

University Undergraduate Core Committee

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

VH room 219

11am – 1pm

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Ellen Crowell, Jay Haegen, Judy Geczi, Jordan Glassman, Bryan Sokol, Gary Barker, Steve Sanchez, Anne McCabe (remote), Bill Rehg, Jennifer Rust, Kelly Lovejoy (remote), Ness Sandoval, Ellen Carnaghan, Kim Druschel, Ryan McCulla, Filippo Marsili, Christopher Thomas, Michael Swartwout, Joseph Nichols, Kyle Crews, Lauren Arnold, Margaret Bultas, Ginge Kettenbach, Peggy Dotson, Louise Neiman, Laura Rettig

1. Call to Order and Announcements

- AAC&U Opportunity – Washington DC, January 22-25, 2020
- Billiken's Basketball game opportunity – Tuesday, November 5th
- UCC retreat, hosted by SLU Mission and Identity—planning for early February 2020.
- Conversation with President Pestello and Provost Dr. Gillis on Wednesday, November 6th in the Sinquefeld State Room in Dubourg Hall from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

2. Discussion: Core presentation in St. Louis and Madrid

- UCC delivered 25 Common Core Proposal presentations between 10/2 and 10/18, including eight on the SLU-Madrid campus.
- Areas where we are hearing questions now:
 - Need for inclusion of Foreign Languages
 - Need for exemption for 2nd degree accelerated programs
 - Presence / amount of Jesuit Catholic content in Core Proposal
 - Campus split on too much / not enough disciplinary academic content
 - Proposed committee structure: too cumbersome?
 - Budgetary support for the Proposed Core
 - Room for flexibility in Core for professional programs?
 - Concerns about how proposed Core will alter flow of students through colleges / departments / courses (request for modeling)
 - Concern that proposed Core needs to be accompanied by a commitment from the administration to commit new faculty lines for delivery in some areas
 - Concern that Core and Academic Portfolio Review are inextricably bound together

3. Proposed Core Budget

UCC worked with Provost to get a preliminary budget approved for new spending on Core curriculum. Faculty are asking to see this budget for spending on the Core. UCC discussed how and when to present the budget.

4. Upcoming Core Conversation with Drs. Pestello and Gillis (11/6 @ 4:30-5:30pm)

UCC discussed this upcoming open forum, and what kinds of questions we feel the President / Provost might get and should be prepared to answer from the University community.

- What are the HLC pressures on the Core timeline?
- What is the approved Core Budget and is it fully supported?
- Is the administration committed to further budgetary support once we see how the core creates greater demand in certain departments to deliver this curriculum?
- What is the relationship between the Core initiative and Academic Portfolio Review?

- What happens if this fails?
5. Adjourn