

Academic Council – Student Core Competencies Subcommittee
May 18, 2012

Agenda

- I. Review timelines for implementation of new state-wide core curriculum
- II. Review & revise ESCR instrument for documentation of the achievement of General Education Outcomes.

Minutes

The Student Core Competencies Subcommittee met May 18, 2012 in Abilene while attending the 2012 Cisco College Core Curriculum Conference. Members present included Gary Don Harkey (Chair), Joe Johnston, Karen Gragg, Roxie Hill, and Criquet Lehman.

Timelines for the implementation of the new core curriculum were reviewed and discussed. It was noted that the process for revising the core curriculum as made necessary by THECB mandate, should be a faculty driven process. It was agreed that a Core Curriculum Task Force, composed primarily of academic faculty members representing disciplines contained in the 8 Foundational Component Areas, be appointed effective Fall 2012, and charged with bringing forth recommendations to the Academic Council. Additionally, the following timelines were set:

August 2012

- Presentation to faculty during Fall Faculty Development and announcement of Core Curriculum Task Force.

September 2012

- Development of charge and appointment of Core Curriculum Task Force
- Scheduling of Task Force Meetings

January 2013

- Presentation of findings-to-date by the Core Curriculum Task Force to the faculty during Spring Faculty Development Day

February 2013

- Attend TAMU Assessment Conference (selected Task Force members)

March 2013

- First draft of recommendations of the Core Curriculum Task Force presented to Academic Council

May 2013

- Attend Cisco College Core Curriculum Conference (selected Task Force members)

September 2013

- Final Draft of recommendations presented to Academic Council for action

October 2013

- Submission of Vernon College Core Curriculum to THECB for Approval

February/March 2014

- Receipt of notification from THECB on Core Curriculum Approval

March/April 2014

- Submission of 2014-15 VC Catalog revisions to reflect newly adopted Core Curriculum

August 2014

- Implementation of new Core Curriculum including assessment of the 6 Core Objectives

Roxie Hill reported that the End Of Semester Course Review (ESCR) instrument had been revised to allow for the faculty to map course SLO's to institutional SLO's (General Education Outcomes). However, during the Spring semester, the General Education Outcomes were prematurely replaced with the new Core Objectives. This will be changed back for the Summer terms and will remain until full implementation of the new core along with the state mandated core objectives is implemented in Fall 2014.

It was discussed that there appears to be some general agreement around the state that the AAC&U supported VALUE (Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education) rubrics would be beneficial in the assessment of core objectives due to the fact that their use by a number of institutions would provide a means for inter-institutional benchmarking as well as foster the proliferation of best practices. Joe Johnston suggested that the VALUE rubrics be covered during Fall Faculty Development Day. This suggestion was met with unanimous approval.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.