



University Senate TRANSMITTAL FORM

Senate Document #:	10-11-13
PCC ID #:	N/A
Title:	Transition of the Senate CORE Committee
Presenter:	Laura Rosenthal, Chair, Senate CORE Committee
Date of SEC Review:	4/8/2011
Date of Senate Review:	4/21/2011
Voting (highlight one):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On resolutions or recommendations one by one, or 2. In a single vote 3. To endorse entire report
Statement of Issue:	<p>At its meeting on April 8, 2010, the University Senate passed a proposal entitled, "Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland" (Senate Document 09-10-34). In the plan, the General Education Task Force identified its vision for the evolution of the Senate CORE Committee. At the beginning of the 2010-2011 academic year, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) charged the CORE Committee with reviewing its future role as the University transitions to a new General Education program. The CORE Committee was specifically asked to: re-define the charge of the committee to one that aligns with the new vision of General Education; suggest changes to the membership of the committee so that it appropriately reflects its new charge; suggest a new name for the existing CORE Committee that aligns with its role within the new General Education program; and consult with the Senate Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee to recommend appropriate changes to the Senate Bylaws to reflect this transition.</p>
Relevant Policy # & URL:	<p>Bylaws of the University Senate: www.senate.umd.edu/governingdocs/bylawsrevised02-09-11.pdf</p>
Recommendation:	<p>The CORE Committee, with endorsement from the ERG Committee, recommends that the attached specifications replace the current committee specifications for the Senate CORE Committee in the Bylaws of the University Senate, establishing a new University Senate General Education Committee. The committee also</p>

	<p>recommends that the General Education Committee specifications in the Bylaws be reviewed following the decommission of the CORE Program, to remove the charge in 6.4.b(1) pertaining to the ongoing CORE Program.</p>
<p>Committee Work:</p>	<p>Over the course of the 2010-2011 academic year, the Senate CORE Committee reviewed and discussed the charge from the SEC. The committee identified areas of the current specifications, including the committee's membership and charge, which would need to change. Following months of deliberation, the CORE Committee drafted specifications to be recommended to the Senate ERG Committee for endorsement. The CORE Committee drafted the specifications to better align the committee with the spirit of the new General Education program. It worked with the Office of Undergraduate Studies to develop the new charge (6.4.b) and the section on the relation of the committee to the office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies (6.4.d).</p> <p>Following further discussion with the ERG Committee, final recommended specifications were created and approved. The ERG Committee endorsed the final recommendations on March 16, 2011. The CORE Committee voted in favor of forwarding the attached recommendations to the Senate on March 31, 2011.</p>
<p>Alternatives:</p>	<p>The Senate could choose not to accept these recommended specifications. Alternative specifications would need to be created.</p>
<p>Risks:</p>	<p>There are no associated risks.</p>
<p>Financial Implications:</p>	<p>There are no related financial implications.</p>
<p>Further Approvals Required: (<i>*Important for PCC Items</i>)</p>	<p>Senate Approval, Presidential Approval</p>

Senate CORE Committee

Transition of the Senate CORE Committee Report

Senate Document 10-11-13

March 2011

Background

In the mid-1980s, a committee of faculty, staff, and students was created to review undergraduate education at the University of Maryland. The committee produced a report called "Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education." This report made many recommendations and was approved by the College Park Senate in 1988. As a result, the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Studies Program (CORE) was created and implemented.

The CORE Program went into effect in May of 1990. Most students complete CORE requirements; it is the set of general education requirements that all undergraduates must complete in addition to their major, department, and college requirements in order to obtain their bachelor's degrees. CORE courses constitute approximately 43-46 credits toward a regular undergraduate degree. The CORE Program consists of four elements: Fundamental Studies, Distributive Studies, Advanced Studies, and Human Cultural Diversity.

The Senate Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program (CORE) Committee was established and charged with exercising continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the CORE Program. The committee's authority included, but was not limited to, evaluation, selection, and oversight of courses which satisfy fundamental studies, distributive studies, advanced studies, cultural diversity, capstone, and freshman seminar requirements as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988. It also could make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and could make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deemed appropriate.

The CORE Program and Senate CORE Committee served the University well for the next twenty years.

