

Note: The text below was presented on the website for the Curriculum Review Steering Committee and is captured here for archival purposes [copied on April 28, 2014]. One additional web page provided instructions for submitting public comments that would be shared on the faculty's Curriculum Review site in Blackboard®. No public comments were received in this way.

Curriculum Review [web page]

In December 2010 the Faculty Affairs Committee and the co-chairs of the Dean's Advisory Council recommended to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences the agenda items summarized below:

- The Faculty of Arts & Sciences initiate a review of its undergraduate curriculum during the 2011-12 academic year.
- That, with regard to Arts & Sciences, the recommendations of the Curriculum Review Steering Committee extend to college-wide requirements for the baccalaureate degree as listed on pages 55-59 of the 2010-2011 Undergraduate Course Catalogue. Departmental and Program requirements, both at the undergraduate and at the graduate level, will not be part of the CRSC's review.
- The Educational Policy Committee shall review all recommendations and requests for changes in the undergraduate curriculum.
- The CRSC present its final report and recommendations to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences during the 2011-12 academic year.

Goals and Plans of the Steering Committee

The Steering Committee has adopted a "wide net" approach to its work, with the intent of (a) learning the experiences and best practices of similar undertakings at peer institutions and (b) consulting in the broadest possible ways among Arts & Sciences faculty members. See the planning calendar for a timeline of key events.

Steering Committee [web page]

Note that this committee completed its mandate in Fall 2012, with responsibility for the curriculum review turning to the Educational Policy Committee and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

Members of the Curriculum Review Steering Committee:

- Fred Corney, History and Russian and Post-Soviet Studies
- Josh Ehrlich, Physics
- Bill Hutton, Classical Studies
- Arthur Knight, American Studies and English
- Lisa Landino, Chemistry
- Michael Lewis, Mathematics (co-chair)
- Teresa Longo, Dean for Educational Policy (co-chair)
- Elizabeth Mead, Art and Art History
- Chris Nemacheck, Government
- Graham Ousey, Sociology
- Student member: [Caroline Yates '12], TBA

Liaisons at the Professional Schools:

- Brent Allred, Bill Geary, and Michael Luchs, Mason School of Business
- Jeremy Stoddard, School of Education

Documents [web page]

- [Faculty Affairs Committee's Recommendation to FAS](#) [pdf, Dec. 2010]
- [Provost's Charge to the Deans](#) [pdf, Sept. 2010]

Planning Calendar [web page]

This is the planning calendar for the Curriculum Review Steering Committee. Scroll down to view future events.

April 2011

- Committee approval of the DRAFT- planning calendar; submission of the calendar to EPC
- April meeting: Initial discussion of the following questions: What kind of data do we want? What kind of Liberal Arts Curriculum would we like to create? Will we create something new or adjust what we have?
Update: Throughout the spring and summer, the committee worked under the general understanding that we will create something new. As of late August, we continue to prefer a more integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the liberal arts than our GER structure currently makes possible.
- Prepare a presentation to the BOV; Lewis and Serghi make the presentation
- Establish subcommittee structure
The working subcommittees are: Data Collection; Institutional Memory; and Research on Other Models

May 2011

- Presentation of the calendar to A&S
- Evaluation of the CRSC budget

June 2011

- 5-day seminar for committee members on major issues and allocation of subcommittee assignments

July 2011

- Subcommittees work on assignments.

August 2011

- Three CRSC members attend the AAC&U Institute on General Education for a Global Century the first week in August
- Re-convene the committee on Wednesday August 17

September 2011

- Establish a plan for communicating with faculty. The plan will include small satellite committees or focus groups. The goal is to have faculty react to our work and contribute ideas.
- Set up website and other interactive sites. Distribute to the faculty of A&S a survey about the Liberal Arts at W&M.
- Meetings with guests from outside W&M and/or invitations for meetings to be held in October and November

October 2011

- Begin meetings with the small satellite committees or focus groups. Explore with them the following question: How do you and your department/program and area see itself in relation to the Liberal Arts? How would you, your department/program and area like to position yourself in the next two decades?

November 2011

- Continue meetings with the small satellite committees or focus groups.
- Committee meeting/seminar with outside scholars and experts on the Liberal Arts in the 21st Century

December 2011

- Half day retreat, Friday the 2nd. Review what we have learned; make decisions about the model(s) we will move forward.
Update: The committee's original (April 2011) plan was to design two new curriculum models. However, during the June seminar, the steering committee met with experts on change management from the Mason Business School. We have been advised that the proposed "two models" plan is problematic. As of August 26, our inclination is to construct one model.
- Briefing of administrators: Provost; Deans, Vice-provosts; Registrar

January 2012

- 5-day seminar on the design of the new curriculum; include sessions on proficiency requirements, course load, and the costs of a new curriculum

February 2012

- Faculty conversation about the preliminary model: February 28, 4-5:30 pm, 201 Washington Hall. All faculty are invited to attend.
- Faculty conversation about the preliminary model: February 29, 4-5:30 pm, Tidewater AB, Sadler Center. All faculty are invited to attend.

March 2012

- SRSC works on the revision and presentation of the new curriculum throughout the month.
- Presentation to EPC

April 2012

- Faculty conversation about the proposed curriculum: April 10, 4-5:30 pm, ISC 1127. All faculty are invited to attend.
- Faculty conversation about the proposed curriculum: April 11, 4-5:30 pm, Tyler 102. All faculty are invited to attend.

May 2012

- Presentation of year-end report to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences

September and October 2012

- Presentations to A&S departments and programs

November 2012

- Two faculty conversations: Presentation of the preliminary feasibility study; update on the proposal after the September and October meetings with programs and departments; and discussion. (1) Wednesday, November 7, from 4 to 5:30 pm in Chesapeake C, Sadler Center, and (2) Thursday, November 8, from 4 to 5:30 pm in the Commonwealth Auditorium, Sadler Center.
- Presentation of Executive Summary to the Educational Policy Committee.

December 2012

- Presentation of Executive Summary to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences.

Spring 2013

On February 5 the faculty approved a motion brought forward by the Educational Policy Committee (EPC) to endorse the guiding principles and conceptual framework of the proposed curriculum. Through the spring semester the EPC's working groups reviewed and adjusted each part of the curriculum for *seriatum* discussion by the faculty as a whole.

Fall 2013

The faculty continue their *seriatum* discussion of the new curriculum.