

UNIVERSITY SENATE

ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2019-20

Committee Name: Rowan Core Committee

Number of Meetings Held this Year: 3

Committee Chair: Nathan Bauer

Committee Members: (list here)

Rudin, Joel	Daniels, Benjamin	Kennedy, Samantha
Fillenwarth, Gracemarie	Keenan, Kevin	Turley, Cheryl
Accardo, Amy	Hill, Jane	Larsen-Britt, Christine
Hernandez, Maria	Dickerson, Catharine	Fischetti, Jessica
Hostetter, Tony		

Purpose of / Charge to Committee:

The Rowan Core Committee has the following responsibilities:

- Reviewing proposals to add a Rowan Core literacy to an existing course—or to modify the literacy of an existing Rowan Core course.
- Coordinating with the Curriculum Committee to review proposals for new Rowan Core courses. (The Rowan Core Committee is responsible for reviewing the proposal to add a Rowan Core literacy; all other aspects of the course are reviewed by the Curriculum Committee.)
- Revoking courses from Rowan Core if departments fail to do the approved student assessment.
- Developing and approving changes to Rowan Core policy. Significant changes will need full Senate approval.
- Reviewing alignments of non-Rowan Core courses with Rowan Core literacy outcomes.
- Revising existing Rowan Core learning outcomes (or adding new ones) as needed.

Summary of Activities this Year:

The Rowan Core Committee had a busy year. It continued its ongoing work of reviewing proposals to add courses to Rowan Core – and to revise existing Rowan Core courses. We also met to review and revise Rowan Core policy. The two most substantial policy changes were the following:

- Approval of a complete rewrite of the Rowan Core learning outcomes for each literacy.
- Creation of a new Rowan Core transfer credit policy (to be voted on by the Senate on April 24)

In addition, our committee also forms the core (so to speak) of the broader Task Force on the Future of the WI and LIT Requirements. This task force prepared a draft of a full proposal for these requirements, which we discussed at our most recent meeting. Based on this feedback, we will be preparing a final draft which we hope to bring to the Senate in Fall 2020.

SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

This is the final end-of-year report for the Rowan Core Committee. Starting in Fall 2020, we will be merging with the Learning Outcomes and Assessment Committee to form the new Learning Assessment and Rowan Core (LARC) Committee. As the final Rowan Core Chair, I offer the following recommendations to the new committee.

- As the new committee name suggests, there will be a shift in focus to broader issues related to assessment, beyond those specific to Rowan Core. I recommend that the LARC Committee

continue working closely with Jeff Bonfield, the Director of Assessment, to employ the Rowan Core assessment structure for WI, LIT and program assessment.

- I recommend that the new LARC Committee include Jeff Bonfield—and possibly a staff member from the Registrar’s Office—as non-voting members.
- With the approval of the Senate, I (Nathan Bauer) hope to be the inaugural chair of the new LARC Committee. However, I am approved for sabbatical in Spring 2021, and it is my intention to step down from this position at that time. We are currently seeking nominations for the position of LARC Chair, starting Spring 2021. It’s a great opportunity to shape the direction of general education at Rowan. If you are interested in the position, please contact Nathan Bauer (bauer@rowan.edu) to learn more about it.