

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Dean's Charges to the Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising 2017-2018

End of year summary

Introduction

Each year the Dean of the College provides a set of charges to the Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising. This year's charges represent continued work to further improve College governance processes, both in terms of clear leadership selection and also with regard to collaboration with campus partners. Additionally, the important work that began last year around potential barriers to student retention and progression continues.

1. Develop a process, using the College bylaws as a possible framework, for electing the chair of CUSA.

- A formal policy for electing the chair of CUSA was created and approved by CUSA. Creation of this policy was shared with CAC.

2. Based on progress to date, continue in the discussion of potential barriers to student progression as they relate to the quantitative reasoning requirement and surrounding policies. As warranted based on the discussion, the committee may proceed in identifying and pursuing policy related to those barriers.

- Quantitative Reasoning requirement changes have been proposed and approved by CUSA to expand options for completion. Additional courses have been approved and more proposals are anticipated. These changes are scheduled for review at the May 2018 CAC meeting.

Other student barrier issues being discussed/acted on by subcommittee:

- Departmental Honors Criteria Review – solicited feedback from departments; considering proposal for changes.
- Course Overlap Policy Review – currently with CUSA for revisions and re-submission to CAC

3. Consider ways in which CUSA can expand collaboration efforts with UCCC to better facilitate the review process and maintain a shared philosophical approach to consideration of proposals, especially those that are precedent setting (i.e. language courses as Goal 4.2).

- Late fall meeting with DeAngela, UCCC chair, to discuss several areas of specific concern (topics courses, language acquisition courses, Goal 5.1 proposals, multiple Goal proposals for single course)
- Language outlining CUSA's role in the KU Core review process has been finalized by CUSA, codified in a procedures document, and shared with College members of UCCC as well as the current chair, Dr. Burns-Wallace, and the UCCC coordinator.
- Changes to the College bylaws addressing KU Core proposals have been drafted for submission to CAC.
- A change to policy language for the BA Quantitative Reasoning course is being considered to separate reference to the KU Core Goal 1.2 from the BA requirement.

Proposed Changes to College bylaws related to addition of language specific to CUSA's role in KU Core review.

(proposed additions in red)

1. Proposed changes to the Bylaws of the College Assembly in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Article VII. Functions of the Standing Committees of the Assembly)

B. Special Functions

II. Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising (CUSA) shall:

- a. Review and recommend to the CAC and/or the CA for action on all proposals with reference primarily to undergraduate course and curricular changes, program requirements (which include degrees, majors, minors, certificates) and educational policy and procedures. New majors, minors, degrees, or certificates, or deletions of the same, should be acted on individually. All other proposals should be considered as a whole.
- b. Review and forward to the University Core Curriculum Committee all proposals to include courses in the KU Core Curriculum for courses that are offered by departments/programs within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- c. ...

Article X. Curricular Changes

- A. Proposals for course changes shall be submitted to the Committee on Graduate Studies or the Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising for consideration. These committees will review proposals and then either send them back to the proposing department(s) to correct and refine or forward them to the CAC, along with the committee's recommendations, at least one week in advance of the meeting at which the CAC will act upon the proposals.
- B. Proposals to include courses in the KU Core Curriculum shall be submitted to the Committee on Undergraduate Studies and Advising (CUSA) for review. In addition to forwarding all proposals to the University Core Curriculum Committee, CUSA will communicate any concerns or recommendations to the department from which a proposal originates. Comments or concerns also will be forwarded to the University Core Curriculum Committee.
- C. ...