

January 9, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

In November, Father Jenkins and the Academic Council approved the Core Curriculum Review Committee's final report, which outlines an innovative next chapter in the University's commitment to a Catholic liberal arts curriculum. The plan the committee developed is full of promise, but we now need another group of creative and industrious faculty to think through an array of important policy, logistical, and transition-oriented issues in order to smoothly bring about this curricular change.

Toward that end, I am delighted to announce that Mike Hildreth, Associate Dean in the College of Science and Professor of Physics, who served as co-chair of the Core Curriculum Review Committee, has agreed to chair the Core Curriculum Transition Committee. The depth of background knowledge and sense of continuity that Mike will bring to this task is invaluable, and I am grateful for his willingness to serve in this way. Likewise, I would like to express my gratitude to the following faculty and staff who have agreed to serve as committee members:

- Brad Badertscher, Accountancy
- Kasey Buckles, Economics
- JoAnn DellaNeva, Romance Languages and Literatures
- Margaret Dobrowolska, Physics
- Peter Holland, Film, Television, and Theatre
- Yih-Fang Huang, Electrical Engineering
- Holly Martin, First Year of Studies
- Jeff Speaks, Philosophy
- Chuck Hurley, University Registrar, *ex officio*

In addition, Matthew Zyniewicz and Kate Garry of the College of Arts and Letters have agreed to support the committee in its efforts.

The charge of the Transition Committee is to address the following broad categories, each of which is critical to successful implementation of the core: class and classroom logistics, operating policies, structural logistics, governance, recruitment, incentive determination, and outreach and communication. This interim body must deliberate carefully but on a short timeline, serving as a bridge to the permanent Core Curriculum Oversight Committee. In fact, one of the governance issues that the Transition Committee will address is how to compose the permanent Core

Curriculum Oversight Committee that will include both appointed and elected faculty members. Among the governance issues the Transition Committee will address are procedures for the election and appointment of standing core curriculum committee members, as suggested in the core curriculum report.

I have requested that the committee complete its work by September 1, 2017. Any final decisions regarding the recommendations made by the Transition Committee will be reviewed by the permanent oversight committee.

I know I speak for all members of the Transition Committee when I say we welcome your continued engagement as we prepare for these exciting changes.

Yours in Notre Dame,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Thomas G. Burish
Charles and Jill Fischer Provost

cc: Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.