

General Education Curriculum and Planning Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Meeting called to order: 2:08 p.m. in GHH 301.

**Attendees:**

Bender, Paul (WTNG)	Fenske, Gail (AAHP)	Jacobs, Jason (ex officio)	Pasquarelli, Susan (SED)	<i>[NO REP]</i> (MNS)
Bosco, Sue (At-Large) [by phone]	Hall, Michael (SJS)	Koelle, Ruth (Math)	Ruocco, Tony (SECCM)	
Cutting, Al (GSB)	Hawkes, Catherine (CAS-HPA)	McMullen, Sue (Lib)	Spritz, Becky (CAS-SS)	

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the October 27th meeting:

- Motion to Approve: Bender Second: Bosco
- Discussion of the Motion: None
- Motion is: Approved
- E-Vote: 6-0-1 (12/02/2015)

Motion to Approve the Academic Standards Petition for C. Stephens

- Motion approve: Pasquarelli Second: Bosco
- Discussion of the Motion: none
- Motion is: Approved
- E-Vote: 7-0-0 (12/02/20015)
- Bender sent notification to Dean Jacobs

Adria Updike is on a different committee this semester; we will seek a replacement from MNS.

Other elections will be arranged soon for those whose term is up this year.

Pasquarelli and Hawkes will be on sabbatical in fall – need replacement for the semester.

**New Business**

**1. CORE 101 Revisions (Wysor)**

(Wysor unable to attend.)

- Motion to Approve: Bosco
- Second: McMullen
- Discussion of the Motion: Discussion of how lab and lecture are related – no longer “confirmation” labs with assigned experiments with predetermined outcomes; instead students will do their own investigations and do their own validity testing.

- Any problem with adding subtitles on-line? Course web pages should be up by advising time – space for additional details. This model offers students more choice within the Core; gives them more info than time and “hardness” on which to base choices.
- Will there still be a more generic version in case a last-minute section needs to be added? Core 101 faculty, including adjunct rep, have been working together closely; shouldn’t be a problem.
- Could other courses (102-105) utilize subtitles as well to indicate faculty strengths/interests? Natural growth from use of learning outcomes.
- Motion is: Approved.
- Vote: 9-0.

## **2. Roger Seminar Update (Jacobs/Bosco)**

We have about 14 applications to offer first-year Roger Seminars.

- Lots of variety in proposals – both CAS and other schools, both full- and part-time.
- Ten sections of the pilot Roger Seminar in Fall 2016. Will be developing common curriculum (about 1/3 of course) and collecting materials over summer; Core outcomes will also be incorporated. Should evolve into more individualized sections (a la new Core 101).
- Need to resolve issue of where the 3 credits will fit in after year.
- Need commitment from full-time faculty to offer a high-quality “first contact” experience with college.
- Would there be other themes for first-year seminar in future (other than Roger Williams)? Importance of Roger Williams to the institution (Vision Project Preamble); success of work with Brazilian students in learning local history (“walking classroom”); way to brand the university, retention considerations.
- Other than Honors students, where will other freshmen come from for the pilot? Will work on over summer (before orientation).
- How will assessment happen to ensure courses are mapped to Core outcomes? Through Unit Committees. Can be part of assessment discussions in general.

## **3. Academic Standards Petition: M. Bauer**

- Motion to Approve: Cutting.
- Second: Pasquarelli.
- Discussion of the Motion: Issues regarding accurate advising, making sure faculty are informed about Core requirements. Does advisor have any responsibility if student has acted on inaccurate advising? (Long list of seniors this semester who will not be finished due to Core problems.) Students also sometimes do not register for what was agreed on with advisor. Why were signature lines removed from the program planning sheet? Used to be able to describe it as a “contract” between advisor and student.
- Motion is: Approved.

- Vote: 12-0

#### 4. **Old Business: Core Concentrations**

Need to resolve Core Concentration guideline issues ASAP.

- Need to decide if we are going to keep current structure or not in order to proceed.
- Designed to provide depth in an area outside the major (not to “broaden”), but “depth” has never been defined...
- Complaints from students regarding overlap between major and 100-level Cores; could the majors related to 102, 103, 104 also be allowed a substitution (as for 101 and 105)? 101 now is very different from major science courses. 105 substitution was controversial.
- None of the 100-levels should duplicate any course in the major. Further diversifying the focus of each of the courses would also ensure less overlap.
- Difficulty for smaller department that depend on CC/minor for enrollment if a course were eliminated.
- Important to involve stakeholders (departments that depend on CC). Need to consider program needs seriously, but need for CC to support programs is not part of discussion of how to provide the best general education program. Rethink – how to bridge FYS and senior seminar in the best way that doesn’t disadvantage programs?
- We will return to Jacobs’ original proposal next meeting. (Still posted on Bridges.) Please review in terms of Core program outcomes. Lack of focus now on integration of knowledge outcome except in senior seminar.

Also need to resolve classroom space issue for Roger Seminar.

Motion to adjourn: Fenske; seconded: Pasquarelli

Approved 12-0

Adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Hawkes