

October 18, 2001

TO: University Faculty

FROM: Burt Hopkins, Director of University Core  
Wallace D. Loh, Chair, Core Policy Board

SUBJECT: Core Revitalization 2001-02

The Core Policy Board acted on the following issues at its October 2001 meeting:

### **Implementation of Last Year's Initiatives and Actions**

1. **Diversity, Citizenship, and Social Justice track.** The director, Nalini Iyer (English), has recruited 19 faculty members from 9 disciplines to teach 22 courses in this new track. Some of these courses will begin winter 2001.
2. **Faith and Great Ideas track.** Directed by Andrew Tadie (English), this track began in fall 2001 with 15 faculty members teaching 8 courses. The enrollment is 51 students, with half of them participating in the track's Academic Residential Community.
3. **New or revitalized Core courses.** Eleven faculty members in 10 disciplines are offering 9 new or revitalized courses this fall term.
4. **Transfer student credit in the Core.** A plan to streamline the process of granting Core credits to transfer students will be submitted to the Board of Deans and to the Academic Assembly for their respective review this fall. This plan was approved by the Core Policy Board last year and is supported by the Registrar.
5. **New Core science course for A&S students.** This proposal to increase the required science education of liberal arts students (which at SU is among the lowest of all Jesuit institutions in the U.S.) will be submitted to the Board of Deans and to the Academic Assembly for their respective review this fall. The Core Policy Board approved it last year.

### **Core Revitalization Initiatives for 2001-02**

- Develop a revitalized Core for transfer students.
- Develop a Core Residential College (i.e., an Academic Residential Community writ large)
- Complete an assessment plan of Core educational outcomes by December 2001 and implement the plan in selected Core courses in winter term 2002.
- Enhance existing courses and develop new pilot courses on the Jesuit theme of a "faith that does justice."

### **Core Governance**

1. Establishment of a new Core Curriculum Committee for faculty participation, with the Core Director, in curricular decisions.
2. New appointments from Education, A&S, Nursing, Law, and student government to fill vacancies in the Core Policy Board.

### **Appreciation**

Many thanks, again, to the many faculty, students, administrators, and staff for their contributions last year to the successful and on-going revitalization of the University Core. We look forward to working with all of these them again this year.