Minutes of the University Core Development Committee, Thursday, November 8, 2012.

The meeting came to order at about 9:35 a.m.

Present were Nasser Behnegar, Patrick Byrne, Clare Dunsford, Laura Hake, Arthur Madigan, Suzanne Matson, Patrick McQuillan, Catherine Read, and James Weiss.

The minutes of the meeting of the meeting of October 25, 2012 were accepted with one abstention.

The committee approved SL 264 Wisdom and Philosophy of the Far East (Lydia Chiang) for Cultural Diversity core credit.

Discussion then turned to the committee’s responsibility of reviewing departments’ assessment of their core programs. Suzanne Matson pointed out that the Writing program was currently going through an assessment process. She proposed that we invite Paula Mathieu, Director of the Writing Program, to our meeting on November 29. [This has since been arranged.] One colleague asked about the nature of our meetings with departments: were they supportive, evaluative, or what? Another colleague thought that a certain evaluative aspect was necessary, inasmuch as the UCDC has to report to administration about the departments’ assessment of their core programs. That said, colleagues agreed that our overall approach to the meetings should be friendly and supportive. Our purpose should be to learn what the departments are doing, not to tell them what to do. At this point we are hoping to see an assessment process going on; we are not in a position to look for its results. It was agreed that Arthur Madigan would draft a letter along these lines to the chairs of the departments that we intend to visit in the first year of our four-year cycle [English and other departments servicing the Literature core, Writing, History, Fine Arts, Music, and Theater], inviting them to meet with the committee.

The meeting adjourned at about 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Arthur Madigan, S.J.