

February 2, 2012

To: Teresa Doughty, Chair, University Core Curriculum Committee  
Teri Reed-Rhoads, Chair, Educational Policy Committee, University Senate

From: Barbara L. Golden  
Chair, Curriculum and Student Relations Committee  
College of Agriculture

Re: Core Curriculum Proposal

Please accept this communication on behalf of the Curriculum and Student Relations Committee (CSRC) of the College of Agriculture. Our committee has carefully reviewed the Core Curriculum Proposal and sought input from faculty in developing the following suggestions and requested revisions. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss or provide more information about any of the following items. Thank you for your consideration.

### **Core Curriculum Timeline**

CSRC previously requested a delay in Senate action on the Core Curriculum Proposal. The request to delay action was not intended to impede progress on the Core Curriculum Proposal, but to allow ample time for faculty discussion and participation in this process. Because this is a major curricular revision that will affect every degree program at Purdue University, we continue to feel that additional time is needed for faculty to thoroughly review this document, consider how it will be implemented and to make suggestions for its improvement. An open process such as this has strong potential to increase faculty awareness and support of the document, and to ease its implementation in the coming months. We appreciate EPC's consideration of this request.

### **Core Curriculum Proposal**

CSRC requests consideration of the following revisions to the Core Curriculum Proposal. They are listed in order of priority (highest priority listed first). In the attached documents, we have suggested explicit changes and rephrasing.

1. Mapping and assessment of embedded outcomes should occur at the College level. Decisions regarding the rubric level at which embedded outcomes are measured should be made at the degree program level.
2. 'Technology and Computer Science' should be removed as a foundational outcome. These applications are best addressed within the disciplines. Disciplines that do not currently incorporate Technologies and Computer Sciences may be better served by the 'Technology and Society' outcome.
3. Each College should have the authority to select its representatives to the University Core Curriculum Administration and Oversight Committee. While we believe this is the intent, it is not clearly stated in the proposal or its appendices.

4. The College of Agriculture has a deep respect for the efforts and accomplishments of our colleagues at the Purdue University regional campuses. We request that representatives from branch campuses should have full voting privileges on the University Core Administration and Oversight Committee, once established.
5. The Technology and Society outcome should be rephrased and broadened to include any of the entire range of STEM disciplines, including Science and Agriculture. This change better reflects the diversity of academic programs across the campus.
6. The College of Agriculture strongly recommends that some outcomes should be rolled out gradually. Foundational and embedded outcomes should be mapped onto plans of study for each major. Where coursework does not exist on campus, it should be developed and assessed prior to implementation of the outcome. Likewise, if capacity does not currently exist on campus, time will be needed to develop and build capacity. This is critical both to ensure quality coursework for our students and because faculty are near their maximum bandwidth.