

**Cardinal Core Curriculum Committee
Meeting of April 10, 2020, 2:30 p.m. (virtual meeting)**

Minutes

Attending: Barrow, Baumgartner, Beattie, Bertacco, Collins, Detmering, French, Fuselier, Hammash, Koenig, Land, Lewis, Libe, Mansfield-Jones, Olinger, K. Partin, W. Partin, Patton, Perry, Pinkston, Riedel, Seif, Singleton, Shanahan, Walker, Willey, Woosley

Absent: Beattie, D'Silva,

Membership

French welcomed everyone and thanked members whose term ends this May. Unless serving an additional term, outgoing members include:

- Mark French (Engineering)
- Robert Detmering (Libraries)
- Scott Patton (CEHD)
- Simona Bertacco (A&S **Humanities Rep**)
- Reese Land (Music)
- Armon Perry (Social Work)

Those serving one-year terms include:

- Jennifer Mansfield-Jones (**A&S Curriculum Committee rep** to be replaced in August)
- Sabrina Collins (to be replaced by Ben Barbarie)
- Carter Woosley (replacement pending; must be from a different academic unit than Barbarie)

***ACTION:** Carden will contact the deans so that they can begin thinking about replacements. Perry and Patton indicated that they are willing to continue on the committee.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 14, 2020, were approved.

***ACTION:** Carden will post the minutes to the Cardinal Core web site.

Cardinal Core Course Listing

The updated 2020-2021 listing of approved Cardinal Core courses has been posted to the web site and distributed to advisors. This March 27 version includes two new courses (PHEH 101, coded S, and BUS 202/MKT 202, coded SB) that were reviewed by the Course Proposal Subcommittee. The CSE 120 course proposal for QR credit was denied.

Update on SB and SBH Assessment

Shanahan gave an overview of the SB and SBH assessment, conducted in March. It involved the assessment of the highest number of artifacts to date, using CT, WC, and Intercultural Knowledge and Competence rubrics. There were struggles with using the VALUES rubric for the diversity assessment because it was designed more for Global Diversity (D2) rather than U.S. Diversity (D1)

experiences. Consequently, this accounts for many of the “not applicable” scorings. D1 and especially D2 courses significantly outperformed courses without a diversity designation. A more in-depth explanation of the differences between D1 and D2 scores (especially in certain departments) will be included in the final report. The rubric is a factor more so than student performance. Also, diversity component criteria and course assignment guidelines were not clearly written in some cases.

Another challenge was how students identify sources and evidence. Detmering asked how this would be addressed. Shanahan said that she and Willey met with one department, approaching it as “an area of potential growth”. There was an “ah hah” moment for them. Going forward, the Cardinal Core Office will continue to work with faculty, communicating the results and reflecting on what is considered a good source for specific assignments. For example, a student had referenced Wikipedia, but according to the assignment it was ok since the student was not writing a scholarly paper. Shanahan will also inform faculty in advance about what areas will be assessed and the rubrics that will be used. With greater faculty understanding, results should improve.

A change is being made to the assessment time line to give faculty more breathing space in the midst of Coronavirus transitions. Both WC and NS courses (one of the smaller assessments) will be conducted in Fall 2020, and OC will be assessed in Spring 2021.

Reviewers liked the on-line training provided by AAC&U because it was more structured and direct on how to apply the rubrics. Reviewers practiced scoring during the training and could ask questions. Inter-reliability comparisons were run and, overall, it looked better in part due to the shift in training.

***ACTION:** Shanahan will share a more comprehensive written report by the end of the semester.

First-year Students and 300-Level Cardinal Core Courses

Willey reported that advisors are saying that students are having a hard time in 300-level general education courses. However, she only has raw numbers, not comparative numbers. Fuselier commented that without comparisons with lower-level courses and distribution comparisons with DFW rates, one cannot determine what is high for a DFW.

***ACTION:** Willey will request more data and do some checking on evidence.

Meta Majors Work Session

Willey thanked Shanahan for setting up the Meta Majors work flow channels in the following five categories (narrowed down at the last meeting). Members for each working group were identified.

- **Business/Administration**
(Koenig, Libe, K. Partin, Pinkston, Shanahan)
- **Creative and Performing Arts**
(Bertacco, Land, Olinger, Walker, Willey, Woosley)
- **Science and the Physical World**
(French, Fuselier, Lewis, Mansfield-Jones, Riedel, Seif)
- **Service and Helping Professions**
(Baumgartner, Hammash, Patton, Perry, Singleton)

■ Social Sciences

(Barrow, Beattie, Collins, D'Silva, Detmering, Pinkston, W. Partin)

Willey asked the members to **select and highlight (in color) 10-15 courses that they thought would fit best in each category**, working column by column using the spreadsheet of all Cardinal Core courses (found under FILES). The committee was asked to choose the strongest affiliation or most significant courses that might be required down the road for specific majors (e.g., Biology vs. Physics for pe-med students). Per French, these selections will serve as a guide, rather than constraint, for students. Although course titles are clues, the course catalog is a helpful resource. Additionally, **definitions** for each theme/category are needed under tab 1.

Shanahan pointed out that the D1 and D2 courses were collapsed into the AH, SB, and SBH categories.

***ACTION:** For the assignments, it was recommended that a coordinator for each group be identified. Responses are requested **by May 11**.

Spring 2020 Meetings

The final meeting of the semester was set for May 15, 2020.

Prepared by Kathy Carden