

University Core Development Committee

April 10, 2001

Gasson 105, 1:30 p.m.

Minutes

In attendance were Chair Richard Cobb-Stevens, Clare Dunsford, John Heineman, Maggie Kearney, and Ourida Mostefai.

- 1) Richard Cobb-Stevens reported on his attendance at the Jesuit Core Education Conference at Georgetown University on April 5-6.
- 2) The following History courses were approved for cultural diversity, with a few minor suggestions regarding the syllabi:
HS321 -- Nations, Nationalism, and Political Rights in Modern Latin America
HS308 -- Early Modern Japan, 1600-1800
HS309 -- Modern Japan, 1890-2000
- 3) Most of the meeting was devoted to discussing the suggestion that arose in our previous meeting with representatives of the writing core that the UCDC convene groups of faculty to discuss ways to incorporate more writing into the core. Dean Quinn strongly supports this initiative.

The Committee decided that during the next academic year we would break up into small groups and meet with representative teachers in the core in each department (not Chairs), grouping the smaller departments together; it was suggested that late afternoon meetings with refreshments would prove most attractive. These meetings should include teaching fellows, who in many departments teach a large proportion of the core courses.

In these meetings we would ask faculty how they currently incorporate writing into their core courses and what challenges they face in that regard. The goal would be to establish a dialogue on this important subject and to facilitate discussion, not to dictate teaching requirements. It is hoped that these sessions would encourage inter-departmental as well as intra-departmental discussions. Benefits to the Committee would be the opportunity to gather new information about the core and to play a more educational and less supervisory role in implementing the core in the university.

Submitted by Clare M. Dunsford