MINUTES OF THE
UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE MEETING
April 14, 2015


Guests: Dean Noelle Norton

Debbie Tahmassebi brought the meeting to order at 12:17pm

1) Approval of Minutes from March 10, 2015 (pages 2-3) Approved 19/0/0

2) New Business

Resolution:

The USD faculty support the development of a smaller and more meaningful core curriculum. We recognize that it will require flexibility and cooperation on the part of the entire university, and look forward to continuing the core development process.

As such, we the faculty accept the Core structure in the attached Core Curriculum Proposal. We support moving forward with the work of implementation, toward a vote for final Core approval.

A committee will prepare a program review for this work over the 2015-16 academic year and present this report to the faculty. Each academic unit will then evaluate the report and the progress of the committees with the goal of taking a vote no later than April 2016.

Resolution amended as follows (Sheehan – vote to amend: 15/3/1)

Resolution: (Vote on the amended resolution – 17/2/0)

The USD faculty support the development of a smaller and more meaningful core curriculum. We recognize that it will require additional resources, flexibility and cooperation on the part of the entire university, and look forward to continuing the core development process.

As such, we the faculty accept the Core structure in the attached Core Curriculum Proposal. We support moving forward with the work of implementation, toward a vote for final Core approval.

A committee will prepare a program review for this work over the 2015-16 academic year and present this report to the faculty. Each academic unit will then evaluate the report and
the progress of the committees with the goal of taking a vote no later than April 2016.

The Department of Math and Computer Sciences detailed the following suggestions/comments regarding the core proposal:

1. Eliminate the core project
2. Eliminate as embedded competencies – oral communication, critical thinking and information literacy, and quantitative reasoning
3. Do not support the structure of the writing component
4. Do not support encouraging that all Core courses require at least one paper (First-Year Writing Expectation (b))
5. Do not support having technological inquiry in the same category as scientific inquiry
6. Do not support having a smaller core at the expense of a core that gives students a solid and broad education in the liberal arts

Some comments were made by others regarding the above items.

Discussion continued regarding desire of many committee members to have the resolution be placed in front of the faculty at the Academic Assembly.

There was a request to clarify the language regarding committees in the last paragraph of the resolution – noted the governance procedure detailed on pages 26-37 of the proposal document provide the clarification.

Adjournment - 1:15pm

Minutes approved electronically 15/0/4