Mason Core Committee

September 20, 2016

12:00 – 1:30 p.m., Merten Hall

**Attending:** Janette Muir (Chair), Dominique Banville, Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Cheryl Druehl, Kelly Dunne, Becky Ericson, Doug Eyman, Stephanie Foster, Marcy Glover, Tamara Maddox, Shelley Reid, Matt Scherer, Mara Schoeny, Krista Shires, Carol Urban, Andrea Weeks

**Out:** Peter Winant

**Guest:** Misty Krell,Director, Student Services, SIS

**Agenda**

* Courses to Approve
* Global Understanding Requirement
* IT, Ethics

**GGH 325- Social and Behavioral Science- APPROVED**

* This was the second resubmission of this course. After requesting information on the feedback that the author received from the committee, the course was approved. It was noted that the color coding was wonderful and they recommended that the course be used as an example of a successful proposal.

**Global Understanding revision - APPROVED**

There was a discussion regarding history courses in this core category. It was proposed, and generally agreed upon, that some courses be shifted from the Global Understanding (GU) category to bolster World History options. The rationale was that some of the courses focused solely on history without enough of a connection to relevant global, modern contexts. Courses that did accomplish both could continue to count towards satisfaction of the GU requirement.

Additional discussion ensued regarding the revision of learning outcomes, adding on a fourth requirement, but allowing the course to satisfy a minimum of three out of four. It was recommended that a description or example be added to the third objective, to give clarity. It was debated whether or not the GU courses must be designated as upper level. The general consensus was no, as NVCC transfer students in particular might not be able to meet the requirements (as NVCC cannot have upper level courses). It was implied that there may be changes made in regards to Mason’s transfer agreements with NVCC for ease of action in the future.

The committee voted to make it mandatory, upon changes to the articulation agreement, that all students must take the Global Understanding category – that this will no longer be waived by the GAA based upon its importance in the strategic plan.

**IT, ethics- discussion continued**

It was recommended that IT be uncoupled from ethics and make the requirements similar in language to the writing intensive requirement (i.e. “ethics across the curriculum). The colleges may designate what they would like to fulfill this requirement-as many already have an ethics course-or they can chose from the current selections if preferred. It was agreed that a list of objectives be given and what could count (for colleges that do not want to create an additional ethics course). For next meeting, a group of members will decide how these requirements are to be written/met.