

Charge of the University Core Renewal Committee: Amended Spring 2022

The Provost charges the University Core Renewal Committee (UCRC) to oversee the ongoing renewal of the University Core Curriculum to be approved by the Provost, as follows: (1) stimulate, support, and promote a renewed university-wide commitment to the University Core Curriculum as a vital part of a Boston College undergraduate education, (2) foster interdepartmental discussion and development of the Core, and (3) promote greater unity, coherence, and integration in programming the work of faculty and colleagues across the University. The UCRC will ensure that the Core remains grounded in the Jesuit, Catholic character of Boston College, and that new courses approved by the UCRC to fulfill Core requirements enhance alignment to Boston College's Mission.

The Associate Dean for the Core will have the primary responsibility to lead, organize, and administer the work of the UCRC so that it can effectively carry out the charge given to it by the Provost. In carrying out this charge to oversee and develop the Core Curriculum, the UCRC will be guided by the August 2014 statement, *The Vision Animating the Boston College Core Curriculum*, and it will continue to revise and refine the May 2013 *Toward a Renewed Core* proposal. These documents are to be understood in the context of Jesuit history, pedagogy, and spirituality and in continuity with the 1991 Final Report of the Task Force on the Core Curriculum, with special regard for Part II of that report (*The Core in the Context of Jesuit Education*) and the disciplinary breadth articulated in Part IV (Content of the Core) of the report.

In pursuit of its charge from the Provost, the UCRC will:

- determine which courses will and will not satisfy Core Curriculum requirements. These determinations will be based on the UCRC's assessment of a course's ability to contribute to the vision and learning outcomes for the Core Curriculum articulated in the founding documents listed above, and the disciplinary learning outcomes to be articulated by the UCRC in conversation with faculty in the Core disciplines;
- oversee the selection, development, implementation, and evaluation of Complex Problem and Enduring Question courses;
- offer recommendations to the Provost on the personnel and funds needed to implement the Core in general and in particular departments;
- collaborate with the Center for Teaching Excellence to offer periodic discussions and workshops for faculty and departments that will promote effective and innovative Core teaching methods for the achievement of Core learning outcomes and assist in the design and implementation of rigorous and challenging Core courses;
- periodically require reports from departments assessing the learning outcomes of the

departments' Core courses and the contributions made by those courses to the overall goals of the Core; and

- each year, provide an annual report on the “*State of the Core*” to the Provost and the MCAS Dean, including recommended changes in the approved Core Curriculum based on the Committee's evaluations as well as on societal, pedagogical, and educational developments that influence the Core. The report will be posted on the Core website so that it will be available to the wider University community.

Committee Membership

The elected and appointed faculty members of the UCRC will serve 3-year terms, to begin on July 1 of the year of election or appointment. The Morrissey College Associate Dean for the Core will serve as Chair of the UCRC *ex-officio*.

The UCRC will have 17 members, at least 8 of whom are members of the faculty:

- 7 elected full-time faculty members
 - 6 Morrissey College faculty members (2 humanities, 2 natural sciences/math/computer science, 2 social sciences/history);
 - 1 at-large faculty member from any of the undergraduate schools
- 1 appointed representative from each of the following: Carroll School, the Connell School, and the Lynch School (appointed by their respective school dean);
- 3 administrative members to be appointed by the Provost;
- 1 undergraduate student to be appointed by the Provost; and
- 3 Morrissey College faculty/administrators appointed by the Dean of the Robert J. Morrissey College of Arts and Science:
 - The Morrissey College Associate Dean for the Core who will serve as Chair of the UCRC and the Morrissey College Dean's representative on the UCRC;
 - The Morrissey College Assistant Dean for the Core;
 - One additional faculty member