**CORE CURRICULUM STEERING COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 21, 2011**

Members present: Tess Barlow, Sam Dragga, Francesca Di Poppa, Gary Elbow, Lauren Gollahon, Robert Henry, Jennifer Hughes, Sue Jones, Laura Lowe , Walt Oler, Kent Pearce, Danay Phelps, Anthony Qualin, David Roach, Sabrina Sattler, Marcus Tanner, Tamra Walter, John Zak

Minutes of the September 9, 2011 meeting were approved as distributed.

The Social and Behavioral Sciences Committee recommended approval of SW 1300 for Individual and Group Behavior and recommended denial of WE 2300 for this requirement because of lack of sufficient Individual and Group Behavior content. The Steering Committee approved these recommendations.

The Technology and Applied Sciences Committee recommended deletion of the T&AS requirement from the core curriculum. The Steering Committee voted to approve this recommendation with no dissent and no abstentions. The recommendation was based on several point: That there is general incompatibility between the learning outcomes for this requirement and the material covered in most courses, and that technology needed in various disciplines is already taught in major courses and in a disciplinary context. There is also a recommendation that the Undergraduate Education section of the University Catalog contain a statement that all major programs will include instruction of discipline appropriate technology within their courses. Elbow will provide a statement for review by the committee at its next meeting.

Elbow and Roach informed the committee about the LEAP State meeting in Austin on September 29-30. They pointed out the problems involved in organizing a LEAP State initiative in Texas with our decentralized higher education structure.  How can 6 systems, 60+ community colleges, privates institutions and THECB produce and coordinate a LEAP State initiative? How is it funded, where will it be housed, etc.

The chair recommended that a statement be added to the Undergraduate Academics section of the University Catalog requiring that all undergraduate degree programs incorporate instruction of discipline appropriate technology within their curriculum. Elbow will provide wording for review at the November meeting.

The chair recommended that addition of courses to the core curriculum be suspended as of November 1, 2011. This is because we will have to recall all core curriculum courses and request revised syllabi to meet the November 30, 2013 deadline to submit the new core to the Coordinating Board. The committee felt this deadline does not provide sufficient time to units that might be contemplating submitting a course this fall. The committee approved terminating acceptance of course proposals at the end of the semester (December 16)

A proposed timeline for core curriculum review was circulated for committee review. The timeline will be considered at the November meeting.

The Committee also discussed the how to handle the 6-hour science requirement, how restrictive we should be on the number of courses in the new core, what to do about 3000-level courses. There were comments about restricting the range of choices available to students, the difficulty of creating courses that have broad content across disciplines within ill-defined areas (Language, Philosophy and Culture; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Creative Arts).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:30.