University Core Development Committee
Tuesday, February 21, 2006
Gasson 105, 9.00 a.m.

Minutes

Present were: Chair, Richard Cobb-Stevens, Clare Dunsford (Associate Dean, A&S), Patrick Byrne (Philosophy), Catherine Read (Nursing), Timothy Duket (A&S Honors Program), Clare O’Connor (Biology), Dennis Sardella (Chemistry), Alec Peck (Education), Paul Spagnoli (History).

The committee met with the following representatives of the physical science departments: David McFadden (Chemistry), Marc Muskavitch (Biology), and Michael Graf (Physics). Both Alan Kafka (Chair) and Gail Kineke (Undergraduate Director) were unable to attend this meeting. So we rescheduled a meeting with them for March 21. (See the attached emails.)

David McFadden expressed satisfaction with the recommendations in our earlier report, and noted that he did not think that Chemistry needed additional resources to maintain its core commitments. Marc Muskavirch emphasized that the large courses taught by Eric Strauss are in need of additional TAs to help with discussion seminars and grading. Michael Graf expressed interest in developing additional core offerings.

The committee members urged each of these colleagues to put into writing whatever changes they would like to see made to in our earlier report.