

# Academic Council Minutes

## August 7, 2018

### Midwestern State University

The Academic Council met Tuesday, August 8, 2018, in the Dillard College of Business Administration, the Priddy Conference Room.

Voting members in attendance were:

Dr. Marcy Brown Marsden, Dean, College of Science and Mathematics  
Dr. Martin Camacho, Dean, Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts  
Dr. Matthew Capps, Dean, Gordon T. and Ellen West College of Education  
Dr. Jeff Killion, Interim Dean, Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services  
Dr. Jeff Stambaugh, Interim Dean, Dillard College of Business Administration  
Dr. Sam Watson, Dean, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Voting members unable to be in attendance were:

Dr. Laura Fidelie, Faculty Senate Vice-Chair  
Dr. Kathryn Zuckweiler, Dean, Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School  
Student Government Association Vice President

Other Attendees:

Dr. Kristen Garrison, Associate Vice President for Undergraduate Education and Assessment  
Ms. Leah Hickman, Associate Director, Admissions  
Ms. Darla English, Registrar  
Dr. Clara Latham, University Librarian  
Mr. Mark McClendon, Institutional Research  
Dr. Dan Stroud, Institutional Research  
Dr. Linda Veazey, Core Curriculum Committee Chair

Dr. James Johnston, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presided and the meeting began at 2:03 p.m.

#### **Old Business**

There being no Old Business to discuss, the Council moved on to New Business.

#### **New Business**

1. Dr. Johnston presented an update to the university catalog regarding commencement graduation absentia approval. *Information item; no vote required. (closed)*

Midwestern State University conducts commencement exercises in December and May. Candidates who complete their degrees during the summer terms may participate in the December ceremony. Candidates who complete their degrees in the fall semester are required to attend the December

commencement unless approved by the Provost **or designee** for graduation in absentia. Candidates who complete their degrees at the end of the spring semester must attend the May commencement unless approved by the Provost **or designee** for graduation in absentia. Conferred degrees will be posted to students' permanent records as of the last day of finals for second summer term or as of the date of the graduation ceremony for December and May.

2. Dr. Veazey, Chair of the Core Curriculum Committee, presented a proposal for a General Education Assessment Plan and Comprehensive Core Assessment Rubric endorsed by the Core Curriculum Committee. Dr. Watson made a motion to adopt the proposal and Dr. Capps seconded the motion. This opened the proposal for discussion. Upon review and discussion, *Dr. Watson made a motion to table the proposal for the September Academic Council for further review. Dr. Capps seconded the motion and the proposal was tabled. (open)*

## General Education Assessment Plan

April 2018

### General Education Assessment Plan

The following Assessment Plan seeks to both satisfy SACSCOC and THECB requirements for continuous improvement, as well as to create an efficient and effective measurement of student learning at MSU. In turn, it is also an attempt to retrieve this vital information while decreasing burden on faculty. These proposed initiatives are aimed toward a fall 2018 implementation.

#### 1. Direct Measure of Student Performance: Core Objectives

Per THECB core curriculum guidelines, each core course must assess a prescribed set of core objectives, and the institution must report on the overall performance per objective (not course). THECB has approved rubrics to assess these objectives for each core course. At the end of each semester, faculty teaching core courses will create a master tally of their students' performance on pre-selected assignments, using a generalized rubric based upon the AACU Value Rubrics previously prescribed. Faculty teaching specified courses will be asked to assess the sample using only the outcomes specifically requested by the University Assessment Committee (UAC). The IRA office will then compile the tallied data and then report back to the UAC and the Core Curriculum Committee.

The data derived from these instruments will satisfy THECB core course reporting as well as SACS general education reporting requirements.

#### Action To Be Completed

##### Core Curriculum Committee

- a. Develop Comprehensive Core Assessment Rubric (CCAR) derived from AACU Value Rubrics (see attached);
- b. Vet proposed CCAR with Faculty Senate, Provost and Deans' Council, and University Assessment Committee.
- c. Propose General Education Assessment Plan to Academic Council

University Assessment Committee – Determine appropriate samples and develop viable course assessment rotation.

#### 2. Direct Measure of Student Performance: Standardized Test

A standardized assessment will be administered to all students enrolled in English 1143 during the fall semester, of which, only the data from first-year students will be used as a pre-test of writing, reading, and quantitative skills. During the identified students' junior year, they will take the post-test. Each of these students will receive yet to be determined incentives as appreciation for their participation in the assessment. It is anticipated that approximately fifty percent of the original pre-test will be available to take part in the post-test phase of the study.

## **Comprehensive Core Assessment Rubric**

*Please see attached document.*

### **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted.

Deb Schulte  
Assistant to the Provost