

Minutes of the meeting of the University Core Development Committee, Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

The committee met at about 9:05 a.m. in Gasson 103 around the Dean's new conference table.

Present were Nasser Behnegar, Patrick Byrne, Clare Dunsford, Judith Gordon, Arthur Madigan, Suzanne Matson, Patrick McQuillan, Marc Muskavitch, and Catherine Read.

The minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, March 13 were accepted.

The committee approved BK 511 Gender and (In)Security in Conflict and Post-Conflict Settings (Peace Medie) for Cultural Diversity core credit, with the recommendation that its title be changed to reflect its African content.

Discussion then turned to the cover pages for Social Science core credit. This discussion led to agreement on the following new formulations of learning goals a. and b.:

"Social science core courses should enable their students to

"a. demonstrate some awareness of and sensitivity to the sociological, economic, political, and psychological dimensions of their human existence.

"b. demonstrate an awareness of the principles and causes of human behavior."

Discussion then turned to the matter of additional membership and staff support for the committee in its work of core assessment. There was widespread agreement that additional support would be desirable, but some difference about the expansion of the committee's membership. Expanding the membership would be helpful if it expands the number of different disciplines represented on the committee, but a larger committee was not necessarily a more efficient committee. There was also a sense that staff support, rather than expansion, should be our number one priority. Discussion of staff support focused on the question of what kinds of support are needed. The following were cited as areas where we could use help: our minutes; organizing and maintaining digital files; forwarding appropriate documents from departments to members of the committee; and scheduling meetings.

We adjourned at about 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Arthur Madigan, S.J.