



The University of Vermont  
FACULTY SENATE

**Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate  
Minutes**

Thursday, September 3, 2020, 4:15 – 6:15 pm

Present: Professors Almstead, Barnaby, Budington, Dale, Chittenden, Emery, Everse, Garrison, Hazelrigg, Hibbeler, Kervick, Monsen, Rosebush, Russell, Seidl, Sherriff, Sisk, Teneback, Tomas

Absent: Professor Hunt, Ivakhiv, Nichols

Guests: Veronika Carter, Cindy Forehand, Beth Taylor-Nolan

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Chair Almstead called the meeting to order at 4:17 pm on MS Teams.

- I. **Approval of the Minutes.** The April 30, 2020 minutes were approved with one correction for a misspelling of Erik Monsen (sorry Erik).

II. **Chair's Remarks**

- All of the actions approved by the CAC in the Spring were approved by the Board of Trustees at their May meeting, including the Place-Based Education Certificate, and the new PhD in Sustainable Development Policy, Economics & Governance.
- Chair Laura Almstead welcomed and introduced new members.
- Laura Almstead provided an overview of the work of the CAC, including the charge, the process for program proposal review, and academic program review. Laura distributed handouts that visually outlined the curricular review process, and indicated where to find curricular resources on the Faculty Senate webpage. Resources available include guideline for reviewing proposals, and the timeline for review.
- The CAC operating procedures state that “Operating procedures will be reviewed each year”. Suggested for revisions are welcomed at any time.
- Goals for the CAC this year: 1) promoting and supporting collaboration and communication between departments and units; 2) liaison and support unit level curriculum committees; 3) helping with the initiative for General Education; 4) staying focused on curricular quality
- On the horizon –
  - The proposal for a name change for the Geology Department was delayed until the receipt of a letter of support from the Environmental Studies program. The Environmental Studies directors requested that the decision on the Geology name change be postponed until Fall.
  - The October meeting will have an update from the Behavioral Change Health Studies Minor

III. **Reports** – none at this time

IV. **APR Reports** – none at this time

V. **Other Business:**

**A. Online option for existing CGS in Complex Systems & Data Science, CEMS (vote).**

Laura Almstead presented proposal from the Graduate College in conjunction with the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (CEMS) for an online option for the Certificate of Graduate Study (CGS) in Complex Systems and Data Science (CSDS).

**Motion:** Amy Tomas moved to approve the proposed online option to Certificate of Graduate Study in Complex systems and Data Science

**Vote:** 17 **Approve**, 0 Oppose, 1 Abstain

**B. New Credential: Micro-Certificate of Graduate Studies, Graduate College (vote)**

Laura Almstead presented a proposal from the Graduate College to add a smaller graduate credential, a Micro-Certificate of graduate Study (mCGS), to the graduate opportunities for potential students. The new mCGS would be a 9-14 credit credential with a minimum of 6 credits of core courses and 3-5 credits of specifically related electives.

**Motion:** Jennifer Sisk moved to approve the new credential: Micro-Certificate of Graduate Studies (mCGS) in the Graduate College.

**Vote:** 19 **Approve**, 0 Oppose, 1 Abstain

VI. **New Business:** Laura Almstead asked for volunteers to serve on APR subcommittees for 1) Nursing, and 2) Clinical and Translational Science. Jason Hibbeler volunteered to serve on the Nursing subcommittee. Laura will follow-up with CAC members to finalize these subcommittee assignments.

VII. **Adjournment at 5:25 p.m.**