

The Core Development Process

Background

The University Undergraduate Core Committee (UUCC) was formed in late Fall 2017 and charged with the development, implementation, assessment and revision of the University Undergraduate Core, including:

- The University Undergraduate Core Learning Outcomes
- The University Undergraduate Core (both curricular and non-curricular requirements that fulfill the undergraduate core learning outcomes)
- The related policies and procedures that govern the University Undergraduate Core.

The following excerpt from the UUCC Bylaws details the process governing faculty approval of the inaugural University Undergraduate Core:

- 1) Proposals are sent to each college/school that grants baccalaureate degrees [excluding the College of Philosophy and Letters] for approval by the faculty of each college/school in a manner determined by the college/school (e.g., by the faculty as a whole, or by a faculty governance committee/faculty council).*
 - a) Should the faculty of a college/school reject a proposal, an explanation and suggestion for amendment must be provided to the UUCC. The UUCC will then work to secure approval by any outstanding colleges/schools or amend the original proposal.*
 - b) Amended proposal(s) will be resent to each college/school for approval.*
- 2) If approved by all colleges/schools, proposals will advance to the Council of Academic Deans and Directors for approval.*
- 3) If approved by CADD, proposals will advance to the Provost as recommendations for final approval.*
 - a) Should Board of Trustees approval be required (as determined by the Provost), the Office of the Provost will advance such proposals to the Board.*

Two points in the development of our inaugural Core will invoke the process above: (1) approval of the Core Student Learning Outcomes and (2) approval of the Core architecture.

Core Curriculum Development

The UUCC foresees the following benchmarks for the development of SLU's new Core. Note that the process is not strictly linear.

- Articulate what all SLU undergraduates should know and be able to do by graduation: *the Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)*.
 - *Note: Approval of the SLO's will require University-wide faculty approval.*
- Develop common rubrics to guide assessment of student achievement of the SLOs.
- Determine what educational experiences are necessary to intentionally foster student achievement of the SLOs; organize those educational experiences holistically as the architecture of an integrated, four-year curriculum required of all SLU students.
 - *Note: Approval of the Core architecture will require University-wide faculty approval.*
- Create faculty and staff development plan.
- Solicit proposals to meet the Core requirements defined in the curriculum architecture.
- Design assessment plan.
- Develop implementation plan.
- Publish the core architecture and all UUCC-approved course/educational experience options as the new University Core.