

University Core Development Committee

January 25, 2002

Honors Conference Room (Gasson 102)

3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members in attendance were Chair Richard Cobb-Stevens, Patrick Byrne, Clare Dunsford, Rob Gross, Margaret Kearney, Ourida Mostefai, and Sandra Waddock. John Heineman and Paul Gray were absent.

The first order of business was to set a schedule of meetings. The committee decided to meet three times this semester, alternating Mondays at 10:30 a.m.-12 and Thursdays 1:30-3, to accommodate the divergent schedules of committee members. Richard will try to arrange the following meetings, but please note that they are not confirmed:

- Monday, February 18, 10:30 a.m.-noon
Meeting with Chemistry Department for 45 minutes and discussion of science departments' recommendations for 45 minutes
- Thursday, March 14, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Meeting with Joe Quinn to discuss cultural diversity guidelines
- Monday, April 8, 10:30 a.m.
Possible meeting, topic to be announced

Other business included a discussion of several courses proposed by the History Department for cultural diversity credit. With some members voicing reservations about some details of the syllabi, there was a general consensus that the courses be approved.

After lengthy discussion, the committee decided not to approve Maxim Shrayner's course entitled Jewish Writers in Russia and America for cultural diversity credit, citing the definition of cultural diversity courses promulgated in the original core document. The committee thought Prof. Shrayner made some persuasive arguments, but did not feel that we could alter the intent of the core task force at this time. We will suggest that the course be submitted for approval for literature core credit instead.

Finally, Prof. David Burgess of Biology has submitted a course for cultural diversity credit, on which members will offer their response to Richard by e-mail.

Submitted by Clare Dunsford