

Core Council Minutes  
2/18/2019

**Attendance**

**Core Council Members**

Belinda Blevins-Knabe  
Linda Stauffer  
Josh Spinler  
Kimberly Porter  
Caleb James  
Tingting Jia  
Joe Felan  
Rebecca Streett

**Absent**

Michael DeAngelis  
Heather Hummel

**ExOfficio**

Ross Bradley (Provost Office)

**Guests**

Margaret (Beth) McMillan (Earth Sciences)  
Krista Lewis (Anthropology)  
Tim Edwards (Mass Communication)  
Kwasi Boateng (Mass Communication)

1. 2/4/2019 Minutes – Approved
2. 2/11/2019 Minutes – Approved
3. Core Course Review
  - a. ANTH 1415
    - i. All Face to Face, no online sections
    - ii. Values are important, but don't know if they need to be in Educational Goal for core
    - iii. Anthropology provided a handout with their assessment results responses (responses attached)
  - b. ERSC 1302/1102, 1304/1104, 2303, and 2103
    - i. No concurrent anymore
      1. ASMSA was concurrent but stopped with concurrent rate increase
    - ii. Face to Face, online, and Benton sections are all offered
      1. Enrollment is healthy
    - iii. Earth Sciences has a curriculum retreat once a year and faculty discuss core and other program assessment results

1. They do make changes to core classes because of core assessment
2. They are thinking about changing labs and making them more interactive
- iv. Values is important to Earth Sciences even though it can be difficult to access
- c. Biology, Chemistry, Earth Sciences, Anthropology core classes are approved for four more years
4. BIOL 1433 First Read –Rules Suspended and Core Adjustment is Approved
5. MCOM 2330 First Read – Mass Communication will submit a revised form for next week
6. Removal of Values 3 Educational Goals for Math
  - a. Will send language to faculty senate for senate approval
7. Theatre – motion postponed till 2/25/2019
8. Other Business

## **Physical Anthropology: Improvements made in response to assessment data**

### *Knowledge 1*

Improvement area: increasing student learning and retention of facts

Implementation of more opportunities for students' repeat exposure to knowledge:

- increasing the use of teaching assistants so that students can have more exam reviews
- informing students about OER texts
- providing links to web tutorials on difficult subjects
- increased use of freely available online videos (as compared to DVDs shown once in class only) to allow students – especially ESL students – to repeatedly view them if needed

### *Skills 1 (communication)*

Improvement area: improving written communication skills

Implementation of or increasing the emphasis on written work:

- requiring students to complete more written work (lab reports, essays, etc., depending on the instructor) and providing feedback related to their writing skills

### *Skills 2 (critical thinking)*

No improvement needed (more than 71% of students performed at the advanced or proficient level; less than 8% were evaluated as “not met” level); nonetheless, high achievement in this goal is further encouraged by the implementation of the ethics assignments discussed under values 1 and 2

### *Skills 3 (information tech)*

No improvement needed (more than 74% of students performed at the advanced or proficient level; less than 7% were evaluated as “not met” level)

### *Values 1 and 2 (ethics and civic engagement)*

Improvement area: developing better explanations for why they hold certain values

Implementation of the ethics debates and/or essays (depending on instructor):

- directs students to do their own research on a provided topic
- inspires more critical thinking, as opposed to giving rote answers
- requires students to think beyond the personal level and to examine controversial topics from a perspective they may not agree with