

CORE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHARGE

During the 1997 Texas State legislative session, Senate Bill 148 was passed which required the coordinating board "to develop a recommended core curriculum of at least 42 semester credit hours, including a statement of the content, component areas, and objectives of the core curriculum." The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in order to implement this legislation, has been developing modifications to subchapter "S" of chapter five of the Rules. These changes have been approved on first reading and are expected to be approved with minor modifications at the next board meeting. In addition there are several sets of advisory recommendations relating to the implementation of the revisions of the rules.

With these guidelines nearly in place, Sam Houston State University must now begin the task of redesigning our general education requirements and integrating our processes so that appropriate interface with other higher education institutions will take place. The registrar's office has been assigned the basic task of technical cross-institutional process integration, but the much more difficult task of redesigning our general education program is assigned to this committee.

Since the new program must be fully in operation by the fall semester of 1999, the basic curriculum must be designed and brought through to approval during the fall semester of 1998 so that course schedules and other logistical details for the successful operation of the fall 1998 semester can be worked out during the spring of 1999.

Specifically the committee is charged with:

1. Developing and implementing a process, in conformity with university policy, for obtaining broad-based campus input to assist in designing a new general education program
2. Designing and bringing to APC a general education program proposal which is in compliance with the standards developed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
3. Designing and bringing to APC a proposal for a new general education program which is based on sound and measurable learning objectives for students
4. Designing and bringing to APC a proposal for a new general education program which blends with the existing general education program in such a way as to avoid unnecessary disruption of the existing university functioning
5. Designing and bringing to APC a proposal for a new general education program which is congruent with and supportive of Sam Houston State University's mission
6. Designing and bringing to APC a proposal for a new general education program which is forward thinking and incorporates concerns with advancing technological developments in pedagogy and in society