

University of Central Arkansas, Core Council
Minutes for 7 Apr. 2015

ATTENDANCE (aa = advised absent)

Chairs

T. Rogers (Bus) – aa; C. Smitherman (FAC); J. Allender (NSM); W. Lucas (LA) – aa; M. Harlan (HBS);
K. Atkins (ED)

College Reps

J. McGarrity (Bus) – aa; R. Gatlin-Watts (BUS); S. Gatto (HBS); K. Eskola (HBS); D. Welky (LA);
K. Knox (LA); P. Phelps (ED); D. Barnes (ED); C. Watson (NSM) – absent;
Z. Gomez-Kramer (NSM) – aa; L. Bowles (FAC); K. Mattson (FAC); L. Bowles (FAC); C. Olds (UC); P. Smith
(Honors) - aa

Student Reps

John Hardin (Alpha Chi);
Zach Helms (SGA) – absent

Ex-Officio

Kurt Boniecki (Assoc. Provost for Instructional Support)
Renee LeBeau-Ford (Director of the Library) – absent
Becky Rasnick (Registrar)

Visitor

Amy Baldwin

J. Held, UCA Core Director presiding

Call to Order @ 1:40 pm

OLD BUSINESS

Action Items

Approval of Minutes from 3.3.15

- Motion raised and seconded to approve 3.3.15 minutes; unanimously approved

Curriculum Committee Reports

- Curriculum Committee I: HIST 4314; PHIL 4320
- PHIL 4320: Committee recommends that the proposal for PHIL 4320 (with revised diversity language/assignment) be approved
- HIST 4314: Committee recommends that the proposal for HIST 4314 (also conforming with new rubric language) be approved
- Vote: Unanimous to accept Curriculum Committee I's recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Action Items

Syllabi Language

- J. Held explained that he revised the logos and language for both Lower-Division and Upper-Division Core and FYS courses. Following up, J. Held argued that it's important that students receive a clear and consistent presentation of syllabi language from faculty. Discussion ensued.
- Friendly amendment: Dr. Held offers the following amendment: The resolution from the core council will read that courses in the core must include language in their

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syllabi indicating the course's placement in the core as well as the core website link. The proffered language is merely suggested.

- Vote: All in favor save one dissenting. Resolution passes.

Removal of Restriction on FYS Courses and Remediation

- Discussion ensued about the First-Year Writing sequence in relation to the university's FYS courses.
- K. Boniecki explained that the goal is to create a positive view among students that the university will be supportive of them as they work through FYS courses. More discussion ensued. K. Boniecki mentioned big initiative called "15 to Finish" (i.e., the goal of having all students take 15 credits per semester) because of the problems of students that are struggling to fall more and more behind if they are taking less than 15 hours. A. Baldwin responded that a lot of the challenges transitional students tend to face actually emerge from a lack of time-management skills. More discussion ensued.
- Motion raised and seconded to remove restriction on FYS Courses and Remediation. Motion passes unanimously.

Consideration of Revised Curriculum Forms

- J. Held noted that revised curriculum forms are ready for discussion.
- J. Boniecki explained that the language will be looked at more closely across the university
- Discussion ensued

Meeting adjourned @ 2:48 pm