Mason Core Committee

October 4, 2016

10:00 – 11:30 p.m., Merten Hall, 3300

**Attending:** Janette Muir (Chair), Cheryl Druehl, Kelly Dunne, Doug Eyman, Stephanie Foster, Marcy Glover, Tamara Maddox, Mara Schoeny, Krista Shires, Peter Winant, Carol Urban

**Out:** Dominique Banville, Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Becky Ericson, Matt Scherer, Andrea Weeks

**Agenda**

* Provost’s Announcement
* Global Understanding
* IT, Ethics
* Information Technology

**Provost’s Announcement**

There has been a major reorganization in the Provost Office and Janette is now the Associate Provost for Academic Initiatives and Services. She will also continue in her role as the AP for Undergraduate Education until that position is filled. We have brought Krista Shires on to assist with the operations of the committee due to Janette and Marcy’s increasing and shifting workloads. Once

**Global Understanding**

At the last meeting it was approved that a semester of study abroad could fulfill the GU requirement. The School of Business asked the follow up question of whether or not military deployment could as well. After general discussion, the decision was no. The study abroad experience happens within an educational environment that involves a reflective piece, whereas a military deployment would be lacking that piece. No language is needed to indicate this in the policy; however, if a student with military experience feels that their experience satisfies the learning objectives, they may articulate that to an advisor and submit a waiver.

**IT, Ethics**

Janette will meet with a representative from the Philosophy department tomorrow to discuss the idea of ethics across the curriculum and will discuss results at the next CORE meeting. It is likely the matter will need to come before the Faculty Senate.

**Information Technology**

A handout with four learning outcomes was disseminated. A very lively discussion ensued. There were several questions about what the term “algorithm” meant in the context of algorithmic reasoning, and how it differed from problem-solving. Some concerns were raised as to whether or not the outcomes were too specific to IT. It was also asked how non-IT instructors were to achieve the implementation of these new outcomes, as many professors may have the general knowledge to comprehend the outcomes, but lack the practical experience of implementing them into their materials.

The committee was presented with an alternate fourth outcome, and the other outcomes were edited. A sub-committee from IT will address the heading section of the learning outcomes. The topic will be revisited next meeting, and in the mean-time, the discussion board lists the “edited” outcomes.

**Next Meeting:**

October 18th 10:00 am
Items on the agenda: Ethics, IT, History