Core to College Overview
Core to College is a multi-state grant initiative designed to promote strong collaboration between higher education and the K-12 sectors in the implementation of the Common Core State Standards and aligned assessments. Core to College is funded by Rockefeller Philanthropy Associates with technical assistance provided by Education First.

Core to College Projects

Core to College Curriculum Redesign
With the support of the Tennessee Board of Regents and University of Tennessee, faculty redesign teams have been formed to assess and align the K-12 Common Core State Standards to credit bearing, entry level courses in English and Math. Each team will create curricular resources to assist professors in voluntarily aligning coursework to the more rigorous expectations of the Common Core.

Curriculum Councils
Eight regional Curriculum Councils were formed in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Education Centers of Regional Excellence (CORE) Offices to promote better communication and relationships between K-12 and higher education regarding Common Core implementation.

Curriculum Redesign Update

- The curriculum teams for English and Math met independently this summer to engage in collaborative discussion around their redesign projects for the first time since their inaugural convening in April 2013. Some highlights from the meetings are noted below:
  - The English team approved the following:
    - extension of redesign work to also include both English 1010 and English 1020.
    - final format for a model syllabi for both courses.
    - list of appendices and additional resources to be developed.
    - benchmark deadlines for submitting items to external evaluators.
  - The Math team approved the following:
    - final format for a model syllabus for College Algebra.
    - list of appendices and additional resources to be developed.
    - series of modules to incorporate into the curriculum.
    - meeting with all institution math department chairs as external evaluators in November 2013.

- The next Curriculum Redesign Convening will take place on September 20th at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Renowned Common Core experts from Achieve, Doug Sovde and Bonnie Hain, will be in attendance to assist the teams in their work.

Visit the Curriculum Redesign website for more details!
Curriculum Councils Update

- This summer, Melissa Stugart – Core to College Director, met with each higher education institution and Center of Regional Excellence (CORE), as well as 27 school districts to investigate the current regional relationships between secondary and postsecondary agencies in Tennessee. The general consensus was a need for the development of forums for curricular level educators from each tier to work and plan together, which led to the establishment of the regional Curriculum Councils.

Eight Councils were formed in partnership with the Department of Education’s CORE Offices using a combination of currently existing P-16 Councils and CORE Service Areas.

![Map of Tennessee with numbered regions 1-8]

- Each of the first council dates and locations have been set for this coming fall and invitations will be sent to both higher education institutions and K-12 school districts shortly. The first meetings will consist of expertly facilitated discussions around six specific Areas of Opportunity that were determined during the Core to College tour of the state. Each Council will determine an area on which to focus and develop action plans for the coming year. Updates on each council’s progress will be sent through newsletters and updated regularly on the Core to College website.

Visit the Curriculum Council website for more details!

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