

## ANNUAL REPORT: Fall 2024 – Spring 2025

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The Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC) of the Faculty Senate met nine times during the 2024-2025 academic year. Our September, October, March and May meetings were held in person and the other monthly meetings were held on Teams.

This year we focused our attention on the updating of several curricular guidance materials and forms. This work started with a sub-committee during the 23-24 academic year (led by Amy Tomas (GSB)) that carefully reviewed and suggested major revisions to our Substantial Revisions requirements and documentation. This culminated in additional revisions to name change guidance and subject code requests as well as a review of all our guidance which were updated to have similar timelines (see additional actions below). In collaboration with the Provost's Office, we also initiated work to gather information to make improvements to the APR process.

### Reviews of Proposals to Initiate, Alter, or Terminate an Academic Program:

During the 2024-25 academic year, the Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate has been exceptionally busy. We have completed the review of a total of twenty-three proposals: initiate new academic programs (16), substantial revisions to existing programs (3), deactivation of existing programs (2), and termination existing programs (2).

- New mCGS in Disability Studies (CESS + Grad)
- New Undergraduate Certificate in Teaching Artist in Music (CAS)
- Deactivation of the Minor in International Politics (CAS)
- Deactivation of the Major in Asian Studies (CAS)
- Substantial Revision to Minor in Critical Race and Ethnic Studies (CAS)
- Substantial Revision of the MS in Biology (CAS + Grad)
- Termination of the MST in Biology (CAS + Grad)
- New Major in Agroecology (CALS)
- New Major in Ecological Landscape, Planning and Design (CALS)
- Termination of the Major in Agroecology and Landscape Design (CALS)
- New Undergraduate Certificate in Speech-Language Pathology Assistant (CNHS)
- New Undergraduate Certificate in Autonomy and Robotics (CEMS)
- New Accelerated Pathway for the BS in Communications Sciences & Disorders and a MS in Communications Sciences and Disorders/Speech-Language Pathology (CNHS + Grad)
- New Minor in Civic Engagement (Honors College in partnership with CAS)
- New mCGS in Applied Statistics (CEMS + Grad)
- New CGS in Material Science and Engineering (Grad + CEMS)
- New CGS in School Library and Information Science (CESS + Grad)
- New CGS in Data Analytics in Water Resources (CEMS + Grad)
- New Minor in Epidemiology (CNHS)
- New Minor in Computer Engineering (CEMS)
- Substantial Revision to the BS in Biomedical Engineering (CEMS)
- New CGS in Applied Statistics (CEMS + Grad)

- New mCGS in Learning and Development in Higher Education (CESS + Grad)

#### Other Proposals Reviewed and Approved by the CAC:

Seventeen other requests were reviewed and approved by the CAC:

- Name Change of the Curriculum and Instruction M.Ed. program to Advanced Specialties in Educational Practice from CESS
- New Subject Code (CCSC) from the Graduate College
- Name Change for BS in Economics from CAS
- Relocation of Minor in Reporting and Documentary Storytelling from CAS
- Name Change for MS in Geology
- New Subject Code (MRAD) from CNHS
- Name Change for the MEd in Interdisciplinary Studies in Education to Interdisciplinary Educational Studies from CESS
- Name Change for the Minor in Sustainable Landscape Horticulture from CALS
- Name Changes from the Medical Laboratory Sciences program to Biomedical & Clinical Sciences from CNHS
- Name Change of the Medical Laboratory Sciences major to Biomedical & Clinical Sciences from CNHS
- Name Change of the Clinical Laboratory Science concentration to Medical Laboratory Science from CNHS
- New Applied Biomedical Science Concentration in the Biomedical & Clinical Sciences major (CNHS)
- New Subject Code (BMCS) from CNHS
- Technical correction to align the Medical Laboratory Sciences (now Biomedical & Clinical Sciences) concentration Public Health Laboratory Science in both the catalogue and Banner
- Technical correction to Board of Trustees transmittal for Collaborative & Resiliency-Oriented Practices with Schools (CROPS)
- \*New Subject Code (CNCR) from LCOM
- \*Name Change of the Minor in Mathematics: Pure to Minor in Mathematics (CAS)

#### Additional Actions:

- Revision of Substantial Revision forms
- Revision to Name Changes in Academic Department, Program or Degree Concentration forms
- Revision to Subject Code Request forms
- Updating of timeline and/or approval levels for substantial revision, name change and co-major proposals
- Approving a process for modality change requests for Graduate Programs & PACE and creation of coversheets and forms for the new modalities

#### Academic Program Reviews:

Reviews were completed for nine programs; seven are currently in progress.

*Reviews completed this year:*

- Undergraduate Food Systems Programs
- Undergraduate Engineering Programs

- Philosophy
- Plant & Soil Science
- English
- Film & Television Studies
- Forestry
- Business Administration
- \*Computer Science/Complex Systems/Data Science

\*Items on the agenda for the May 1<sup>st</sup> CAC meeting and therefore should be considered pending.

*APR activity is underway for the following programs:*

- Economics
- Religion
- Anthropology
- History, Holocaust Studies, Historic Preservation
- Plant Biology

Trends noticed in the APRs in front of the CAC this year included:

- Faculty continue to be a strength of our programs.
- Students seem very happy with the programs reviewed this year.
- Comments related to enrollment trends and corresponding program resources as well as curricular innovation have been common in external reviews.
- Attention to coordination needs and program identity themes has been a common issue raised for interdisciplinary programs by external reviewers.
- Our external reviewers continue to be engaged in the process and have been able to provide programs with concrete suggestions to address issues they identified in their self-study.

At the beginning of each semester, we (the CAC chairs) facilitated a meeting with with leaders of the unit curriculum committees and their Associate Deans of Curriculum to discuss curricular trends, processes, and answer questions.

### **Members of the Curricular Affairs Committee, 2024-2025**

As with many other committees in the Faculty Senate, we had one seat that remained vacant throughout the year. This caused increased work for every member of the committee, and we wholeheartedly thank them for this extra effort! We wish to also acknowledge the outstanding work of Laurie Eddy and Tiera Porter in supporting our committee.

Fortino Acosta (CALS)	Jason Hibbeler (CEMS)	Joan Rosebush (CEMS)
Sara Alexander (CAS)	Colby Kervick, Co-Chair (CESS)	Jeremy Sibold (CNHS)
Thomas Borchert (FS Pres)	Leila Khorashadi (LCOM)	Susan Swogger (Libraries)
Thomas DeSisto (CALS)	Chi Chi Lau (LCOM)	Amy Tomas (GSB)
Alicia Ebert (CAS)	Cris Mayo (CESS)	Michael Tomas (GSB)
Prudence Doherty (Libraries)	Abigail McGowan (CAS)	Catalina Vizcarra (CAS)

Stephen Everse, Co-Chair (LCOM)	Bindu Panikkar (RSENr)	Vacant (LCOM)
Cynthia Frimpong (CNHS)	Jennifer Pontius (RSENr)	

Report submitted by Stephen Everse & Colby Kervick, Co-Chairs of the Curricular Affairs Committee, April 21, 2025.