



FACULTY SENATE

In April 2023, the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Student Success approached the Faculty Senate President with a request to move the administration of the CALS component of the Biochemistry major from the Dean's office to the department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics (MMG). The rationale for this change is that MMG already substantially serves CALS Biochemistry students and that moving the major directly into MMG would provide better support for the students. It would also align better with the programmatic oversight of Biochemistry in CAS and LCOM (which share Biochemistry with CALS).

The change is completely internal to CALS, and the VPAASS provided the FS President with letters of approval from the faculty in MMG and the CALS curriculum committee and CALS Faculty, as well as letters of support from the Deans of CALS, CAS and LCOM. After consulting with the Chairs of the Curricular Affairs Committee, the FS President agreed with the proposed move.

This is being reported to the Senate for a few reasons. The Senate has approved changes in recent years to the process for reorganizing colleges and schools, both internally and across units. There is however question about when such processes are triggered. We collectively determined that this move is a minor one and did not require a full committee to be mounted to review it. However, it is also important that the Faculty understand when such moves happen, why and who was consulted. This is part of good, transparent governance.