In 2008, the University of Maryland published a new ten-year Strategic Plan called "Transforming Maryland: Higher Expectations." This new Strategic Plan discussed general education at the University. It stated that the University would implement a new General Education Program that would complement the disciplinary programs and enriched special programs and would be designed to help students develop the knowledge, habits of thought, and outlook that will prepare them to succeed and thrive in the 21st Century. One of the goals of the plan was that the Provost, in consultation with the University Senate, would oversee the development of a broad, conceptual plan into a full operational General Education Program at the University. The Strategic Plan stated that the Provost and the Senate would jointly appoint a task force to develop a detailed plan for the revision of the General Education program at the University of Maryland. Such a task force was created and charged in early 2009.

On March 10, 2010, the General Education Task Force presented a draft of its proposed plan to the SEC. The SEC amended the plan and voted in support of the proposal. The draft was

released to the campus community and was discussed at an open forum at a Senate meeting on March 25, 2010. After the meeting, the Task Force incorporated suggestions from throughout campus to create a final report.

At its meeting on April 8, 2010, the University Senate passed the proposal entitled, "Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland" (Senate Document 09-10-34). In the plan, the General Education Task Force identified its vision for the evolution of the Senate CORE Committee as follows:

The Task Force also recommends that the special Senate-Provost Implementation Committee select someone to take overall responsibility for General Education. It believes that person should be the Dean for Undergraduate Studies, who, in this capacity, will report to the Provost and to the Chair of the University Senate. In so recommending, the Task Force is suggesting a rebalancing of the relationship between the Dean for Undergraduate Studies and the General Education (previously CORE) Committee of the University Senate. Rather than employing the Senate Committee for individual course approvals, the Task Force envisions the role of a Senate-elected Committee to be one that provides broad oversight and supervision over the entire General Education program—evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes and their assessments (where standards for learning outcomes must be established), and maintaining the overall balance of courses, for example, in the I-series (where targets for each College and School have to be established) and in other Distributive Studies categories.

In early fall 2010, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) asked the Senate CORE Committee to review its future role as the University transitions to a new General Education program. The SEC charged the CORE Committee to define a new vision and scope of the committee under the new General Education Plan (Appendix 7). The CORE Committee was specifically asked to: re-define the charge of the committee to one that aligns with the new vision of General Education; suggest changes to the membership of the committee so that it appropriately reflects its new charge; suggest a new name for the existing CORE Committee that aligns with its role within the new General Education program; and consult with the Senate Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee to recommend appropriate changes to the Senate Bylaws to reflect this transition.

The committee's original deadline was set for December 1, 2010. However, official implementation of the new General Education program was postponed until the fall of 2012. This postponement was announced at the Senate meeting on October 13, 2010. Thus, the CORE Committee voted on October 14, 2010 to ask for an extension. The SEC granted an extension until March 14, 2011 (Appendix 6).

Committee Work

Over the course of the 2010-2011 academic year, the Senate CORE Committee reviewed and discussed the charge. The committee discussed how the vision and scope of the new committee under the General Education program could be defined.

The committee agreed that the new name of the CORE Committee should be the Senate General Education Committee. The committee identified areas of the current specifications, including the membership and the charge, which would need to change. Following months of deliberation, the CORE Committee drafted specifications to be recommended to the Senate

ERG Committee for endorsement. The CORE Committee drafted the specifications to better align the committee with the spirit of the new General Education program. It worked with the Office of Undergraduate Studies to develop the new charge (6.4.b) and the section on the relation of the committee to the office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies (6.4.d). The rationale and decision making processes that went into a number of the changes are described below.

Firstly, the CORE Committee decided to recommend that the Chair of the General Education Committee be a faculty member of the Senate. The committee members felt strongly that a faculty member should chair the General Education Committee, but that the faculty member should not be selected from within the membership of the committee, as previously prescribed for the CORE Committee. Logistically, selecting a chair from the faculty Senate membership is preferable to prescribing that the chair must also serve the role of a faculty representative on the committee itself. This change will align the chair appointment process to that used for all other standing Senate committees.

Secondly, because General Education strives to provide students with a broad exposure to different disciplines, the committee decided to create a membership that will invite faculty representation from all colleges and schools. The committee agreed that inclusivity is an important part of the General Education program. Since the perspectives and concerns from various colleges and schools differ, the committee determined that it would be beneficial to have permanent representation from all colleges and schools on the new committee.

