CORE Curriculum Committee Minutes
Bay Hall 359, 3-4 pm
March 27, 2008

ATTENDING: Carlos Huerta, Patricia Hill, Janis Haswell, Edward Kownslar, Susan Murphy, David Billeaux, Paul Orser, Gale Stuart, Diane Denny, Andy Piker, Patrick Crowley

Approval of 2/27/08 minutes:
Minutes were unanimously approved.

Update on 120-hr law and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Arts w/Teacher Certification (E-12)
J. Huerta informed the committee that the 120-hr Ad hoc committee was scheduled to meet and review proposal to make a change to the core curriculum. Last May, the CORE agreed that we would not make changes unless the Ad hoc recommended a change based on their analyses. At our next meeting, the Art department will likely be approaching the CORE so that it can consider adding Art History I to the core curriculum as an additional Visual/Performing Arts option.

J. Huerta clarified that the non-voting members are: Juan Huerta, Susan Murphy, David Billeaux, Pat Hill, and Richard Gigliotti. And, the voting members are the 8 colleges and the library representative.

Core Curriculum Assessment - Guests, Paul Orser and Gale Stuart, PIE
P. Orser and G. Stuart distributed handouts on Assessment Tools for Core Curriculum Endorsed by the VSA and VSA College Portrait review (intended for prospective students and their parents). They also went over the 3 standardized tests (MAPP, CLA and CAAP) for assessing core curriculum with the committee.

The following is some of what was stated:

- We need to show that the graduates have attained skills and competencies.
- There is no way to avoid this and retain our accreditation.
- We need to come up with an assessment methodology that we can defend and that makes sense.
- Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) has been developed by academia and we have 4 years to implement this testing.
- We are leaning towards the MAPP—which measures critical thinking, analytic reasoning, and written communication and reports separate scores on critical thinking and written communication. And, it allows us to look at students by colleges so we can get interesting feedback.

In summary, VSA has 3 standardized core assessment tools, which are MAPP, CLA and CAAP, we can decide what percentage amount we will use, but there is no debate if we will use it - the only question is which one we will use and how much value we will place on it.

Questions/Comments
• Is there a possibility of comparing tests, can they be scaled up, and can tests be combined or are they separately compared?
• How do these tests measure writing skills? Some are scored electronically, close-ended questions are best for this type of scoring.
• Can we create our own set of more reliable measuring, describe it and turn it over to VSA? Yes.
• There are exit assessments being used by COB…will colleges still be able to use their own exit test? Yes.

Announcements
• J. Huerta informed committee that he will be meeting next week on April 3rd & 4th with the Resource Group to discuss building of the curriculum map.
• Next CORE meeting will be on April 25th and if needed, we may have a meeting in May.