1. Faculty co-chairs were elected to lead the committee.
2. Course Proposals
   a. Courses approved:
      i. Arts: ARTH 350
      ii. Ethics: CS 110
      iv. Capstone: CONS 496, LING 480, MATH 401
   b. Courses not approved and returned to the department:
      i. Arts: ARTH 318
      ii. Global Understanding: EVPP 361
      iii. Literature: GCH 320
      iv. Information Technology: CDS 201, CDS 205
      v. Social and Behavioral Science: EVPP 338
      vi. Synthesis: MATH 401, EVPP 322, EVPP 421, EVPP 362, EVPP 442
      vii. Ethics: SYST 489
      viii. Natural Science, Non-Lab: FRSC 200
3. Learning outcomes were revised for Information Technology and Computing (formerly IT and Ethics), with the goal of updating the language and meaning for the current era, as well as to clarify that the outcomes are not meant to be restrictive to the field of IT, but rather can be addressed by courses across disciplines. The new outcomes were passed by Faculty Senate and are in the catalog for AY18. A transition plan for students and departments was developed. Classes meeting IT only and IT ethics are currently grandfathered into the new learning outcomes and are requested to revise their courses for the coming year to meet the new learning outcomes.
4. The Ethics learning outcome was removed from the IT category. Ethics outcomes are currently included in the Written Communication (ENGH 302), Oral Communication, and IT and Computing categories. In addition, most programs on campus have ethics requirements. The committee developed a transition plan for students and departments teaching Ethics only classes. The transition plan includes keeping these classes and the IT only designation until Spring 2021 for students in older catalog years. Departments are encouraged to keep the courses until then at least.
5. Guidance for capstone courses was developed and communicated.
6. New processes were developed to incorporate the CourseLeaf workflow.
7. A communication plan was developed to share changes to the Mason Core with the campus community, especially with academic advisors, deans, department chairs, and undergraduate coordinators. An e-newsletter was created and is distributed at least once per semester with information and resources.
8. The Mason Core website was redesigned.
9. In July 2017, the State Council for Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) approved a new “Policy on Student Learning Assessment and Quality in Undergraduate Education” (http://www.schev.edu/docs/default-source/institution-
section/GuidancePolicy/assessment/policy-on-student-learning-assessment-and-quality-in-undergraduate-education.pdf). The policy updates and replaces an existing assessment policy, and requires all of Virginia’s public institutions of higher education to conduct regular and ongoing assessment of a common set of six learning outcomes. At Mason, these learning outcomes will be assessed primarily through the Mason Core program (including Capstone courses), and will draw upon both new and existing assessments from undergraduate degree programs and co-curricular activities.

10. The AY18-20 Mason Core program and learning outcomes assessment project launched in Fall 2017, led by Stephanie Foster in the Office of Undergraduate Education and overseen by the Mason Core Committee. During this period, a complete assessment cycle is being conducted for courses and learning outcomes in all of the Mason Core categories. Assessment of student learning outcomes in the categories of Global Understanding and Western Civilization/World History for fall 2017 has been completed. Collection of student work for the assessment of student learning outcomes for Synthesis, Capstone, and Writing Intensive courses is currently underway, to be completed this summer. Results will be used for internal sharing and decision making, and will contribute to the upcoming SACSCOC Compliance Certification report, as well as assessment reporting requirements for SCHEV. Detailed information, schedules, and assessment results are available at: http://masoncore.gmu.edu/assessment/

11. As part of Mason Core program assessment, the Core committee initiated a syllabus review process for existing Mason Core courses. Syllabi are being reviewed for adherence to the Mason Core learning outcomes in the approved category. Courses that appear to have changed focus away from the Mason Core will be brought to the attention of the appropriate department chair and given guidance on revisions needed to remain in the category.

12. Mason Core courses were rearranged in advising materials, the webpage, catalog, and DegreeWorks to align with the student experience (Foundation, Exploration, and Integration). This arrangement also aligns with transfer students GAA, to make more clear what Integration courses are still required.

13. CHINA 1-2-1 students will have their Global Understanding Core requirement fulfilled through successful completion of the Fairfax-based component of their program.

14. Began discussion of strengths and weaknesses of Mason Core and desired outcomes for a general education program. This will be continued over the summer and next AY.