Thirdly, the committee also increased the number of student members, while limiting the overall student representation to the undergraduate population, since undergraduate students are the main population served by the General Education program. The committee decided to increase the number of students because the number of faculty had increased, as well.

Additionally, the committee decided to add an ex-officio member from College Park Scholars, since College Park Scholars is currently working to effectively align its curricula with the new General Education requirements. Because the Honors College and College Park Scholars work with approximately half of the incoming freshman classes, and because Scholars is embracing the new General Education course designations, an argument can be made for both of the directors to sit on the new General Education Committee.

Lastly, the committee recommended that the quorum of the new General Education Committee be set at a majority of voting members, which will equal eleven. By striking the line about the current quorum number, the committee would follow the practice in the Bylaws (5.3.c) which says, "Unless a quorum number is specified in the membership description of a committee, the quorum shall be a majority of voting members of the committee." While the new total membership number, 20, would potentially call for a quorum of 9 members if it had been in existence when ERG reviewed the process of quorum calculations in 2010, the CORE Committee decided that a majority of voting members is more appropriate for the General Education Committee.

The above recommendations were submitted to the ERG Committee on March 7, 2011 (Appendix 5). The ERG Committee carefully reviewed the recommended specifications at its meeting on March 9, 2011. The ERG Committee sent a response back to the Chair of the CORE Committee stating that it voted to recommend the addition of two graduate students, one representative each from the humanities and sciences disciplines, to the membership of the General Education Committee. ERG explained that it felt strongly that graduate student

representation on the General Education Committee is not only necessary, but will improve the working of the committee, because of the heavy involvement of graduate students in teaching many CORE courses, especially in English and Mathematics. Additionally, the ERG Committee expressed that graduate students can bring valuable insights into the design of the General Education curriculum due to their hybrid status as both students and instructors, and many aspire to become professors and educators.

The CORE Committee responded that it recognized that while some graduate assistants might teach General Education courses, not all graduate students will teach. Since there is currently no mechanism in place for recruiting only volunteers specifically from the pool of those graduate students who might teach General Education classes, volunteer recruitment could be difficult. The CORE Committee also explained that it had been concerned with the proposed membership becoming too large. Because not all Senate committee memberships mandate that there must be representation from all constituent groups, it had decided not to prescribe a permanent graduate student representation on the committee. Rather, the CORE Committee discussed the idea that graduate assistants who teach General Education courses should be utilized under section 6.4.c, which states that the committee may establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. However, the ERG Committee stated that it did not believe that inclusion of graduate students in potential subcommittees would constitute sufficient involvement.

Following consultation with the Chair of the CORE Committee, the ERG Committee revised its initial recommendation of adding two graduate students to the proposed membership of the General Education Committee, and a compromise was created. Subsequently, the ERG Committee voted to approve language that will require the membership of the proposed General Education Committee to include a total of four students, one of whom must be an undergraduate student, and one of whom must be a graduate student. This will allow for representation of graduate students on the General Education Committee. Additionally, the ERG Committee voted on March 16, 2011 to revise a few sections of the CORE Committee's recommended specifications for grammatical clarity and readability. The recommended quorum remains unchanged. With these edits and final proposed changes (Appendix 2), the ERG Committee fully endorses the recommendation below. The CORE Committee was made aware of this compromise and the ERG Committee's final endorsement (Appendix 4) on March 18, 2011.

The goals and purpose of the new Senate General Education Committee are also outlined in the General Education Implementation Plan, created by the General Education Implementation Committee. The CORE Committee worked closely with the Implementation Committee to ensure that the ideals of the new committee would be included in the Plan. The General Education Implementation Plan was approved by the Senate on February 9, 2011. The President approved the Plan on February 18, 2011.

Recommendation

The CORE Committee, with endorsement from the ERG Committee, recommends that the attached specifications (Appendix 1) replace the current committee specifications (Appendix 3) for the Senate CORE Committee in the Bylaws of the University Senate, establishing a new University Senate General Education Committee. The committee also recommends that the General Education Committee specifications in the Bylaws be reviewed following the decommissioning of the CORE Program, to remove the charge in 6.4.b(1) pertaining to the ongoing CORE Program.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Recommended General Education Committee Specifications for the Bylaws

Appendix 2 – Proposed Changes to the Current CORE Committee Specifications in the Bylaws

Appendix 3 – Current CORE Committee Specifications as outlined in the Senate Bylaws

