

April 7, 2011

Introduction

The UAF Core Curriculum has changed little since its adoption nearly 20 years ago, even as both the academy and the world our graduates enter have changed radically! Efforts to update and revitalize UAF's general education programs have been underway for at least 8 years, but even though many faculty agree on what they don't like about the core curriculum, there has been little agreement on how it should be updated or changed! Doing so is a multi-step process in which, first, the faculty will need to address these key questions:

- 1! What intellectual impact do we want to have on all of our students- What learning outcomes do we want-
- 2! What general education structure and composition will be used to achieve these learning outcomes-
- &! How will we assess our success in achieving these learning outcomes-
- 3! How will we close the loop and use these assessments to improve our curriculum-

Developing a set of expected undergraduate student learning outcomes is the necessary first step in this process. We need to know our objectives before anything else! The General Education Revitalization Committee (2004-2007) has drafted the following set of desired learning outcomes, which were based on both the previous work by the Core Revitalization and Assessment Group and the Achievement Centered Education program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. It consists of four broad categories of goals, followed by required tasks that would demonstrate achievement or proficiency in each of those areas. The committee's input from a broad cross-section of faculty to help improve these goals prior to submitting them for consideration for adoption by the UAF Faculty is gratefully acknowledged.

