

Resolution on the 2021-2022 Core Curriculum Review Academic Excellence Committee

Background: The TCU faculty owns the Core curriculum and has ultimate responsibility for revisions and improvements to it. On behalf of the Faculty Senate, which serves as the representative body of the full faculty, the Senate's Academic Excellence Committee (AEC) has been charged with reviewing the report of the Core Curriculum Review Committee and suggesting the Senate's response.

First and foremost, the AEC acknowledges the crucial role of the Core curriculum to the TCU experience and the seriousness of faculty's responsibility for maintaining and improving it.

Endorsement: The AEC believes that the review committee has submitted a thorough review and evaluation of the current state of TCU's Core curriculum structure, content, and administration. We furthermore submit to the Faculty Senate our endorsement of the Review Committee's recommendations and seek to empower the Director of the Core Curriculum, Dr. Theresa Gaul, to continue her work to promote the value of the core, improve its content and operations, and make its processes more transparent.

Recommendations: Based on the review committee's recommendations, we ask that that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee create an ad hoc or advisory committee charged with updating the Core curriculum. This committee should be empowered to review, prioritize, and recommend to the Senate plans for carrying out the Core Curriculum Review Report's "recommendations to the faculty." We particularly urge the committee to consider innovations that improve flexibility and/or reduce the number of credit hours required to complete the Core.

We also hereby invite the Director of the Core Curriculum to address the Senate twice during each academic year to present the Core Curriculum goals and accomplishments for the year. We recommend that the Director of the Core, in consultation with the ad hoc committee, begin this year's work by reviewing the Core Emendation Policy and making appropriate revisions to facilitate a more dynamic Core.

We urge the Provost to dedicate resources to support and improve this foundational aspect of students' education at TCU, in accordance with the review committee's findings and to support the current and future needs of the Core.