

ANNUAL REPORT: Fall 2020 – Spring 2021

The Curricular Affairs Committee (CAC) of the Faculty Senate met eight times during the 2020-2021 academic year. The February meeting was cancelled due to lack of matters requiring discussion.

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

During the current academic year, the Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate completed the review of a total of eight proposals to initiate new academic programs (4), terminate existing programs (4), or significantly revise existing programs (0).

- Approved a proposal from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences in Conjunction with the Graduate College for a new Entry-Level Doctorate of Occupational Therapy
- Approved a proposal from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a new Bachelor of Science in Community-Centered Design
- Approved a proposal from the College of Education and Social Services for a new Certificate of Graduate Study in Resiliency-Based Approaches with Families, Schools and Communities
- Approved a proposal from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a new Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study in Agroecology
- Approved a proposal from the Graduate College to terminate the Master of Science in Bioengineering
- Approved a proposal from the College of Education and Social Services to terminate 16 Secondary Education minors
- Approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural Life Sciences to terminate the Sustainable Landscape Horticulture major *[This proposal was part of a package that included a proposals to establish two new concentrations in the Agroecology major and to change the name of the Agroecology major.]*
- Approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural Life Sciences to terminate the Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Sciences major *[This proposal was part of a package that included a proposal to establish three new concentrations within the existing Nutrition and Food Sciences major.]*

Other Proposals Reviewed and Approved by the CAC:

Fourteen other proposals were reviewed and approved by the CAC.

- Approved a proposal from the Graduate College for a new graduate-level credential called a Micro-Certificate of Graduate Study (mCGS)
- Approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences and Graduate College for an online option for the existing Certificate of Graduate Studies in Complex Systems and Data Science
- Approved a request from the College of Arts and Sciences to close the Bachelors of Arts online degree completion pathway offered through the college that included a major in Anthropology and a minor in either Writing or English as well as the University-wide General Education requirements and CAS distribution requirements
- Approved a proposal from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences in conjunction with the Graduate College to add four concentrations to the existing Interprofessional Health Sciences PhD
- Approved a proposal to establish two new concentrations in the existing Agroecology major: Agroecology and Landscape Design *[This proposal was part of a package that included proposals to terminate the Sustainable Landscape Horticulture major and to change the name of the Agroecology major.]*
- Approved proposal to establish three new concentrations in the existing Nutrition and Food Sciences major: 1) Dietetics, 2) Food Sciences, and 3) Nutrition, Sustainability and Society *[This proposal was part of a package that included a proposal to terminate the Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Sciences major.]*
- Approved a proposal from the College of Nursing and Health Science in conjunction with the Graduate College to deactivate the Post-Professional Doctorate in Occupational Therapy
- Approved a proposal from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences in conjunction with the Graduate College to deactivate the MS in Athletic Training
- Approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural Life Sciences to deactivate the Consumer Affairs minor
- Approved a proposal from the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences in conjunction with the Graduate College to deactivate the MS in Engineering Management
- Approved a proposal from the Graduate College to change the name of the PhD in Bioengineering to the PhD in Biomedical Engineering

- Approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural Life Sciences to change the name of the Agroecology major to the Agroecology and Landscape Design major *[This proposal was part of a package that included proposals to add two concentrations to the Agroecology major and to terminate the Sustainable Landscape Horticulture major.]*
- Approved a proposal from the College of Education and Social Services in conjunction with the Graduate College to change the name of the MEd in Educational Leadership to the MEd in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
- Approved a proposal from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences to change the name of the Health Sciences undergraduate major and BS degree to Public Health Sciences

Additional Actions

- Reviewed an update on the Minor in Behavioral Change Health Studies that began in fall 2016. When the CAC reviewed the materials submitted by the program in fall 2019, it was the consensus of the committee that the program is taking steps towards assessing the minor, but had not had time to collect the data needed to assess outcomes. Based on the update submitted in fall 2020, it appeared that some progress had been made, though more and continuous assessment efforts by the program are essential. Review of the fall 2020 update coincided with the announcement of Dr. Christopher Berger appointment as Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Graduate Education & Postdoctoral Training in LCOM. It is our understanding that a committee led by Dr. Berger will oversee programs in LCOM, including the BCHS minor. Given this recent development, the CAC feels comfortable stepping back from overseeing assessment of the minor, and turning the role over to the new Associate Dean and his committee. The CAC Chair and Vice Provost Jennifer Dickinson met with Dr. Berger to bring him up-to-date on the CAC's role in the BCHS minor up to now.
- Reviewed a request from the Department of Department of Geology in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) to change the name of the Department, Geology major (BA and BS), and Geology minor to Geology and Environmental Earth Science. The CAC postponed approval pending a letter of support from the Directors of the Environmental Studies program. A letter was submitted that requested delay of discussion and decision until after the ENVS/ENSC Working Group has completed its work.
- Revised the guidelines documents for program terminations and program deactivations. The primary goals of the revisions were to 1) provide greater clarity, particularly in the case of contested terminations and deactivations, 2) ensure appropriate unit-level review of proposals prior to submission to the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Success, and 3) change out-of-date practices and names (e.g. the original guidelines required a hard copy of a proposal to be available at the "Bailey-Howe Library"). The revisions were approved unanimously by the CAC and subsequently approved by the Faculty Senate. Both documents can be found here.

- Continued efforts to establish lines of communication between unit-level curriculum committees and the Curricular Affairs Committee. The primary goal is to increase awareness at the unit-level of the guidelines and approval process for new programs, and university-wide policies and approval processes relating to new course proposals, course revisions, and special topic courses.
- Collaborated with the Provost's Office to carry out Academic Program Reviews.

Academic Program Reviews

Reviews were completed for six programs; five are currently in progress.

Reviews completed this year:

- › Education
- › Master of Education in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration
- › Public Administration
- › Physical Therapy
- › Cellular, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences
- › Nursing

APR activity is underway for the following programs:

- › Clinical Translational Science
- › Biochemistry and Chemistry
- › Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
- › Materials Science
- › Pathology

Members of the Curricular Affairs Committee, 2020-2021

Laura Almstead	Garth Garrison	Aaron Nichols	Jennifer Sisk
Andrew Barnaby*	Ann Hazelrigg	Joan (Rosi) Rosebush	Charlotte Teneback
Steve Budington	Jason Hibbeler	Marthe Russell	Amy Tomas
Rosemary Dale	Elizabeth (Liz) Hunt	Elizabeth Sargent	
Meaghan Emery	Colby Kervick	Amy Seidl	
Stephen Everse	Erik Monsen	Graham Sherriff	

**on sabbatical Spring 2021; Jacques Bailly served as substitute*

Report submitted by Laura Almstead, Chair of the Curricular Affairs Committee, May 7, 2021.