

# Core Curriculum Oversight Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017

**Time:** 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Meeting Location:** Alumni Conference Room, LSC, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Attendance:** Ruben Anguiano, Sheryl Coffey, Deserai Crow, Andrea Falcone, Jeff Franklin, Phillip Gallegos, Carol Golemboski (chair), Christy Heaton, Antwan Jefferson, George Kacenga Craig Lanning, Hans Morgenthaler, Gwen Persons, Candice Shelby, Traci Sitzmann, Mary Lee Stansifer, Tammy Stone, Gregory Walker, Mary Baitinger (recorder)

## Agenda and Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from December 15, 2016 meeting

A CCOC member asked for further details about the Religious Studies core course, and this will be further addressed in Agenda Item #5

**Vote:** These were approved by the present 7 voting members and 1 write-in member.

2. Announcements/Updates

\*Deserai Crow from SPA has joined the CCOC and replaces Christine Martel.

\*Social Sciences Core Syllabi Review Follow-up

- Most syllabi are conforming to CCOC standards and adding core course designations and Learning Outcomes
- Suggestions for minor revisions were passed along to chairs to distribute to faculty members
- There were many low ratings for ECON classes—syllabi lacking information, not including learning outcomes, etc. Carol contacted the ECON chair with feedback and strong recommendations for the department to review the CCOC criteria with faculty members. This group will be reviewed again in 2-3 years.

\*Behavioral Sciences Core Syllabi – Spring 2017

- Mary Baitinger distributed the lists that included instructions and assignments.
- Evaluations are due by March 1, 2017.

\*Geography and Environmental Sciences (GES) Request to Change Lecture/Lab Credit Hour Allocation

- GES has had continuing enrollment challenge in their lab-based courses. GEOL 1072, GEOL 1082, ENVS 1042 were all 4-hour courses, lecture-lab, with labs tied to the lecture. If the lab with an open lecture was closed, students could not enroll in the lecture, and students could not enroll in an open lab if associated with a different lecture. Labs could not be opened up due to space restrictions. GES proposed to create 3-credit hour lectures and a 1-credit hour labs separately. GES can still require that a student enroll in a lab if enrolling in the lecture (so no lecture only), but now they would be able to enroll in any lab.
- Since there is a precedent already for this in the Core, Carol approved the GES request on behalf of the CCOC.
- A discussion ensued regarding course numbering and tying them to the registration, including the need for language to indicate a mandatory co-requisite class to accompany it. Chemistry (Deb Thomas) has been in a similar situation with their courses and labs. Gwen Persons will work on this, along with Sarah Carr.

**Action:** Carol will follow up with Gwen and Deb Thomas on the wording and renumbering of GES lab-based courses.

### 3. CCOC Chair Position Vote

An e-mail was sent to CCOC members for a volunteer to chair the CCOC. Hans Morgenthaler responded, and provided the group his background and expertise. A vote was taken to approve him for the chair position. Carol will include Hans on e-mail activities during the spring, and he will be exempt on reviewing syllabi so he can focus on his responsibilities during this process.

**Vote:** Hans Morgenthaler was voted as the chair of the CCOC, beginning Fall 2017 (9 voting members and 1 write-in member).

### 4. Review of Student Petition for Nate Payer

- The student started at CU Denver in 2014 and is planning to graduate in May 2017 in Engineering.
- He completed a B.Sc. in 2002 at Towson University and under the impression that his B.Sc. would count toward Core. When the Engineering advisor asked Dr. Jansen about the 10 year rule for the Core when Nate was first admitted, Jansen approved the transfers, with the understanding that if Admissions approved the courses as transfers, then they were valid. The advisor did not follow up with Admissions and only discovered problem when Nate came to complete the 30 hour check in and graduation agreement.
- Carol provided the following rule from Policies and Procedures: *If a transfer student has completed a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university in the United States and is pursuing a second bachelor's degree, then the CU Denver Core will be considered to have been completed as a proficiency.*
- The group discussed several observations related to this petition, including: A transcript from a petitioner's previous school should be part of the paperwork for the CCOC to review; an accredited degree is considered a competency waiver when it comes to the core requirement; and picking and choosing previous coursework cannot occur, even though the student potentially may not have fulfilled the CU Denver core Cultural Diversity question.

**Vote:** Nate Payer's petition was approved by the present 10 voting members and 1 write-in member.

### 5. Discussion: Cross Listing Core Courses – RLST 3410/PHIL 3666, *Asian Philosophies and Religions*

\*Carol provided the following background regarding the RLST 3400 renumbering to RLST 3410:

- Two courses were approved in fall 2016: RLST 3120 *Islamic Traditions* and RLST 3400 *Asian Philosophies and Religions*
- RLST 3120 was not renumbered since it was first offered in the Fall 2016, so an exception was made to renumbering rule. RLST 3400 was also approved, but because it had been offered in the past, it was renumbered to RLST 3410. It will not appear until the 2018-2019 catalog. It will appear on the CCOC approved list and will be offered again in Spring 2018.

\*Carol provided the following regarding RLST 3410 and cross-listing:

- RLST 3400 (now 3410) is cross-listed with PHIL 3666 but this was not discussed when the CCOC reviewed the initial proposal.
- The COCC Policies & Procedures state the following:  
*The CCOC may reject otherwise qualified courses submitted for review if:*
  - *The program has attained the maximum number of Core courses allowed;*
  - *The submitted course is cross-listed with another discipline;*

- *The submitted course is cross-listed at upper/lower division levels, or upper division/graduate levels;*
- *The submitted course is unstructured, without a specific Catalog description, such as independent study, internships, special/selected topics, etc.*
- The policy does not categorically forbid cross-listing.
- Currently, PHIL 3666 has not been reviewed or approved for the Core. If the cross-listing were permitted, it would enter the Core without approval or subsequent review.
- Philosophy has made no commitment to offer that course using an identical syllabus to the one the CCOC approved for RLST 3410.
- Sharon Cogan and CLAS provided the following regarding PHIL 3666: In CLAS, the only time a cross-listed course is differentiated is when a different level is involved (i.e. 4/5000); CLAS expects all cross-listed courses to have the exact same content, are always taught together (same room, instructor, meeting pattern, syllabus, etc.) and count the same way toward degree requirements, regardless of the subject code under which the student completes the course; RLST 3140=PHIL 3666; PHIL 3666 is sponsored by RLST, so it is not a stand-alone PHIL course—one would not exist without the other; and the Chair of Philosophy provided a note with the original proposal approving submission for Core.

Carol suggested to the CCOC that a possible option would entail Philosophy submitting the identical syllabus, but with PHIL 3666 at the top, along with the submission form signed by the chair of Philosophy. If it is identical, then the CCOC could do an expedited electronic review to approve PHIL 3666 as itself a Core course in its own right.

Comments by the CCOC included: The word “may” is a prerogative as to whether the CCOC approves the cross listing; this course would count as a core class for both RLST and PHIL, and add to PHIL’s core course allowance (which have not been reached yet); students and advisors would need to be aware of the duality of RLST/PHIL; if the course is accepted for PHIL’s core list, the course would be reviewed in the same manner as other core courses in their department; currently, Philosophy does not have any International Perspectives courses.

**Vote:** Both RLST 3410 and PHIL 366 will be cross listed, both count as core courses, and listed under International Perspectives category (approved by 9 voting members, 1 via-email and 2 abstaining).