GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSE REVIEW (Fall 2007)

RECOMMENDATIONS AND TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF STANDARD ELEMENTS

AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS

Commendations

- Attempts to maintain consistency among sections are evident, e.g., using common textbooks.

Recommendations

- Utilize syllabi consisting of at least 60% common elements (subject content, assignments, tests, readings, etc.) and 40% instructor-selected elements.

- Implement measures, including common finals, to assess course outcomes.

- Use the results of common measures to modify curriculum in order to better achieve outcomes.

COMPUTER LITERACY

Commendations

Recommendations

ENGLISH

Commendations

- Interest seems to exist among some in the department to ensure consistent outcomes in multiple-section courses.

Recommendations

- Utilize syllabi consisting of at least 60% common elements (subject content, assignments, tests, etc.) and 40% instructor-selected elements.

- Implement measures, including common finals, to assess course outcomes.

- Use the results of common measures to modify curriculum in order to better achieve outcomes.
TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Spring 2008

- Department chairs and program representatives develop with their faculty standard curricular elements and assessment follow-up procedures.

- Each department or program reports to Curriculum Committee on progress. These reports must be presented before the end of March.

Fall 2008

- Standard elements are implemented in all sections of GE core courses in each program.

- Department chairs and program representatives report to Curriculum Committee on the implementation of curricular standards. Reports are due no later than the end of October.

Spring 2009

- Department chairs and program representatives report to Curriculum Committee on the state of core course outcomes assessment.
INFORMATION LITERACY

Commendations

- A common syllabus is used for all sections.
- Common quizzes and a common final exam are used in all course sections to assess specific elements as well as students' comprehensive understanding of course material.
- Annotated bibliographies from sections of ENGL 2010 are used to assess several outcomes related to locating, evaluating, and using information properly.

Recommendations

- In conjunction with the English Department, establish a system for evaluating and communicating levels of proficiency of annotated bibliographies from ENGL 2010 sections and recommending curricular modifications on either or both ends.
- Encourage all ENGL 2010 instructors to participate in this assessment program.

MATHEMATICS

Commendations

- Common syllabi and textbooks are used for courses.
- Common assignments and final exams are used in some courses.
- Quiz and exam questions are aligned with course outcomes.
- Systems exist for assessing course-specific outcomes and implementing curricular changes in response to assessment results.

Recommendations

- Use common finals in all courses.
- Implement a more formal system for communicating assessment results and implementing necessary curricular changes.