Appendix 4 – Endorsement by ERG Committee (Initial and Revised Memos)

Appendix 5 – CORE Committee's Request for Endorsement

Appendix 6 – Request for Extension from the CORE Committee and Response from the SEC

Appendix 7 – Charge from the SEC

Recommended General Education Committee Specifications for the University Senate Bylaws

6.4 General Education Committee:

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate;
- (2) Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;
- (3) Four (4) students, of whom at least one (1) must be an undergraduate student and at least one (1) must be a graduate student, from four (4) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above and those under the Office of Undergraduate Studies.
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies, the Director of the Honors College, the Executive Director of College Park Scholars (or their designees), and the Associate Dean for General Education shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the Core requirements, the General Education Committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland consistent with its authority as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* and the *General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate.
- (2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the*

University of Maryland and the General Education Implementation Plan approved by the University Senate in February 2011. The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations concerning the General Education Program to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies. Such recommendations shall include, as the committee deems appropriate, the program's requirements and its vision, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.c The committee may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the General Education Committee as the General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; areas where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) The Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies shall inform the committee of modifications in the proposal or review process, the disposition of recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.

Appendix 2

Recommended Changes to the Current CORE Committee Specifications in the Senate Bylaws Shown in Blue/Bold Font

6.4 General Education Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program (CORE) Committee:

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate ~~from the faculty representatives on the committee;~~
- (2) ~~Ten (10)~~ Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;

Seven (7) faculty representatives from the Arts and Sciences colleges: Arts and Humanities; Behavioral and Social Sciences; Computer, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences; and Chemical and Life Sciences, provided each college has at least one (1) representative and no college has more than two (2) representatives;

Three (3) faculty representatives rotated among the following colleges: Education; Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the School of Public Health; Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, provided no college has more than one (1) representative;
 - (b) ~~Three (3) faculty representatives rotated among the following colleges: Education; Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the School of Public Health; Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, provided no college has more than one (1) representative;~~
- (3) ~~And two (2) student representatives. Four (4) students, of whom at least one (1) must be an undergraduate student and at least one (1) must be a graduate student, from four (4) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above and those under the Office of Undergraduate Studies;~~
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for of Undergraduate Studies, and the Director of the Honors College, the Executive Director of College Park Scholars University Honors Program (or their designees), and the Associate Dean for General Education Director of CORE Planning and Implementation shall serve as voting ex officio members.

~~6.4.b Quorum: A quorum of the CORE Committee shall be eight (8) voting members.~~

6.4.eb Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the CORE requirements, The General Education eCommittee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland-UMCP.

~~consistent with its authority includes, but is not limited to, evaluation, selection, and oversight of courses which satisfy fundamental studies, distributive studies, advanced studies, cultural diversity, capstone, and freshman seminar requirements~~ as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland and the General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate.

(2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland and the General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations concerning the General Education Program to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies. Such recommendations shall include, as the committee deems appropriate, the program's requirements and its vision, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.~~dc~~ The committee ~~shall~~ may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the CORE General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the CORE General Education Committee as the CORE General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; areas where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) The Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies shall inform the committee of modifications in the proposal or review process, the disposition of recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.

Current Committee Specifications – As Outlined in the Bylaws of the University Senate

6.4 **Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program (CORE) Committee:**

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer appointed by the chair of the Senate from the faculty representatives on the committee;
- (2) Ten (10) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) Seven (7) faculty representatives from the Arts and Sciences colleges: Arts and Humanities; Behavioral and Social Sciences; Computer, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences; and Chemical and Life Sciences, provided each college has at least one (1) representative and no college has more than two (2) representatives;
 - (b) Three (3) faculty representatives rotated among the following colleges: Education; Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the School of Public Health; Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, provided no college has more than one (1) representative;
- (3) And two (2) student representatives.
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean of Undergraduate Studies and the Director of the University Honors Program (or their designees) and the Director of CORE Planning and Implementation shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b Charge: The committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at UMCP. Its authority includes, but is not limited to, evaluation, selection, and oversight of courses which satisfy fundamental studies, distributive studies, advanced studies, cultural diversity, capstone, and freshman seminar requirements as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate.

6.4.c The committee shall, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the CORE Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the CORE Committee as the CORE Committee and the Executive Committee deem appropriate.



