

University Core Development Committee

September 12, 2000

Gasson 105, 1:30 p.m.

Chair Richard Cobb-Stevens welcomed new member Kathleen Mahoney (SOE) and offered new member Ourida Mostefai's (RL) regrets that she could not attend. Returning members present included Patrick Byrne (PL), Maggie Carney (SON), John Heineman (HS), Dennis Sardella (CH), and Clare Dunsford (Associate Dean).

The purpose of the meeting was to decide the agenda of this year's committee work. Departments that we are considering reviewing are Theology, those departments teaching the Literature core—English, Romance Languages, Classics, Slavic, and German—and the Honors Program. There was also discussion about whether to review the Writing core.

We will also arrange for upperclassmen to come in and share with the committee their experiences with the core, as has been done in the past; we anticipate a group of about fifteen students to visit once each semester. Another possible project for the committee this year will be to speak at a Board of Chairs meeting. Finally, another issue that we may explore, perhaps with Jack Neuhauser, is how to involve more senior faculty in the core, as many of those who currently teach the core will be retiring within the next few years.

We agreed on the following schedule of meetings for the fall semester, all to be held at 1:30-3:00 p.m. and subject to the agreement of the departments:

- September 26 review of Honors Program
- October 17 student focus group
- October 31 review of Theology Department
- November 14 review of non-English literature core
- November 28 issues of quality and personnel in the core

Submitted by Clare Dunsford