

Yearend committee report for Core Review Committee

Chairs: Andy Seitz (School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences)

Margaret Short (College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics)

Members:

College of Liberal Arts:

Burns Cooper, English (17)

Brian Kassof, Social Sciences (16)

Yelena Matusevich, Humanities (16)

Kevin Sager, Communication (CLA 16)

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics:

Margaret Short, Math (17) CoChair

Lawrence Duffy, Science (16)

Library:

Katherine Arndt, LIB (17)

At-Large:

Andy Seitz, SFOS CoChair

Unit Core Assessment:

Tony Rickard, CNSM

Kevin Berry, SOM

Ex Officio:

Provost's Council Rep: Marsha Sousa

Office of Admissions and Registrar: Caty Oehring, Hayley Williams

Academic Advising Center: Ginny Kinne, Bobbi Jensen

Rural Student Services: Gabrielle Russell

Victoria Smith: Student Support Services (added in April 2016)

Summary of activities:

The Core Review Committee met nine times during AY-2015 (five times during fall semester, four times during spring semester). The main activities of the Core Review Committee were reviewing:

1. Petitions to add "W", "O" or "O/2" designators to courses on an individual course basis
2. Petitions to have transfer courses count towards a core requirement (X)
3. Petitions to allow low scores in courses and CLEP exams (<50) count toward core requirements
4. Petition to waive "W", "O" or "O/2" requirement for
5. Requests to permanently attach "W", "O" or "O/2" designators to courses
6. Requests to list a course in baccalaureate core (X)

Type	Approve	Deny	Deny, send to Provos	Withdrawn	Total
Petition Add "W", "O" or "O/2" on individual course basis	21			1	22
Transfer course to count as core requirement (X)	4	3	3	2	12
Allow low scores in courses/CLEP count for core	2				2

In addition to reviewing course request and petitions, the committee discussed current and future practices, which are summarized:

1. Review of Core Curriculum Review Committee bylaws. The Committee decided to shelve any discussion of modifying the bylaws until at least next year, when there is a clearer picture of what the GERs and Communications Learning Outcomes are, and how they relate to the function of the Core Curriculum Review Committee.
2. Review of meeting procedures, specifically, are meetings open, closed, or closed- this discussion stemmed from a meeting in Spring 2015 when a UAF faculty member attended a Core Review Committee meeting and did not leave during the voting for a petition that he signed. The Core Review Committee discussed how to conduct meetings where students want to attend and we agreed upon the following guidelines:
 - a. Meetings are open to students and/or representative(s) of that student who signed the student's petition that will be discussed.
 - b. The student and/or his/her representative will only be allowed to attend the meeting when the respective student's petition is being discussed. In other words, the student and/or his/her representative will not be allowed to hear proceedings for other petitions on which his/her name is not listed.
 - c. The student and/or his/her representative will only be allowed to answer questions posed by the committee (i.e., they will not have an open floor to "pitch" the petition), and will have a maximum of three minutes to do so.
 - d. The Core Review Committee reserves the right to table the petition at any time during the discussion of any petition.
3. Changes to GERs. The committee was frequently updated on two main changes to GERs, by both staff and the Chair of Curricular Affairs Committee. These changes are:
 - a. Replace Oral (O) and Written (W) requirement with the requirement that each degree program must satisfy Communications Learning Outcomes within the degree program.
 - b. Replace the current Perspectives on the Human Condition with general education requirements that follow a "bucket approach." The bucket approach still has general education areas that need to be met, but they may be met by a wide variety of courses.
4. Given the change in GERs, the future roles of Core Review Committee. The committee will still have several roles, including:
 - a. The Committee will review O and W designator petitions for students using older catalog years.
 - b. The committee will review requests for inclusion of courses in the bucket core requirements, such as requests to have new courses meet natural sciences or mathematics core requirements.
 - c. The committee will review petitions from students requesting non-designated courses (non X courses) to meet core requirements.
 - d. The committee will review requests for inclusion of courses in the new "bucket list" of criteria for inclusion in a bucket will be used for evaluating requests (see appendix).
 - e. The committee will do an annual review to check whether courses in the bucket are offered annually. If not, letters will be sent to department chairs to check on the planned offerings of the course. If a course in a bucket is not offered for one year, the committee will seek to have the course removed from the bucket.

