

Chair's Report: University Core Curriculum Committee

2008-2009

Joseph Tiedemann, Chair

Sue Scheibler, Chair, Technology and Communications

Members: Rebeca Acevedo, Susan Elkinawy, Kathleen Harper, Andrew Healey (spring), Herbert Medina (spring), Blake Mellor (fall), Jeff Phillips, Judy Scalin

Ex Officio members: Rae Linda Brown, Margaret Kasimatis, Linda McMurdock, K.J. Peters, Curtiss Takeda Rooks

Over the past year, the committee has accomplished the following:

- In a retreat in August, the UCCC wrote a draft statement of Philosophy and Goals for the Core Curriculum and developed a more open process for revising the core. Rae Linda Brown and Margaret Kasimatis were of great assistance during this retreat, offering guidance based on their experiences. Rae Linda presented the committee with a model that was accepted as a possible model for LMU's revision process. The retreat was facilitated by Sue Scheibler and Blake Mellor.
- Established a Blackboard site as a tool for creating an open and collaborative revision process. Sue, Blake, and Jeff set up the site and made a presentation to the faculty at the CTE. A podcast video of the presentation was made available through LMU's I-Tunes. Sue made a presentation to the Senate; Joe and Sue presented it to the BCLA Chair's Council; and Sue presented it to the CFA chairs. Joe and Sue also presented it to the Psychology department. (Joe made the offer to all Deans and Chairs).
- Submitted the draft Philosophy and Goals statement to the full faculty for comment. The survey results were posted on the Blackboard (Bb) site.
- Maintained the Blackboard site throughout the year. Faculty have used it to post and comment on proposed Core models and have submitted a variety of white papers for posting.
- Organized and facilitated a series of faculty forums on topics deemed central to a Core. Written summaries and video podcasts of the forums were posted on the Bb site.

- Facilitated conversations with students and posted summaries on the Bb site.
- Organized and facilitated a one-day event at which the authors of the proposed models presented their models for feedback. Written summaries and video podcasts were posted on the Bb site.
- Facilitated the Core models revision process, working closely with the authors, providing formatting guidelines and assistance in navigating the Bb site.
- Organized and facilitated a second round of presentations of proposed models.
- Worked closely with the authors, providing assistance as they prepared their models for submission to the faculty for comment.
- Worked closely with the Senate to establish a process for revising the Core and for conducting the faculty survey/vote.
- Maintained communication with the Deans and Associate Deans throughout the year.
- Submitted the final version of the models to the Senate Elections Committee for the faculty survey/vote.
- Began conversations regarding the process for next year. A committee Bb site has been set up, allowing committee members the opportunity to continue the conversation over the summer.
- Finally, this report would be woefully deficient if it did not especially commend and thank Sue Scheibler and Jeff Phillips for their work in establishing and maintaining the UCCC's wiki site, which was so important in making the process of selecting a new Core transparent.

In summary, the UCCC has acted as a facilitator in developing and administering a transparent process for selecting a new Core for the University. A faculty survey is now being held to determine which of the proposed models

the faculty wants to continue revising in the effort to design a Core for LMU at this time and place.