

CEPP Meeting Minutes

November 25, 2024

10:10-11:10am

Location: Zoom

CEPP Attendees:

Anna Barnes, Amy Frappier, Heather Hurst, Nick Junkerman, Natalie Koegler, Kelly Sheppard, Bob Turner, Jamin Totino, Corey Freeman-Gallant, Robert ParkeHarrison (Scribe)

Discussion Items:

1. Approval of Minutes:
 - approved minutes for the meetings held on 11/11 and 11/18.
2. Announcements:
 - high impact experiences will be a focus for CEPP.
 - Trevor Lai joined the meeting as a potential replacement for student representative Anna Barnes.
3. QR Assessment Final 2024 Report Update (Kelly Sheppard):
 - assessment of quantitative reasoning (QR) of graduating seniors from the class of 2024 (entering class of 2020; first under the new requirements) – the last QR assessment was in 2014 also with graduating seniors.
 - same majors assessed in 2024 as 2014 with five questions overlapping between the two assessments. Additional ten questions in 2024 focused on AQR learning goals.
 1. applied quantitative reasoning (AQR) requirement part of the general education curriculum.
 2. implementation of new general education curriculum was during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - mixed results - no statistical difference observed with the new QR requirement.
 1. positive – did not see learning loss due to COVID-19
 2. negative – did not see improvement from the last assessment with the new curriculum, which was the intended goal.
 3. impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the new curriculum might have mitigated one another.
 - no statistical difference between students based on placement (MA 100, FQR, or AQR) when placed with the QR Placement Diagnostic

when taking into account other factors impacting QR performance (e.g., STEM major or taking multiple AQR courses).

1. did MA 100 and FQR students improve (desired outcome) or was there learning loss by students placed at the AQR level?
 1. the QR Review Team thinking about a follow-up study next academic year to determine if there is improvement in quantitative reasoning while at Skidmore by giving seniors the QR placement diagnostic again and seeing if the MA 100 and FQR placed students do better than they did before matriculating and if AQR students do as well, if not better, on the same instrument.
- AQR courses are challenging for students who major in the arts and humanities to access.
 - many AQR courses have prerequisites beyond an FQR course.
 - very few FQR to AQR course sequences (e.g., EC 103 and EC 104).
 - several QR2 courses became FQR courses under the new curriculum without development of new AQR courses geared for majors outside of the natural sciences and quantitative social sciences.
 - highly enrolled courses.
- concerns raised about the quality of the five overlapping questions.
 - limited by questions asked ten years ago.
 - QR Review Team plans an item analysis of the questions later this year.
- gender gap issues highlighted in the report results
 - true both with the 2024 and 2014 data (latter not examined previously).
 - QR Review Team plans to examine responses to confidence and engagement with QR questions on the assessment instrument this academic year.
- discussion on whether the curriculum benefits students.
 - suggestion to offer a personal finance course to provide practical life skills.

Future Fall Semester Meetings:

Dec. 2: Heather Hurst (Scribe)

Dec. 9: Amy Frappier (Scribe)