

General Education Council
Minutes
February 15, 2016

Members Present: Jeremy Tost, Mark Smith, Byron Brown, Tod Leavitt, Jane Kinney, Aubrey Fowler, Lai Orenduff, Kammi Painter

Members Absent: Teri Taylor

Guests: Keith Warburg
Meg Giddings

- Approval of minutes
- Old Business:
 - a. CORE Web Page: Committee decided that a new and better interactive web page for the Core Curriculum would help make the Core more relevant for our students. Our students have not understood the importance of the Core classes and they have not seen the inter-connectedness between AREAS A-E.
 1. Keith talked about new drop-down menus and the appeal of adding graphics or pictures. Suggested that Creative Services would be willing to provide an example with the new content and re-wording. They have a template that they can easily adapt to our needs.
 2. Re-wording or re-packaging of the different areas would also make it more useful. We discussed suggestions from Mark, Jane, Jeremy, and Lai. By using phrasing that our students can understand will help them see the reasons for the CORE classes.
 3. A decision on the names and content of the different CORE areas will be made at a later meeting.
- New Business:
 1. Meg Giddens informed us about the new online curriculum offerings and the different approaches in delivery including competency-based programming, open education, SMART Core and our own CORE classes. Courses scheduled to debut this fall include POLS 1101, ENGL 1101, MATH 1111, SPAN 1001 and SPAN 1102, and PSYC 1101. BIOL 1010/1020L will be in the next phase. The emphasis is on personalized learning and choice.
 2. Viewing of the new CORE video by Christine James and Deb Robson. Visuals are one of the best ways to inform students, and the use of these videos talk about

the content of the CORE classes in a way that engages the students. Plans are in place to include other CORE classes, and these videos will be available for faculty or student use.

3. TIES Conference: Panel – *Core Matters: It Really Does!* Wednesday, 12 Noon, February 17th, Student Union Theatre. This is a panel made up of faculty, staff, and students who talk about the importance of the CORE classes from their viewpoint.

Panelists included:

Dr. Viki Soady, Professor Latin, and Department Head, Department of Modern and Classical Languages (Moderator)

Dr. John Dunn, Professor of History, Department of History

Dr. Tolulope Salami, Associate Professor of Chemistry, Department of Chemistry

Mr. Mark McNalley, Assistant Director for Residence Life

Ms. Tamelonie Thomas, Interdisciplinary Program, Honors Program

Ms. Hannah-Gio Hansberry, Interdisciplinary Program

Mr. Rickey Hooks, Interdisciplinary Program.