THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA

MINUTES

Core Curriculum Oversight Committee
11:30 am – 1:00 pm Friday, November 14, 2014
254 Rose

1. Approval of Minutes from September 5th

No additions, deletions or corrections identified. Minutes were approved.

2. Review of Process and Other Administrative Updates

(a) KWhitaker discussed the online review system. Database updates must be done manually by OIRA staff and, at times, this can cause delays in information appearing to the subcommittees. A representative from the software company that supplies UA with the campus' course inventory system will be visiting in December and will investigate creating a CCOC review system that will be closely coupled with the course inventory system allowing for easy exchange of information. (b) KWhitaker discussed the CCOC Guidelines Document. Different versions have been found in various OAA files and also in Faculty Senate archives. KWhitaker is working with the Academic Affairs committee of the Faculty Senate to identify the correct version of the guidelines document. (c) KWhitaker discussed the process for temporary core designations - such requests are reviewed by the discipline subcommittee and decisions are made there, not OAA. (d) BHunter informed the committee that the list of courses up for review this academic year has been updated.

3. Reports from Subcommittees and Next Steps

All subcommittees reported that work had begun on reviews. Some courses were already available for full committee review/voting.

4. Issue Bin

KWhitaker reviewed issue bin items with the committee. Core/Gen Ed assessment continues to be a concern as it relates to our upcoming SACSCOC reaffirmation. A report from the off-site team revising UA's compliance documentation is expected later this month. Luke Niiler pointed out that we still need a W-subcommittee chair as he will be on sabbatical in the spring.

5. New Business

(a) The committee discussed "Special Topics" courses, especially those submitted by the Honors College. The discussion centered on what was being approved: the specific topic in a given semester or an over-arching template for the course governing topics to be taught. KWhitaker took as an action item to meet with Honors College Dean Shane Sharpe and discuss the matter. (b) Some committee discussion ensued about modifying the W review criteria. The W-subcommittee will discuss further and bring a proposal to the full CCOC at a later date. (c) There was concern that the student members of the CCOC could not access the online system to conduct their reviews and vote. KWhitaker and BHunter will follow-up with OIRA.