

Proposal to Faculty Council

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Background

We have been discussing some transition issues that will arise as the new Core begins. One of them is that, as faculty develop courses for the new Core, we might encounter issues with having enough courses for the outgoing Core. Although some new courses will be appropriate for both the outgoing and incoming Cores, we worry that faculty will be disinclined to apply to two separate committees for Core designations when they develop those new courses. Too many might not be inclined to apply to the University Core Committee that governs the outgoing Core for designations that students need to satisfy. They might reason, “Why deal with the outgoing Core and whatever its committee wants since I am developing this course for the new Core?” To be proactive about this issue, we proposed an idea to our respective committees that govern the outgoing and incoming Cores. Those committees approved the proposal outlined below.

Proposal

We ask that the Faculty Council approve the following:

- 1) After the end of the 2014-15 academic year, the committee for the incoming Core will include on its application form for Core course approval the following:

Do you believe this course also is appropriate for the outgoing Core until it ends? _____ If yes, please indicate the Division and/or Letter Designations. _____ If you indicated “yes”, your syllabus will be forwarded to the Director of the outgoing Core.

- 2) Once the Director of the outgoing Core receives a syllabus from the committee for the incoming Core, she or he will make the determination regarding whether the course at issue will receive any Core designations for the outgoing Core.
- 3) Since, if #1 and #2 above are adopted, the University Core Committee that currently governs the outgoing Core no longer will review all faculty Core course approval petitions, Faculty Council should consider disbanding that committee at an appropriate time. We suggest after the end of the 2015-16 academic year.
- 4) After the position of UCC director has been vacated, decisions regarding courses for the outgoing core will be made by the CAS dean or the relevant associate dean.

Rationale

The idea is that, after the 2014-15 academic year, faculty would submit approval applications only to the committee that governs the incoming Core. That committee would forward to the Director of the outgoing Core the syllabi of those faculty who believe their new courses are appropriate for the outgoing Core. That Director would then determine whether any Core designations should be granted to the course for the outgoing Core. With this procedure, faculty would not feel they have to go through two committees for the same course, thereby streamlining the process and helping to guarantee enough courses for the outgoing Core. In essence, this would make the process for outgoing-Core courses during the years it is phased out similar to the process that currently is used for Transient Student Petitions. That process allows the Director of the outgoing Core to review syllabi and make a judgment about whether the course satisfies John Carroll University's Core requirements. The goal of this proposed procedure is to make things easier on faculty who are developing new courses.