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To: Laura Rosenthal
Chair, Senate CORE Committee

From: Marc Pound
Chair, Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee

Subject: Transition of the Senate CORE Committee
Senate Doc. No. 10-11-13

Subsequent to continued email discussions regarding the Transition of the CORE Committee following the initial response from the ERG Committee on March 9, 2011, the ERG Committee has re-evaluated its original recommendation of adding two graduate students to the proposed membership of the General Education Committee. Following conversation with the Chair of the CORE Committee, a compromise was created that will require the membership to include four students, one of whom must be an undergraduate student, and one of whom must be a graduate student. The ERG Committee has voted and approved this recommendation, which will leave the quorum calculation unchanged, and will allow for representation of graduate students on the General Education Committee.

Therefore, the ERG Committee recommends amending section 6.4.a(3) of the proposed committee specifications to read as follows:

“Four (4) students, of whom at least one (1) must be an undergraduate student and at least one (1) must be a graduate student, from four (4) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above.”

Additionally, following further review, the ERG Committee voted to revise sections of the CORE Committee’s recommended General Education Committee Specifications for grammatical clarity and readability. Attached are the ERG Committee’s approved edits to the General Education Committee Specifications, as well as a final version of the specifications endorsed by the ERG Committee for submission to the Senate Executive Committee.

With these final changes, the ERG Committee fully endorses the recommendations of the CORE Committee. If you have any questions, please contact me (mpound@umd.edu, x51520) or Glen Fuhrmeister in the Senate Office (glenf@umd.edu, x51243).

MP:gf

Attachments

CHANGES MADE BY THE ERG COMMITTEE – MARCH 16, 2011

Recommended Committee Specifications – As Outlined in the Bylaws of the University Senate

6.4 General Education Committee:

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate;
- (2) Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;
 - (3) ~~Three (3) undergraduate student representatives (from three (3) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above).~~ Four (4) students, of whom at least one (1) must be an undergraduate student and at least one (1) must be a graduate student, from four (4) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above;
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies, the Director of the Honors College, and the Executive Director of College Park Scholars (or their designees), and the Associate Dean for General Education shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the Core requirements, the General Education Committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland consistent with its authority as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* and the *General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate

(2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland*. ~~The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies concerning the General Education Program, its requirements and its vision, as it deems appropriate, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.~~ The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations concerning the General Education Program to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies. Such recommendations shall include, as the committee deems appropriate, the program's requirements and its vision, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.c The committee may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the General Education Committee as the General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; areas where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) ~~The committee shall be informed by the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies of modifications in proposal or review processes, the disposition of the recommendations from the committee, and any~~ The Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies shall inform the committee of modifications in the proposal or review process, the disposition of recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.

ENDORSED BY THE ERG COMMITTEE – MARCH 16, 2011

Recommended Committee Specifications – As Outlined in the Bylaws of the University Senate

6.4 General Education Committee:

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate;
- (2) Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;
- (3) Four (4) students, of whom at least one (1) must be an undergraduate student and at least one (1) must be a graduate student, from four (4) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above;
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies, the Director of the Honors College, and the Executive Director of College Park Scholars (or their designees), and the Associate Dean for General Education shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the Core requirements, the General Education Committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland consistent with its authority as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* and the *General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate
- (2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and

supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland*. The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations concerning the General Education Program to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies. Such recommendations shall include, as the committee deems appropriate, the program's requirements and its vision, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.c The committee may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the General Education Committee as the General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; areas where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) The Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies shall inform the committee of modifications in the proposal or review process, the disposition of recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.



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To: Laura Rosenthal
Chair, Senate CORE Committee

From: Marc Pound
Chair, Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee

Subject: Transition of the Senate CORE Committee
Senate Doc. No. 10-11-13

The ERG Committee met on March 9, 2011 to discuss the Transition of the Senate CORE Committee; specifically the recommended committee specifications (including the new name, charge, and membership) for the Senate Bylaws.

After careful review of the CORE Committee's recommended specifications, the ERG Committee recommends the addition of two graduate students to the membership of the General Education Committee. Because of the heavy involvement of graduate students in teaching many CORE courses, especially in English and Mathematics, it is the strong feeling of ERG that graduate student representation on the General Education Committee is not only necessary, but will improve the working of the committee. We do not believe that inclusion of graduate students in potential subcommittees under section 6.4.c is sufficient involvement. The ERG Committee suggests one graduate student representative each from humanities and sciences disciplines.

