**Mason Core Committee  
Agenda  
February 20, 2020  
Merten 3300, 1:00-2:30pm**

In attendance: Bethany Usher, Melissa Broeckleman-Post, Cheryl Druehl, Kelly Dunne, Stephanie Foster, Jane Hooper, Jason Kinser, Laura Poms, Kammy Sanghera, K. Shires, Ben Steger, Ali Weinstein, Courtney Wooten

Guests: Michelle Buehl, Samaine Lockwood, Angela Miller, Janette Muir, Tom Polk, Ellen Rodgers

Absent: Lorelai Crerar, Dunni Oni, Shelley Reid, Mara Schoeny

**1:00-1:15pm**Janette Muir, discussion about Passport

-State level questions about how dual enrollment and AP type classes count at Virginia universities. A Passport Program was the solution. It covers 15 credit hour community college program. Many will offer these at the high school level once this is passed. Therefore, we should anticipate that we may see students coming out of high school with these passports. There is also a 30 credit hour program for a Uniform Certificate of General Studies. The 30-hour certificate could potentially serve as at least the foundation for their general education. However, these things must still be passed by the state. Janette shared a draft of what every 4 year institution should accept for these two programs. At the same time, Transfer Virginia (another state level initiative) is ongoing. This is similar to what we are doing with Advance. Mason is actually already generally well-aligned with both initiatives, but should be aware for future curricular/planning reasons. Janette offered to take feedback and/or questions to the state committee. It is anticipated that these agreements will be finalized this summer. Reminder about SAACOCS portfolio and accreditation renewal and general education revamp: please be mindful of timing in regards to spring 2022. Implementation of any new models shouldn’t occur until after spring 2022.

**1:15-1:30pm**Discussion about the potential removal of ENCORE  
Edits to the Mason Core page in the university catalog

Only 4 students are in ENCORE program. They enrolled in 2016 and no one else has enrolled since. The system for tracking this never developed, and two other categories were left by the wayside. Attributes for these do not show up on their transcripts. Vote to end/keep the program? (ending would not impact the 4 existing students and we would follow up with the reps from Sustainability and Well-Being groups). VOTE: APPROVED to remove/deactivate ENCORE

**1:30-2:30pm**Review Proposals

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| **Category** | **Title** | **Feedback** |  |
| QR | [EDRS 220: Introduction to Applied Quantitative Analysis](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/16472/index.html&step=showfullrecord) | APPROVED |  |
| GU | [SOCI 304: The Future of Work](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/13892/index.html&step=showfullrecord) | Need more information about the assignments and tests. There is some inconsistency with the two reflective outcomes, it is unclear whether or not there is student reflection going on . The title doesn’t seem to fit the course. ROLLBACK |  |
| SBS | [SOCI 308: Race and Ethnicity in a Changing World](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/13896/index.html&step=showfullrecord) | Unclear how student achievement of outcomes is being measured. Not enough information on assignments or assessments-difficult to see how objectives are being covered. Strong content. ROLLBACK |  |
| SBS | [SOCI 315: Contemporary Gender Relations](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/13903/index.html&step=showfullrecord) | Excellent. Well detailed and clear proposal-sounds like an interesting class. APPROVED |  |
| GU | [SOCI 330: US Immigrants and Immigration](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseleaf/courseleaf.cgi?page=/courseadmin/13908/index.html&step=showfullrecord) | Curriculum map and syllabus don’t match in some places. Final project or two tests? Course objectives also need to connect to Mason Core objectives. Would need to have more information on how the exams will show students will meet learning outcomes to have the tests substitute for the final project. Conducting an interview does not necessarily show cultural competency. ROLLBACK |  |
| IT | [SOCI 431: Survey Research](https://workingcatalog.gmu.edu/courseadmin/) | It was unclear that this was revised from the initial proposal. Spartan syllabus. Requested more information on the labs and assessment/assignments. ROLLBACK. Not encouraged to resubmit. If resubmitting, need to meet with a committee member. |  |

**Stephanie Assessment Update**

List of courses losing their MC attributes (only 24 out of several hundred). These are the courses that were not assessed due to lack of department participation in the assessment process, which started in 2016. These units were given multiple chances to participate in assessment over the past 4 years. The instructors were contacted multiple times by those conducting the assessment. The chairs were also contacted following the conclusion of the assessment of the category to which their courses belonged. In many cases, the non-responsive faculty were prompted to, and successfully did, turn in their syllabi for assessment. This semester, additional, final letters were sent to chairs to remind them of their non-participants and that the courses that could not be assessed could not be included in the Mason Core . Some faculty or chairs have responded and indicated that they know they do not meet the learning outcomes, or do not want them to. The courses are eligible to resubmit. The attributes will not be dropped until next year, and students will not be impacted by this change. Students who have taken these courses in the past will not be impacted either. Krista will send final letters to the departments and to the Registrar’s Office for inactivation for the upcoming catalog.

**Announcements:**

* College of Business no longer requires 2 lab sciences
* Samaine will be sending out the survey to students and faculty. Please encourage people to take it. Student government will also be taking a survey.
* At the April meeting, we will discuss the AY 2020-2021 Mason Core meeting schedule, please be ready to take a survey

**For Next Meeting:** March meeting extended for mini retreat. Charlie Krietzer from Mason Online will join us as a participant for mini retreat, but formally join us for our April meeting to discuss Mason Online and its intersection with Mason Core.