

Minutes

University of Central Arkansas UCA Core Council

Tuesday, April 3rd, 2018

1:40 p.m. – Library Conference Room, LIB 206

- I. Call to Order
 - 1. Dr. Held called the meeting to order at 1:42 (The clock was slow, Wendy!)
- II. Consideration of Minutes for March 6th, 2018
 - 1. Dr. Lucas moves to approve the minutes; Ms. Sophie Barnes Seconds
 - 2. No discussion.
 - 3. Approved unanimously.
- III. Assessment Sub-Committee
 - 1. Report from Chair, Dr. Held
 - a. Contacted RL Faculty
 - b. Communication Sessions
 - c. Assessment Presentation
 - d. Chair Questionnaire has gone out
- IV. Curriculum Sub-Committee
 - 1. Report from Chair, Dr. Lucas
 - a. Action Item:
 - 1. NURS 4510: Dr. Lucas makes the motion to approve, Dr. Clark seconds.
No discussion. Approved unanimously
 - 2. PHIL 3360 : Dr. Lucas makes the motion to approve, Dr. Clark seconds. No discussion. Approved unanimously.
 - 3. HONP 1300 (Now USCH 1300): With slight revisions. Removed the request to be designated as an FYS course. Dr. Lucas makes the motion to approve, Dr. Clark seconds. No discussion. Approved Unanimously.
 - 4. LLLC (Correction to agenda. This proposal is an Info item, so no action needed)
- V. FYS Sub-Committee
 - 1. Report from Chair, Dr. Held
 - a. Dr. Held solicits feedback from the Council on FYS courses/concerns
 - 1. Distribution of FYS courses noted as a concern. How many do we need to offer, can we coordinate offerings so we don't have either too few in some areas or too many in others where we are left with many sections that aren't full. Can the distribution be coordinated?
 - 2. FYS courses also need to be clearly indicated in banner and the catalog so students can easily identify which sections of which courses are FYS when they are registering. It was the belief of some that a script is run and courses with the FYS attribute (1F01) are given a parenthetical (FYS) to their course title. Dr. Held will follow up with Dr. Jonathan Glenn to verify.

3. When it comes to productivity, namely, calculating SSCH, FYS courses should be seen as equivalent contributions to the university even though they are capped at 25, as opposed the usual 35.

VI. Curriculum Forms and Handbook

1. Revised Form (Draft) distributed

- a. Discussion: Language suggested to indicate that a syllabus is only needed if the course being proposed to be in the Core is an extant course. Otherwise, a new course proposal form would have all the relevant information on it. Dr. Held will make revisions to the draft and bring it back to the May 1st meeting for a vote.

VII. Director's Proposal: Cease and Desist of consideration of all LD Core course proposals for the indefinite future. Discussion. Resolution to be voted on in May.

1. Discussion: Dr. Held iterated his major motivation behind this move which is to bring a coherent structure to the LD Core. Currently the LD Core changes every semester with courses being added and moved around. This is not only messy, but indicates a lack of coherence in terms of educational outcomes for each of the areas of the LD Core. Currently, given the fluid nature of the Core as well as the fact that all previous gen ed courses were grandfathered in with little to no oversight, the categories are loose agglomerations of courses with little or no family resemblance. Thus, it is impossible to articulate what it is that courses under a common category heading share or offer students in terms of a common educational experience. Since this is the intent of the Core in general, the situation needs to be remedied. Thus, Dr. Held proposes that the Core Council cease considering additions to the LD Core until the full curriculum of the LD Core can be audited with respect to the educational outcomes and standards of the UCA Core as articulated in the UCA Core handbook. The audit will begin with responsible living, which is currently under consideration by the assessment sub-committee as per the assessment schedule articulated in the Core assessment plan. Once that category is audited to the satisfaction of the Core Council, the council will re-open it to consider new proposals as they arise. The audit will then proceed in the same manner as the assessment cycle, moving next to diversity, then communication, and finally critical inquiry. Each category will be reopened as it is successfully audited along this schedule.

2. Discussion ensued. Dr. Held will bring this for a vote at the May 1st meeting

VIII. Questions and Concerns

IX. Adjournment: Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 1st, 2018