The ERG Committee recognizes that the CORE Committee is using the majority method in calculating its quorum. The addition of two graduate students will increase quorum of the CORE Committee by one; however, we believe adherence to principles of Shared Governance should outweigh quorum considerations.

The ERG Committee is prepared to fully and expeditiously endorse the recommendations of the CORE Committee after this change is made. If you have questions, please contact me (mpound@umd.edu , x51520) or Glen Fuhrmeister in the Senate Office (glenf@umd.edu , x51243).

MP:gf



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UNIVERSITY SENATE

Date: March 7, 2011

To: Marc Pound
Chair, Elections, Representation, & Governance (ERG) Committee

From: Laura Rosenthal
Chair, Senate CORE Committee

Subject: Transition of the Senate CORE Committee
Senate Doc. No. 10-11-13

The Senate passed the proposal entitled, *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* (Senate Doc#: 09-10-34) at its meeting on April 8, 2010. In that plan, the General Education Task Force identified its vision for the evolution of the Senate's CORE Committee as follows:

“The Task Force is suggesting a rebalancing of the relationship between the Dean for Undergraduate Studies and the General Education (previously CORE) Committee of the University Senate. Rather than employing the Senate Committee for individual course approvals, the Task Force envisions the role of a Senate-elected Committee to be one that provides broad oversight and supervision over the entire General Education program evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes and their assessments (where standards for learning outcomes must be established), and maintaining the overall balance of courses, for example, in the I-series (where targets for each College and School have to be established) and in other Distributive Studies categories.”

As a result, the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requested that the CORE Committee review its future role with General Education. The SEC specifically asked us to re-define our committee's charge, suggest changes to our membership, suggest a new name for the committee, and consult with ERG to make sure that our recommendations are appropriate for the Senate Bylaws.

After discussing our vision for the new General Education Committee for over the past five months, the CORE Committee has created a final draft of our recommended committee specifications (which include the new name, charge, and membership) for the Senate Bylaws. These specifications are attached to this memo. We respectfully request that the ERG Committee review and consider our suggestions. If you approve of the specifications, we would like to receive a memo of endorsement from ERG, so that we can submit it with our final report and recommendations to the SEC.

The CORE Committee created these specifications in order to better align the committee with the spirit of the new General Education program. Because General Education strives to provide students with a broad exposure to different disciplines, we created a

membership that will invite faculty representation from all colleges and schools. We also increased the number of undergraduate student members while limiting the overall student representation to the undergraduate population, since they are the main population served by the General Education program. We also added an ex-officio member from College Park Scholars, since College Park Scholars is currently working to effectively align its curricula with the new General Education requirements. Because the Honors College and College Park Scholars work with approximately half of the incoming freshman classes, and because Scholars is embracing the new General Education course designations, an argument can be made for both of the directors to sit on the new Senate General Education Committee.

You will also notice that we are recommending that the quorum of the new General Education Committee be set at a majority of voting members, which will equal 11. By striking the line about the current quorum number, the committee will follow the practice now written into the Bylaws (5.3.c) which says, "Unless a quorum number is specified in the membership description of a committee, the quorum shall be a majority of voting members of the committee." While the new total membership number, 20, would potentially call for a quorum of 9 members if it had been in existence when ERG reviewed quorum calculations earlier this year, the CORE Committee has decided that a majority of voting members is more appropriate for the General Education Committee, mainly because it will ensure that no decision can be made with faculty members in the minority of voters present at a committee meeting.

We hope that you will find our suggested specifications acceptable, and we look forward to hearing from you. Thank you for adding this item to the agenda of your March 9, 2011 meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me at lrosent1@umd.edu or x51408 or Chelsea Benincasa in the Senate Office (chelseab@umd.edu or x58470).

Attachments

LR:cb

Recommended Committee Specifications – As Outlined in the Bylaws of the University Senate

6.4 General Education Committee:

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate;
- (2) Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;
- (3) Three (3) undergraduate student representatives (from three (3) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2)(a) above).
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies, the Director of the Honors College, and the Executive Director of College Park Scholars (or their designees), and the Associate Dean for General Education shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the Core requirements, the General Education Committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland consistent with its authority as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* and the *General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate
- (2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland*. The General Education Committee shall review and

make recommendations to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies concerning the General Education Program, its requirements and its vision, as it deems appropriate, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.c The committee may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the General Education Committee as the General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) The committee shall be informed by the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies of modifications in proposal or review processes, the disposition of the recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.

