

Committee on Faculty Rights, Privileges, and Responsibilities Final Report FY9

FY 2019 Members:

Chair: Joe Harrington, English, (2020) (sabbatical spring 2019)

Chris Crandall, Psychology (2021)

Fran Devlin, Libraries, (2019)

Nils Gore, Architecture Design, (2020)

Amalia Monroe-Gulick, Libraries (one year appointment to fill fall semester for Uma and spring for Joe, also chair for spring 2019)

Uma Outka, Law, (2019) (sabbatical fall 2018)

Eugene Parker, Education, (2019)

Dale Urie, Humanities (2021)

FRPR met twice during the fall semester and once during the spring semester. The majority of the committee work has been completed using working groups made up of members of FRPR and others (see status of charges).

Status of FY19 Specific Charges

Charge One: ARTICLE VII AMENDMENT / F.R.B. PROCEDURES

Work with FacEx and the Administration to implement or alter the FSRR Article VII amendments, as appropriate and recommend any additional changes to FSRR or FRB procedures to make the appeals process fairer and develop materials to inform faculty of their rights under the current FSRRs.

Status:

The work related to F.R.B. procedures is now being completed by a working group made up of members of FacEx, the Provost's Office, the General Counsel's Office, and FRPR.

Charge Two: DATA on NON-TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

Work with Vice Provost for Faculty Development Chris Brown, KU AAUP, and others to compile a "census" of non-tenure track faculty, including units that employ them, job titles, FTE percentages, and the number of contracts that are "contingent upon funding" and make recommendations, if appropriate, based on this data.

Status:

The NTTF working group is currently:

- Revising a survey to send to all NTTF on initiatives to improve related to work environment and climate.
- Working on final email list from HRM for email and survey.

- Drafting a final report with recommendations on NTTF.

Charge Three: ARTICLE X AMENDMENT / CONFLICT of INTEREST in DONATIONS

Work with SenEx and the Administration to implement or alter the USRR Article X amendment, as appropriate, and consult with faculty and the Endowment Association on the scope and structure an implementation process.

Status:

The work of this charge is currently with the Senate Executive Committee.

Charge Four: ARTICLE V AMENDMENT / K.U. CORE / UCCC PROCEDURES

Work with FacEx and the Administration to implement or alter the FSRR Article V amendment, as appropriate. Consult with UCCC regarding their ongoing revision of the Core goals. Examine Core recertification process and make recommendations, as appropriate. Draft language that articulates governance’s relationship to the Core and the UCCC.

Status:

- A proposal has been made for ad hoc committee review committee to recommend amendments to the KU Core. It is recommended this committee include three members selected by FacEx and three members chosen by the UCCC (see Appendix)
- The committee will work on the same schedule as a regular governance committee.
- The proposal has been approved by FacEx.

Charge Five: CORE SURVEY

Design and conduct a survey instrument or series of focus groups on the Core in the fall semester. This survey or focus groups should include a solicitation for suggestions for revising the (re)certification process; the structure of the Core; or the way it is administered.

Status:

The University Core Curriculum Committee conducted a survey in December 2018 related to the KU Core, therefore, FRPR decided to refrain from any survey or focus groups related to any KU Core issues this AY.

Appendix: Ad Hoc Committee Proposal for Core Review Proposal

Introduction:

In the years following the implementation of the KU Core Curriculum, it became apparent there is a need for a framework to guide the periodic review of the KU Core to be sure it responds to the learning needs of our students and their successful preparation for life following graduation.

Working together, the leadership of the KU Core Curriculum Committee (UCCC) and the KU Faculty Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities (FRPR) Committee of the KU Faculty Senate developed the following proposal for consideration by both bodies.

Rationale:

In this time of evolving expectations of a college education, it is incumbent on the faculty and administrators of this University to support a foundational educational experience – including critical elements of liberal arts education – for all of its undergraduate students. This core curriculum must provide the learning opportunities needed to develop the skills and knowledge expected for future life success for our graduates. The curriculum must remain malleable, and the faculty nimble enough to periodically examine the effectiveness of the core curriculum program.

Opportunity:

Through the creation and work of an ad hoc review committee, a reasoned and responsible review of the KU Core Curriculum can lead to the recommendation of amendments to the KU Core. As the central element of this proposed pilot project, the initial review committee would form at the beginning of Academic Year 2020 (Sept. 2019) conduct its review, and produce a report, including proposed amendments, to the Faculty Senate and the Vice-Provost of Undergraduate Studies by the end of Academic Year 2020 (May 2020). As is routine for committees of the Faculty Senate, the ad hoc committee will provide a mid-year update report to the Faculty Executive (FacEx) Committee and the KU Core Curriculum Committee (UCCC) by the start of the Spring 2020 semester.

Scope:

The review committee charges should include identification of opportunities for improvement of the KU Core, the definition of specific ways to affect such improvement(s), anticipated outcomes of these improvements, and how future review of the KU Core would evaluate the success of implemented improvements.

Committee Composition:

It is recommended this committee include three members selected by FacEx and three members chosen by the UCCC. Committee members should have experience with faculty governance and/or service on UCCC to allow a smoother, informed transition into the work of the review process.

Pilot Project Outcomes:

The report of the ad hoc committee may include specific amendments and recommend other features of future macro review of the KU Core. These might consist of frequency (we suggest a five-year review cycle), a timeline for response to committee recommendations by Faculty Senate, UCCC and University administration, the utility of a smaller “conference” committee to resolve differences, and a timeline for the codification of amendments.

Other Considerations:

Academic Year 2019-20 represents a perfect time for this ‘next step’ in the maturation of the KU Core. The UCCC will complete its first series of reviews for recertification of courses offered for the satisfaction of each of the six goals of the KU Core. Any amendments offered by the ad hoc committee are best implemented at this juncture following the regular course review work of the UCCC.

All participants in this ad hoc review committee will quickly appreciate how any changes might affect many levels of university functions. Ultimately, we hope this proposal will always consider the importance of

preparing our students for the future, helping faculty provide effective learning opportunities, and guiding administrative collaboration with faculty leadership of the best undergraduate curriculum possible.