

## University Core Curriculum Council

April 26, 2021 1:00 – 2:00 pm MINUTES

**Present:** Reid Weber, Jennifer Foster, Tawni Holmes, Sam Ladwig, Liliana Renteria Mendoza, Adrienne Wright, John Wood, Sarah Combs, Samantha Kramer, Scott Williams, Heather Peck, Gang Xu, Nora Gayzur, Rosa Bird, Stan Adamiak, Linh Pham, Liz Lane-Harvard

**Absent:** Shonna Covin, Manoshi Samaraweera, Leslie Simily, Clark Ovrebo, Jennifer Flygare

### 1. Welcome

Liz Lane-Harvard called the meeting to order.

### 2. Approval of minutes from the April 19th meeting

Minutes were approved.

### 3. Review Proposal 124R

It was noted via email that it might be nice if Blueprint had flexible credits – 2 or 3 – depending upon a department's needs. It was pointed out that no courses within the Core have flexible credits.

It was mentioned by many members that they appreciate the credit reduction and the 1000-level move.

In the last meeting, the provost addressed credits, course levels, & HLC requirements. Some concessions were given based on the UCC's original review. We also now know that Success Central will no longer be offered. Right now, waivers will be signed, as opposed to overruling UCC's vote to not add Blueprint to the Core. This does add more work for Dr. Simmons.

Blueprint has been approved as a course. The UCC is charged with determining whether it should be added to the Core or not.

However, the UCC still has concerns.

- Why is it categorized as Liberal Arts within Life Skills? That may not fit with all departments.
- Blueprint is not a course; it's a program. Are we going to review all 20 sections for the fall? We cannot have oversight over that many courses. We have a template. We don't have a syllabus for each course offering. These details need to be worked out first.
  - Do we approve each individual syllabus?

- If CLA is doing this as separate departments, we should have seen separate proposals for each?
- Is there Success Central for XXX? Or is Success Central the same for all? Blueprint is for XXX. One form doesn't work for 20 different classes.
- Success Central has the same course description, SLOs, etc. Blueprint courses seem like they won't have that. They'll be discipline specific.
- If Blueprint is added to the Core, Blueprint to XXX syllabi will be reviewed within XXX's college. However, colleges didn't review the Blueprint proposal.
- Is there a policy that if it is listed as a Core course, it has to be available to any student?
  - It was noted that any student could take Blueprint for XXX, even if it isn't in their discipline.
- Will Blueprint be listed as a single course, like Success Central? The way the proposal is written, it doesn't seem that way. There could be 50 different courses, expanding the Life Skills section of the Core significantly.
  - It was noted that in the fall, the Blueprint courses will be listed as one course , with different sections pertaining to different disciplines.

There are also generic UCC philosophic concerns to be address:

- We've said before we don't want major specific courses, but we do have some, like math for engineers. What should the core really be? Why don't we do what we say we should do?
- Is one of our jobs to manage the size of the Core? Reviewing a large Core adds more syllabi reviews for us on the backend.
- It's hard to get Core courses added through our own colleges.
- Are we allowed to approve programs?

It was recounted that when Core courses were rejected under Provost Barthell, we were told not to worry about the size of the Core. However, HLC hit us two cycles ago for the Core being too big. We don't know where we are now.

It was reemphasized that we need to consider the difference between 2 and 3 credits. If we vote no now, the course was approved as a 3-credit 2000-level course and waivers will be given. If the UCC votes yes today, the new proposal will go to AACC to review on Wednesday. A 3-hour course eliminates the 1-hour Core courses. The UCC is not to consider teaching loads. A benefit for voting yes today is that we guarantee Blueprint is a 2-hour 1000-level course. If the UCC votes no, it's assumed we'll see it again in the fall.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on whether Blueprint should be added to the Core:

3 votes (via email) were in favor of adding Blueprint to the Core

8 votes were against added Blueprint to the Core

As a follow up discussion, committee members would like to know if the UCC could get more direction from Dr. Simmons with what the UCC's charge is. It was also noted that as proposals are being drafted, it would be mutually beneficial to meet with those drafting the proposals

4. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 1:56 pm