

TAP Core Competencies Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
August 3, 2012
Middlesex Community College

Present: D. Weiss (chair), L. Doninger, S. Gusky, B. Donohue-Lynch, K. Klucznik, E. Steeves, R. Picard, K. Larsen, S. Fagbemi, J. Shafer, M. Jackson, Elle Van Dermark, P. Raymond, P. Beals, J. Cohen, F. Coan

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by D. Weiss at 10:03 a.m.

2. Approval of July 27 Minutes: The committee approved the July 27 minutes with the following minor revisions:

- Change “minutes of July 7” to “minutes of July 6”
- Add that a motion to approve the Group One compromise framework was made and seconded

3. Announcements: D. Weiss distributed a handout listing the number of LA&S and GS&H degrees awarded per ConnSCU institution for the years 1992 through 2011 inclusive. The main charge of the steering committee is to establish a thirty-credit general education core for all degree programs that are designated transfer degrees.

4. Subcommittee Reports: The Continuing Learning/Information Literacy subcommittee returned revised learning outcomes to the steering committee, incorporating some of the changes recommended by the latter body but rejecting others and offering a rationale for their opposition. A brief discussion ensued concerning the need for and importance of better communication between the steering committee and the subcommittees.

The committee approved the revised outcomes on a 9-0 vote with three members abstaining.

5. Old Business: The Critical Analysis and Logical Thinking subcommittee opposes the steering committee’s recommendation to remove the bulleted items from the CA< learning outcomes. Stay tuned.

5. Rubric Template: R. Picard, speaking on behalf of Work Group Three (a.k.a. the Rubric Group), presented and explained a draft rubric template. After a brief discussion, the committee approved the template unanimously. The group drafted a list of important points and guidelines that need to be communicated to the subcommittees as they begin to create rubrics. E. Van Dermark will compile the list and e-mail it back to the steering committee for comment and possible revision. D. Weiss will then forward the final version to the subcommittees.

6. Framework Discussion: The committee resumed its work on the framework that it approved and seconded at the July 27 meeting. Once again, the group grappled with the

ramifications of designated vs. embedded courses. After much discussion, on an 11 to 3 vote the committee informally agreed to link all thirty core credits to specific competencies while also embedding some of the competencies. Each institution will have latitude to decide how and where to embed the embedded competencies so long as students complete all of the learning outcomes by the time they finish the thirty-credit core.

Following further debate, on a 9 to 2 vote, with one member abstaining, the committee informally agreed to designate six credits of written communication while requiring embedding of this competency as well. Finally, after still more discussion and debate, the committee voted 11-0, with two members abstaining, to approve a final framework, subject to editing for accuracy and clarity (see separate document).

7. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.

8. Next Meeting: August 17, 10:00 a.m., Middlesex Community College

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis Coan