Message from Director of University Core

Dear members of the SLU community,

As chairperson of the University Undergraduate Core Committee, I write to offer an update of where the work of Common Core Invention stands at our university, and to give you a sense of where the work will take us in the coming months.

In the spring of 2018, our university community together ratified a set of nine Core Student Learning Outcomes that will form the bedrock of any future SLU common core. This landmark campuswide agreement allowed the UUCC to move forward in developing possible architectures for the delivery of a new SLU Core. We spent this past summer educating ourselves on best practices for core design, paying close attention to literature from both the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities (AJCU) and the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU). In June, a team from our committee attended the AACU Summer Institute on General Education and Assessment. That conference was the starting point for developing a plan to engage the entire SLU community in generating ideas for a new common core. By August 2018, we were ready to put our plan into action.

workshops—four in St. Louis and one at SLU Madrid—that together engaged 244 members of our university community, including over fifty current SLU undergraduates, in mapping our new Core SLOs to possible core models. Most of these workshops filled to capacity and generated waitlists.
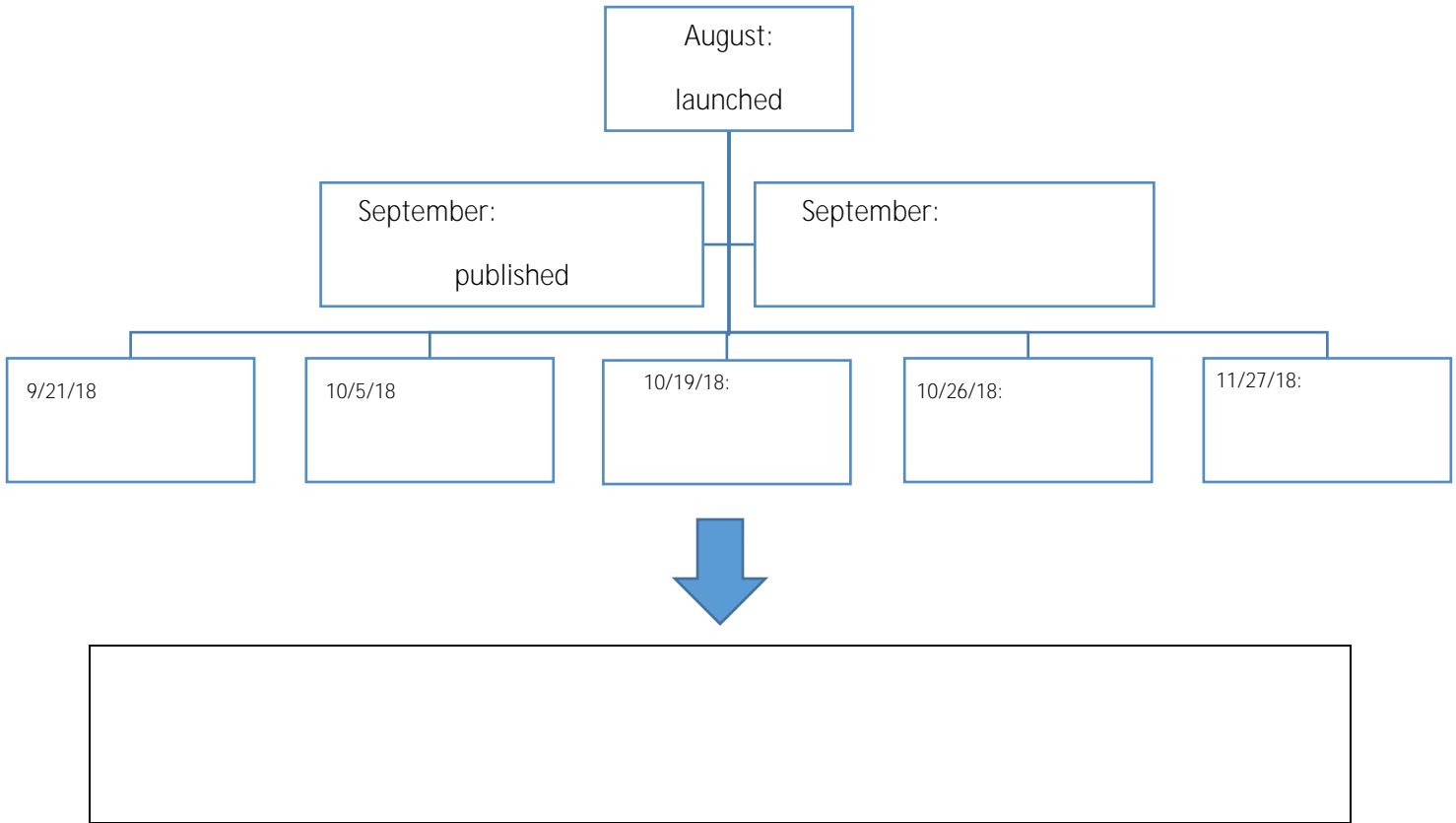
At each of these five workshops, the energy in the room was animating. It was striking to witness so many SLU community members joining together in cross-teams to collaborate on a vision for what a new core common to all undergraduates might at its best achieve. Other events both past and upcoming, including informal brown bag discussions with groups of faculty, students and alumni as well as our

ideas that emerged from our Fall 2018 workshops; as well as links to lectures and readings that have informed our Core Invention process to date.

Although members of the UUCC will not formally participate on core design teams, we are available to answer questions, and to assist people in finding collaborators, locating peer institutional models, and accessing literature on best practices. You can find contact information for all members of the UUCC as well as meeting minutes [here](#).

Looking forward, our projected next steps will be:

> February 1 - March 1, 2019: UUCC brings together all submissions to identify points of overlap and convergence as well as common values and investments. All proposals will be made public.
> March 1 - April 1, 2019:

Call for Core Designs

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          │    August:      │
          │   launched      │
          └────────┬────────┘
    ┌──────────────┴──────────────┐
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│   September:       │   │   September:       │
│     published      │   │                    │
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| 9/21/18 | 10/5/18 | 10/19/18: | 10/26/18: | 11/27/18: |

and/or

Complete core designs:

Core components:

Visual Component:

required

optional

Guidelines for submission

Complete core designs should include:

- ○
- ○
- ○

_____
(required)

Core component designs should include:

- ○
- ○
- ○

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