**Core Curriculum Committee Steering Committee**

**Minutes**

**September 9, 2011**

The meeting convened at 1:30 p.m. in ADM 104. The following committee members attended: Gary Elbow, Chairperson, Danay Phelps, Robert Henry, David Roach, Sam Dragga, Anthony Qualin, John Zak, Andrea McCourt, Tess Barlow, Sue Jones, Walt Oler, Kent Pearce, Lauren Gollahon, Francesca di Poppa, Laura Lowe, Tamra Walter, Markus Tanner

Minutes of the April 8, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

Multicultural Committee co-chairs are now confirmed – Joaquin Borrego and Mary Fehr. Because of added responsibilities Hansel Burley is stepping down.

New meeting time will need to be found. Cindy McCullough will send out an email asking all members the time that best fits their schedules.

Distressing news has been received from the SACSCOC Monitoring Report. The letter from the President of SACCOCS stated they wanted a new monitoring report because our report indicated that we were still perfecting our assessment processes. We have filed a protest, because SACSCOC accreditation standards require “continuous improvement.” This year we will refine last year’s report and incorporate new data. We will say indicate that our assessment process is “perfect.”

Note: The appeal to SACSCOC was denied, as expected.

Andrea McCourt and Dr. Elbow have been looking at the capstone and writing intensive course assessments. McCourt reports that there was a 13% response last spring. Student performance was generally at a satisfactory level from students look good. Based on the success of this assessment, Elbow said that a request will be going out to all core course to complete an assessment of their core course(s) using a standard rubric that will be provided.

There was discussion about the proposed changes to the THECB core curriculum rules. If the proposed changes pass, it is possible that the core curriculum hours may need to be reduced. Comments regarding the rule changes are encouraged. One suggestion if changes are approved is that the institutions could change requirements keeping needed core hours the same as they currently are. Coordinating Board will vote on changes in October 2011 with changes to become effective 2014.

Note: The vote is to be taken on October 27. Indications are that any modifications of the proposed core curriculum outcomes will be very minor.

Request for new courses for the Multicultural Core will be under a temporary suspension. New learning outcomes are needed. If new core curriculum rules are adopted all courses may need to be looked at, resulting in all course changes being shutdown.

Elbow and David Roach are attending LEAP Taskforce meeting in Austin in September.

Meeting adjorned.