during this time has increased, and the students seem to resent this. This is a busy day for them. It was felt that if this survey could be done on-line, the students might be more inclined to participate. Class climate has not been renewed, however Cay told the group Banner has survey capability which is currently not being used. At this point a motion was made by Cay Lollar that the commencement survey be administered online and if unsuccessful, the process would be reassessed. A second was made by Paul Mack. The committee approved the motion.

The meeting was adjourned until Friday, February 5th.