Recommended Committee Specifications (with tracked changes)

6.4 **General Education ~~Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program (CORE)~~ Committee:**

6.4.a Membership: The committee shall consist of:

- (1) A presiding officer, who is a member of the faculty and is appointed by the chair of the Senate ~~from the faculty representatives on the committee;~~
- (2) ~~Ten (10)~~ Twelve (12) faculty members consisting of:
 - (a) One (1) representative from each of the following entities: the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the College of Arts and Humanities; the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences; the College of Education; the A. James Clark School of Engineering; the College of Information Studies; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; the School of Public Health; and the School of Public Policy;

~~Seven (7) faculty representatives from the Arts and Sciences colleges: Arts and Humanities; Behavioral and Social Sciences; Computer, Mathematical, and Physical Sciences; and Chemical and Life Sciences, provided each college has at least one (1) representative and no college has more than two (2) representatives;~~
 - (b) ~~Three (3) faculty representatives rotated among the following colleges: Education; Architecture, Planning, and Preservation; the Robert H. Smith School of Business and Management; the School of Public Health; Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Philip Merrill College of Journalism; and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, provided no college has more than one (1) representative;~~
- (3) ~~And two (2) student representatives.~~ Three (3) undergraduate student representatives (from three (3) different entities listed in 6.4.a(2) above).
- (4) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for ~~of~~ Undergraduate Studies, and the Director of the Honors College and the Executive Director of College Park Scholars ~~University Honors Program (or their designees),~~ and the Associate Dean for General Education ~~Director of CORE Planning and Implementation~~ shall serve as voting ex officio members.

6.4.b ~~Quorum: A quorum of the CORE Committee shall be eight (8) voting members.~~

6.4.eb Charge:

- (1) To facilitate the ongoing Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program for students under the CORE requirements, ~~The~~ General Education ~~e~~Committee shall exercise continuing supervisory authority and general oversight of the Core Liberal Arts and Sciences Program at the University of Maryland UMCP, ~~consistent with~~ its authority includes, ~~but is not limited to,~~ evaluation, selection, and oversight of courses which satisfy fundamental studies,

~~distributive studies, advanced studies, cultural diversity, capstone, and freshman seminar requirements~~ as mandated by the report on undergraduate education entitled *Promises to Keep: The College Park Plan for Undergraduate Education* (Pease Report), adopted by the College Park Senate in March 1988 and in coordination with the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland* and the *General Education Implementation Plan* approved by the University Senate in February 2011. It shall also make periodic reports to the Senate on its evaluation of the effectiveness of the program and make any recommendations for revision or improvements it deems appropriate.

(2) The General Education Committee shall exercise broad oversight and supervision of the General Education Program at the University of Maryland as described in the 2010 document *Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland*. The General Education Committee shall review and make recommendations to the Senate and the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies concerning the General Education Program, its requirements and its vision, as it deems appropriate, especially with regard to evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes, and maintaining the balance of courses in the General Education categories.

6.4.d~~c~~ The committee ~~shall~~ may, under the provisions of Section 5.7, establish subcommittees for each major segment of its work. A member of the ~~CORE~~ General Education Committee shall serve as the presiding officer of each subcommittee. The other members may, but need not, be members of the ~~CORE~~ General Education Committee as the ~~CORE~~ General Education Committee and the Senate Executive Committee deem appropriate.

6.4.d Relation of the General Education Committee to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies:

(1) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will prepare an annual report on the status of the General Education Program and will send the report to the General Education Committee by September 1.

(2) The Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will meet with the General Education Committee as needed to discuss or update the report. Topics will include but not be limited to: the membership and ongoing work of the General Education Faculty Boards; the proposal and approval process for General Education courses; the learning outcomes for the different course categories; where additional courses or rebalancing may be needed; trends and developments that may impact the General Education Program; and informational resources for students, faculty, and advisors about the General Education Program.

(3) The committee shall be informed by the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Dean for Undergraduate Studies of modifications in proposal or review processes, the disposition of the recommendations from the committee, and any other changes regarding the implementation of the General Education Program as specifically delegated to that office.



