

University Core Development Committee  
March 17, 2003  
Gasson 105 1:30 p.m.

### **Minutes**

In attendance were Chair Richard Cobb-Stevens, Patrick Byrne (Philosophy), Marilyn Cochrane-Smith (Education), Tim Duket A&S Honors), Clare Dunsford (A&S Associate Dean), Maggie Kearney (Nursing), Dennis Sardella (Chemistry), and Sandra Waddock (Management). Fr. Frank Murphy (History) was unable to attend.

Prof. Jeanne Sholl and Prof. Ellen Winner gave brief presentations of the Psychology Department's current core offerings.

Fundamentals of Humanistic Psychology: provides an overview of the philosophical and psychological roots of humanistic psychology. Psychology of Art and Creativity: discusses how various fields of psychology approached the study of art and creativity.

The department also offers in alternate years: The Idea of Insanity, and Psychological Perspectives on Social Justice, and The Psychobiology of Mental Disorders. In addition, the department offers several electives that fulfill the university's cultural diversity requirement.

Taking Ellen Winner's course, Psychology of Art and Creativity, as a model, several members of the committee recommended that the department increase the number of writing requirements in its courses.

There was also some discussion about the possibility of opening up sections of Introduction to Psychology I and II to non-psychology majors. The department maintains that it would need increased staffing in order to accomplish this goal.