

## ANNUAL REPORT: Fall 2025 – Spring 2026

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The Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC) of the Faculty Senate met nine times during the 2025-2026 academic year. Our September, October, March and our two April meetings were held in person, and the other monthly meetings were held on Teams.

This year was an extremely busy year for the CAC. Unlike other years we received substantially more public feedback on curricular activities than any other year in recent memory. We believe, in each case, that this led to more collaborative and ultimately stronger proposals. However, it did require more management and slowed down some proposals such that they did not make this year's catalogue. We met with the Associate Dean's Council in March to bring this issue to their attention and brainstorm ways to increase collaboration much earlier in the process. We are hopeful that some of their ideas will work and there will be fewer curricular issues to resolve between academic programs in the future.

Recognizing that our curricular offerings have been growing we organized a subcommittee to review our Termination and Deactivation Guidelines. We received their report in April and will work over the summer to draft some new guidelines for the CAC to review in the Fall. Our goal is to make the process clearer and to improve the organization of the guidance. We have also begun work with the Provost's Office to review and condense the guidance for programs to prepare self-studies for Academic Program Review. We are hoping to have this ready for review soon.

We would be remiss if we didn't take this opportunity to publicly thank Colby Kervick, our beloved Co-Chair, for her steady and calm leadership over the last six years. Her breadth of knowledge, organizational skills, and boundless energy moved many proposals from ideas to curriculum. She **will** be missed!

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

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate has been exceptionally busy. We have completed the review of a total of twenty-eight proposals: initiate new academic programs (19), substantial revisions to existing programs (8), and termination of an existing program (1).

- New Interdisciplinary PhD in Computational Studies of Culture and Society (GC)
- Substantial Revision to Japanese B.A. and Japanese Co-Major (CAS)
- New Minor in Urban, Rural, and Community Planning (CAS)
- New Minor in Biodiversity and Global Change (CALC)
- New BS in Animal Studies (CALC)
- New Co-Major in Environmental Studies (CAS)
- New Co-Major in Economics (CAS)
- Substantial Revision to the BS in Nutrition and Food Sciences (CALC)
- Substantial Revision to the MS in Nutrition and Food Sciences (CALC + GC)
- Substantial Revision to Food Systems BS (CALC)
- New MS in Agroecology (CALC + GC)
- New CGS in Autonomy and Robotics (CEMS + GC)

- New Co-Major in Statistics (CEMS)
- New Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) (LCOM + GC)
- New MS in Exercise Science (CNHS + GC)
- Substantial Revision to MEd in Special Education (CESS + GC)
- New Minor in Emergency Management (CALs)
- New CGS in Literacy (CESS + GC)
- New mCGS in Biomedical Innovation (CEMS + GC)
- New mCGS in Sustainability (GSB + GC)
- New Minor in Exercise Science (CNHS)
- New Minor in ONE Health (CALs)
- Substantial Revision Cell and Molecular Biosciences Graduate Program (GC)
- Substantial Revision to the BS in Exercise Science (CNHS)
- Substantial Revision to the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program (CNHS + GC)
- New mCGS Biomedical Entrepreneurship (LCOM + GC)
- No-Contest Termination B.S. Ed Physical Education (CESS)
- New mCGS Whole-Person Health for Healthcare Practitioners (CNHS + GC)\*

\*Pending electronic vote starting May 6<sup>th</sup>.

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

Two other requests were reviewed and approved by the CAC:

- Name Change for MA in English (CAS + GC)
- Subject Code request – EDES (CESS + GC)

#### Additional Actions:

- Revision of New Minor Proposal Guidelines
- Review of AI Principles Framework

#### Proposals Currently Under Review (N=5):

- No-Contest Deactivation of Counselor Education and Supervision PhD (CESS + GC)
- New mCGS in Clinical Epidemiology (LCOM + GC)
- New mCGS in Clinical and Translational Research (LCOM + GC)
- No-Contest Termination of Post-Professional Doctor of Occupational Therapy program (CNHS + GC)
- New Minor in AI Ethics, Society and Environment (CAS)

#### Academic Program Reviews:

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

##### *Reviews completed this year:*

- Plant Biology
- Master of Medical Sciences
- History/Holocaust Studies/Historic Preservation
- Anthropology
- Economics
- Religion
- Communication Sciences and Disorders

- Animal Sciences
- Radiation Therapy Program

*APR activity is underway for the following programs:*

- Neuroscience UG Program
- Neuroscience Graduate Program
- Community Development and Applied Economics
- Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources

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

- The collaboration between the Provost's Office and the CAC is strong.
- The majority of substantial revisions of programs at all levels this year can be traced to a recent APR.

At the beginning of each semester, we (the CAC chairs) facilitated a meeting 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, 2025-2026**

Fortino Acosta (CALs)	Cynthia Frimpong (CNHS)	Amy Seidl (RSENr)
Sarah Alexander (CAS)	Thomas Griffin (LCoM)	Jeremy Sibold (CNHS)
Adam Bloom (LCoM)	Jason Hibbeler (CEMS)	Chhayank Srivastava (GSS)*
Will Broseman (GSS)*	Colby Kervick, Co-Chair (CESS)	Susan Swogger (Libraries)
Tricia Brown (CESS)	Leila Khorashadi (LCoM)	Leah Theroux (SGA)
Thomas DeSisto (CALs)	Abigail McGowan (FS Pres)	Amy Tomas (GSB)
Alicia Ebert (CAS)	Sarah Osten (CAS)	Michael Tomas (GSB)
Prudence Doherty (Libraries)	Bindu Panikkar (RSENr)	Catalina Vizcarra (CAS)
Stephen Everse, Co-Chair (LCoM)	Joan Rosebush (CEMS)	

\*Never attended a meeting

We wish to also acknowledge the outstanding work of Laurie Eddy and Tiera Porter in supporting our committee.

Report submitted by Stephen Everse & Colby Kervick, Co-Chairs of the Curricular Affairs Committee, May 1, 2026.