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October 28, 2010

Dr. Laura Rosenthal
Chair, CORE Committee
3106 Tawes Hall
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Dr. Rosenthal,

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) reviewed your request to grant the CORE Committee an extension to the deadline on the "Transition of the Senate CORE Committee" (Senate Doc. No. 10-11-13) charge. Since implementation of the new General Education plan has been delayed until the Fall 2012 semester, this extension will not negatively impact the process. The SEC met on October 27, 2010 and voted to grant your request for an extension of the deadline for the charge to March 14, 2011.

Please coordinate with Chelsea Benincasa to submit your report to the SEC. Thank you for your committee's work on this important step in the implementation process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda Mabbs".

Linda Mabbs
Chair

Cc: Chelsea Benincasa



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October 19, 2010

Professor Linda Mabbs
Chair, University Senate
1100 Marie Mount Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-7541

Dear Ms. Mabbs:

The Senate CORE Committee began its work on Senate Doc #10-11-13, "Transition of the Senate CORE Committee," at its first meeting in September 2010. At that meeting, the CORE Committee began to discuss how the vision and scope of the new committee under the General Education program will be defined.

The CORE Committee has been diligently working on re-defining the charge of the committee to align with the goals of General Education, and is exploring changes to the membership, so that it will appropriately reflect a new charge. The original deadline set for the CORE Committee's report on this charge was December 1, 2010.

Given that the official implementation of the new General Education program has been postponed until the Fall of 2012, we feel as if an extension on the abovementioned deadline will allow us to fully consider all issues relating to this charge prior to reporting back to the Senate Executive Committee. We will continue to work with representatives of the Office of Undergraduate Studies, so that they are aware of our progress in any way that might prove to be helpful for their work on implementation.

We respectfully request that the CORE Committee be granted an extension for Senate Doc #10-11-13 until March 14, 2011. This new deadline will allow ample time for the Senate Committee on Committees to incorporate the new membership specifications for the committee volunteer recruitment period for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Please let me know if you have questions or if I may be of assistance. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Laura J. Rosenthal
Chair, University Senate CORE Committee

LR/cb

Cc: Reka Montfort, Executive Director, University Senate



University Senate CHARGE

Date:	September 2, 2010
To:	Laura Rosenthal Chair, CORE Committee
From:	Linda Mabbs Chair, University Senate
Subject:	Transition of the Senate CORE Committee
Senate Document #:	10-11-13
Deadline:	December 1, 2010

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requests that the CORE Committee review its future role as we transition to the new General Education Plan for the University.

The Senate passed the proposal entitled, “Transforming General Education at the University of Maryland” (Senate Doc#: 09-10-34) at its meeting on April 8, 2010. In that plan, the task force identified its vision for the evolution of the Senate’s CORE Committee as follows:

The Task Force also recommends that the special Senate-Provost Implementation Committee select someone to take overall responsibility for General Education. It believes that person should be the Dean for Undergraduate Studies, who, in this capacity, will report to the Provost and to the Chair of the University Senate. **In so recommending, the Task Force is suggesting a rebalancing of the relationship between the Dean for Undergraduate Studies and the General Education (previously CORE) Committee of the University Senate. Rather than employing the Senate Committee for individual course approvals, the Task Force envisions the role of a Senate-elected Committee to be one that provides broad oversight and supervision over the entire General Education program—evaluating trends, reviewing learning outcomes and their assessments (where standards for learning outcomes must be established), and maintaining the overall balance of courses, for example, in the I-series (where targets for each College and School have to be established) and in other Distributive Studies categories.”**

The SEC suggests that the CORE Committee work with the Office of Undergraduate Studies to define the new vision and scope of the committee under this new plan.

Specifically, we ask that you:

1. Re-define the charge of the committee to one that aligns with this new vision.
2. Suggest changes to the membership of the committee so it appropriately reflects its new charge.

3. Suggest a new name for the existing CORE Committee that aligns with its role within the new general education program.
4. Consult with the Elections, Representation & Governance (ERG) Committee to recommend appropriate changes to the Senate Bylaws to reflect this transition.

We ask that you submit your report and recommendations to the Senate Office no later than December 1, 2010. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Reka Montfort in the Senate Office, extension 5-5804.