Faculty Senate Integrative Learning Core Committee AY 2021-2022
Progress Report / April 14, 2022
John Protevi, Chair

HISTORY OF THE ILC COMMITTEE

The General Education (GE) program at LSU has been since its inception a distributional program whereby students take a 39-hour block of courses that gives them a content-based breadth of experiences in English Composition, Mathematics/Analytical Reasoning, Fine Arts, Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social/Behavioral Sciences. The renamed Integrative Learning Core (ILC) program was designed to expand the GE program by incorporating proficiencies (chosen from the AAC&U VALUE rubrics based on the results of numerous employer-based surveys of strengths and weaknesses of U.S. college graduates) that would enhance development of student knowledge and skills in critical thinking, civic engagement, ethical reasoning, global learning, intercultural knowledge and competence, inquiry and analysis, oral communication, problem solving, quantitative and formal reasoning, and written communication.

It was clear at the beginning 2017-18 that the original wishes of the committee (which stemmed, in part, from previous discussions by the Strategic Planning Committee for General Education) regarding the structure of the ILC program, i.e., a 6-area GE by 10-proficiency ILC matrix that students would complete during their 39-hour program, was simply not feasible. This required a refocusing of efforts to try and develop an ILC program that could: 1) be implemented within the current General Education system; 2) be assessed more easily than the previous General Education program but would still yield meaningful data; 3) expose students to as many proficiencies as possible during their 39-hour program; and 4) improve student knowledge of, appreciation of, and basic competence in, proficiencies chosen by the ILC committee.

In 2020-21, under the leadership of Bill Kelso, the committee implemented an ILC feedback survey to obtain information from ILC course proposers regarding the structure and the content of the proposal form. Many of the ideas suggested by the respondents were subsequently incorporated into a second major revision of the online course proposal form.

The committee hosted two town hall meetings with concerned faculty regarding the ILC process, with discussions focusing on the depth and complexity of the proposal form and how it could be altered to be more effective. These discussions resulted in significant changes in the structure of the proposal form, and a reduction in the number of required dimensions from three to one. The proposal form was streamlined to make it clearer what the committee was looking for, and additional resources relating to assessment instruments were also developed to simplify the process. The Qualtrics format for submitting proposals was eliminated, and the website is being updated to reflect changes to ILC policies and procedures. The committee opened the ILC meetings to the faculty at large, and several faculty members joined the zoom meetings we had in the spring. Overall, faculty groups appear to be supportive of the changes implemented in 20-21.

In 2020-21 the committee also drafted a new change form and approval procedures for already-

approved courses that wish to assess only one or two dimensions of the selected proficiency instead of the three dimensions specified in the original proposal. This form appears to work well.

COMMITTEE WORK IN 2021-22

The majority of committee work in academic year 2021-22 was spent on reviewing and approving ILC proposals. Although there was a recommended schedule for General Education Courses to submit ILC course proposals evenly across three years, this was not the case. By the end of 2020-21, the committee had only received 74 ILC proposals. This left 180 proposals to be reviewed in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. In total, the ILC Committee has approved 254 total courses.

By BOR area, the 254 currently approved courses include [Note: Honors courses can choose more than one BOR area]:

English (ENG) = 15
Fine Arts (FA) = 15
Humanities (HUM) = 122
Mathematical/Analytical Reasoning (M/AR) = 15
Natural Science (NS) = 50
Social/Behavioral Sciences (S/BS) = 56

By ILC Proficiency, the 254 currently approved courses include:

Civic engagement (CE) = 2
Ethical reasoning (ER) = 3
Global learning (GL) = 31
Intercultural knowledge and competence (IKC) = 73
Inquiry and analysis (IA) = 59
Problem solving (PS) = 3
Quantitative & Formal Reasoning (QFR) = 42
Oral communication (OC) = 15
Written communication (WC) = 26

Analysis of course submissions: As results of the ILC course-approval process shows, students will likely have several opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills in Global Learning, Intercultural Knowledge and Competence, and Inquiry and Analysis. Other proficiencies, however, have so far not been adopted by many courses. However, during future course re-approvals the committee may recommend alternative proficiencies, where appropriate, to broaden the diversity of available ILC proficiencies to students.

Student petitions: The committee received 5 petitions from students wishing to substitute a non-GenEd course for a GenEd requirement. We approved 5 of these as students had received incorrect advising when course schedules were being made, or the status of GenEd courses had changed.

Committee membership: Based on discussions with faculty members at the two forums in 2020-21, we requested and received permission from the Faculty Senate ExCom to increase membership on the ILC committee. The vote on adding new members by board of regents area to our committee to get us through ILC implementation ends this Fall. The committee membership will reduce membership to the original 11 voting members.

2021-2022 ILC Membership

Last Name	First Name	College/Office	Email Address	Term Start Date	Term End Date
Aly	Aly	Engineering	aly@lsu.edu	2019-2020	2021-2022
Barton	Michael	Humanities & Social Sciences - Social/Behavioral Sciences	mbarto3@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2021-2022
Bhattacharyya	Nabanita	Science - Natural Science (Life)	nbhatt3@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2021-2022
Caleo	Suzette	Business	scaleo@lsu.edu	2021-2022	2023-2024
Huang	Haosheng	Coast & Environment	hhuang7@lsu.edu	2021-2022	2023-2024
Kazuschyk	Kyla	Music & Dramatic Arts - Theatre	kkazuschyk@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2021-2022
Matthews	Kenneth	Science - Natural Science (Physical)	kipmatth@lsu.edu	2021-2022	2021-2022
Ostrenko	Derick	Art & Design	dostrenko@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2022-2023
Piestrzynski	Laura	Human Sciences & Education	lpiestrzynski@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2023-2024
Protevi (Chair)*	John	Honors College	protevi@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2022-2023
Rouse	Pheobe	Science - Math	prouse@lsu.edu	2019-2020	2021-2022
Veldman	Meredith	Humanities & Social Sciences - Humanities	hyveld@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2022-2023
Cope	Kevin	Humanities & Social Sciences - English Composition	encope@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2021-2022
Goodman	Charles	Music & Dramatic Arts - Music	goodman1@lsu.edu	2021-2022	2023-2024
Henderson	Mike	Mass Communication	mbhende1@lsu.edu	2020-2021	2023-2024
		Agriculture			
Bach	Jackie	Academic Affairs	bach@lsu.edu		N/A
Benton	Clay	Registrar	cbenton@lsu.edu		N/A
Rose	Tara	Office of Institutional Effectiveness	trose@lsu.edu		N/A
McMillin	Kenneth	Faculty Senate	KMcmillin@agcenter.lsu.edu		N/A
Alam	Sanaa	Student Representative			

PLANS FOR AY 2022-2023

- Select a Chair and fill committee seats as members rotate off.
- Due to LSU's upcoming SACSCOC 10-year reaffirmation, much focus will be on collecting, reviewing, and analyzing assessment data to address SACSCOC standard 8.2b.
- With full implementation of ILC beginning in Fall 2022, the committee will need create/revise (as needed) policies/procedures for the ILC Policy and Procedure Manual.
- Develop a course impact report for the periodic review of all ILC courses.
- Continue to review the charge and operating procedures of the committee and updated (as needed).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the committee, I would like to recognize the exceptionally fine work of Dr. Tara Rose and her staff in navigating the heavy and complex workload we faced in the 2021-22 year.