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TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: Marilyn Kaplan
Chair, Core Curriculum Committee

SUBJECT: Annual Report of Core Curriculum Committee , 2015–2016

I. Membership

The membership of the Core Curriculum Committee consists of : Marilyn Kaplan, Chair, Dennis Miller, Vice Chair, Shelley Lane, Carol Lanham, Simeon Ntafos, Tonja Wissinger, Melanie Spence, Eric Farrar

II. Meetings

1/24/16 Discussion of 1100 series course and assessments of that course following the fall 2015 semester. We discussed the successes and failures of the course, the FYL program, and the collection of assessment data.

4/19/16 The CLA+ results from fall 2015 were discussed.

5/10/16 Upcoming fall 2016 1100 series course content and FYL program.

III. Actions Taken

This academic year centered around implementing planned changes to the 1100 series freshman experience course, based on the new core curriculum requirements. These changes included:

- Adding a 'lab' hour to the course
- Assessing freshmen using the CLA+ and tracking completion through the UNIV 1010
- Requiring a portfolio to be assessed for social and personal responsibility
- Requiring a team video for verbal communications and teamwork assessments

Additionally, the first students to complete their core curriculum at UT Dallas under the new requirements were administered the CLA+ using UNIV 2020 to track them. Results have not yet been received.

We have created an eLearning shell for 1100 course instructors to share resources including rubrics and assignment templates.

IV. Recommendations for Following Year

The coming year will give us a second period of assessment for the freshmen experience course along with more core complete student assessments. At that time, we will have enough data to compare the two periods but will still not have sufficient data to compare the pre-assessments of the first group of freshmen with their post-core assessments. To be able to make analysis of the assessments meaningful it is estimated that we will need at least 5 years of data.