

## **Core Curriculum Oversight Committee**

**February 7, 2020**

**11:30am – 1:00pm**

**NERC 1012**

*Attendees: Cory Armstrong (chair), Ginger Bishop, Allison Curington, Abigail Gorbett, Mary Ellen Hanna, Will Henson, Josh Little, Katie Lupica-Ewsuk, Lorraine Madway, Donna Meester, Joyce Meyer, Morgan Milstead, Mercy Mumba, Ariane Prohaska, Kenneth Ricks, Lawrence Roberts, Rachel Stephens, Daniel Strickland, Stephen Tedeschi, Susan Williams, Keith Williams Derek Williamson*

*Members Not in Attendance: Jeremy Bailin, W. Ross Bryan, Sterling Dozier, Kari Frederickson, Robert Hayes, Regina Range, Sam Rickert, Jonathan Shemwell, Nicole Swoszowski, Chris Whaley*

*Guests: Russ Lamoureux (Minutes)*

### **1. Welcome from Cory Armstrong**

- a. Cory begins the meeting. She shares the news that all the courses the Committee needs to review for the year are in, so all committee members need to look in their queue and review what has been assigned to them.
- b. Next month's meeting on March 6 has been moved to G-55 Rose.

### **2. Approval of Minutes from January Meeting**

- a. The January 10, 2020 minutes were approved with a motion by Lorraine Madway and a second by Joyce Meyer.
- b. Motion was approved by all members present with no abstentions

### **3. CORE Reviews Update**

- a. Katie Lupica-Ewsuk updates the committee about the current CORE reviews.
  - i. All departments that needed review are past the chair step. There are currently 38 courses in the subcommittee portal for review.
  - ii. There are still a handful of courses at the Dean step, however these are new or changed courses so they are not as urgent.

### **4. Update on Issue of Graduate Courses With Core Designations**

- a. Following up on the committee's discussion from last month, Cory Armstrong brings some updates on the graduate committee's discussion.
  - i. The Graduate Policy subcommittee is currently reviewing this issue.
  - ii. The CCOC committee will continue with reviews as normal, and the graduate subcommittee will work on this issue of core designations for now.

## **5. Freshman Composition Template Update Proposal**

- a. Morgan Milstead brings an update on the freshman comp template after meeting with Luke and the freshman comp department.
  - i. She shared that the department knows that the template needed revisions and is trying to change it in a way that will capture where the field is going.
  - ii. They have reduced the template from 14 down to 8 attributes.
  - iii. Points one through five on the new template will be learning outcomes and should be on every syllabus. These will be checkpoints for the committee to make sure is reflected in each class. They worked with STARS and other education committees to try and capture where the field is going.
  - iv. Points six and seven are “check the box” issues that will need to be verified by the department chair. There is some concern over limiting the class size to 22.
  - v. Point eight is the biggest issue up for discussion. It says that courses should have four writing assignments (down from six) totaling 6500 words or the equivalent.
    - 1. Students could write scripts, podcasts, memoirs, etc- but there needs to be four main assignments.
    - 2. This is an arbitrary number. All of the freshman comp courses are writing intensive and will have many more daily or weekly assignments.
    - 3. The question was asked: who decides what the equivalent is? This leaves it up to interpretation. Derek Williamson suggests taking off the 6500 words part.
    - 4. Freshman comp is specific but writing is discipline wide, so there needs to be room for different students. The committee needs to look at the old template and the new template while considering the courses they are reviewing, and take a vote next month.
    - 5. Kenneth Ricks says that while some of the “radio button issues” are attached to arbitrary numbers, they are there for a matter of consistency.
  - vi. Stephen Tedeschi, the assistant chair for the English department, says that for scheduling purposes leaving the number of students per class at 24 would be the best.

## **6. Final Thoughts**

- a. Natural sciences is the next big template up for review so the committee should prepare for that.
- b. The General Education task force is continuing to meet and will try to present an update in the next committee meeting.

***The CCOC will meet on March 6, 2020 in GR-55 Rose.***