



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

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

Thursday, April 1, 2021, 4:15 – 6:15 pm

Present: Professors Almstead, Bailly, Budington, Burns, Dale, Emery, Everse, Garrison, Hibbeler, Kervick, Monsen, Nichols, Rosebush, Sargent, Seidl, Sherriff, Sisk, Teneback, Tomas

Absent: Professors Adair, Hazelrigg, Hunt, Russell

Guests: Jennifer Dickinson, Cynthia Forehand, Veronika Carter

Chair Almstead called the meeting to order at 4:15 on MS Teams.

I. **Approval of the Minutes.** The March 4, 2021 minutes were approved as written.

II. **Chair's Remarks** – Laura Almstead made the following remarks:

- Colby Kervick stood in for Laura at the March 22nd Faculty Senate meeting. The Senate approved the name change for the MEd in Educational Leadership, and the Certificate of Graduate Study in Resiliency-Based Approaches with Families, Schools & Communities. There was also discussion of the role of the CAC in the restructuring process being developed by Chris Burns. Laura is engaged in continued discussions about potential CAC involvement.
- Laura announced that she will not accept the nominations to run for CAC chair for next year. Laura nominated Colby Kervick and Stephen Everse as co-chairs. Colby and Stephen accepted the nomination. No other nominations were received. An electronic ballot will be distributed for vote.

III. **Reports – (none at this time)**

IV. **Other Business:**

- A. **Nutrition & Food Sciences changes, CALS (vote)** Laura Almstead presented a request from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALC) for a no-contest termination of the Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Sciences (DNFS) major. This request was accompanied by a request to establish three new concentrations in the existing Nutrition and Food Sciences major: 1) Dietetics, 2) Food Sciences, and 3) Nutrition, Sustainability and Society. These linked changes are the outcome of a departmental strategic process aimed at improving recruitment and retention as well as creating clearer and more dynamic pathways for students looking to major

in the areas of nutrition and food sciences. The curriculum for the DNFS major will serve as the requirements for new Dietetics concentration in the Nutrition and Food Sciences major. Students currently in the DNFS major will graduate with that major.

Motion: Meaghan Emery moved to approve the proposals from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a no-contest termination of the Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Sciences major, and the establishment of three new concentrations within the existing Nutrition and Food Sciences major: 1) Dietetics, 2) Food Sciences, and 3) Nutrition Sustainability and Society. **The motion was seconded and carried.**

- B. Plant & Soil Science changes, CALS (vote)** Laura Almstead presented three linked requests from the Plant and Soil Sciences Department (PSS) in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: 1) to change the name of the existing Agroecology major to the Agroecology and Landscape Design major, 2) a no-contest termination of the Sustainable Landscape Horticulture major, and 3) to establish two new concentrations in the Agroecology major - Agroecology and Landscape Design. The proposed name, Agroecology and Landscape Design, reflects shared curricula between the previous majors and highlights the department's transdisciplinary approach to teaching and research across the areas of agriculture, food production, community, and natural landscapes. These three linked requests are the outcome of departmental discussions and strategic planning aimed at realigning the majors offered by PSS to better align with current faculty expertise and student interest.

Motion: Rosi Rosebush moved to approve the request from the Plant and Soil Sciences Department in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: 1) to change the name of the existing Agroecology major to the Agroecology and Landscape Design major, 2) a no-contest termination of the Sustainable Landscape Horticulture major, and 3) to establish two new concentrations in the Agroecology major - Agroecology and Landscape Design. **The motion was seconded and carried.**

- C. No-Contest Deactivation Consumer Affairs minor, CALS (vote)** Laura Almstead presented a request from the Community Development and Applied Economics (CDAE) Department in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a no-contest deactivation of the Consumer Affairs minor. The minor has had five or fewer enrolled students for a number of years and the department feels it has run its natural course. The five students currently enrolled in the minor will be able to finish because all of the courses will continue to be taught.

Motion: Meaghan Emery moved to approve the request from the Community Development and Applied Economics Department in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences for a no-contest deactivation of the Consumer Affairs minor. **The motion was seconded and carried.**

- D. No-Contest Terminations 16 Secondary Education minors, CESS (vote)** Laura Almstead presented a request from the Department of Education (DOE) in the College of Education and Social Services (CESS) for no-contest terminations of 16 Secondary Education minors. Previously, the Secondary Education major included a requirement to complete a minor, and the 16 minors listed below were established to allow students to fulfil that requirement. As of 2010-2011, this requirement was removed. While the 16 minors exist in Banner and are available for declaration by students, the Secondary Education program and DOE are not

actively marketing, recruiting, or otherwise engaging with these particular minors and no students are enrolled in any of the minors listed. The intention was to terminate the minors when the requirement was removed, but no formal action was submitted.

Secondary Ed German

Secondary Ed Latin

Secondary Ed Russian

Secondary Ed Geography

Secondary Ed History

Secondary Ed French

Secondary Ed Psychology

Secondary Ed Anthropology

Secondary Ed Economics

Secondary Ed Political Science

Secondary Ed Sociology

Secondary Ed English

Secondary Ed Mathematics

Secondary Ed Environmental Studies

Secondary Ed Greek

Motion: Rosi Rosebsush moved to approve the request from the Department of Education in the College of Education and Social Services for no-contest terminations of 16 Secondary Education minors. **The motion was seconded and carried.**

V. **APR Reports –**

- A. **Physical Therapy** – Colby Kervick and Jennifer Sisk served as the review subcommittee for the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. The full report is attached to these minutes. The faculty in the DPT program completed a thorough self-study for the purposes of this Academic Program Review in addition to having completed external accreditation review in 2017. In addition, the program has participated in ongoing yearly reviews by their externally accrediting body. They are engaged in ongoing assessment and evaluation cycles each year and making adjustments based on that assessment data for continuous improvement of the program. In each yearly accreditation progress report update they are able to document their program's response and actions with regard to the feedback. It is our impression that the APR process had been thorough and that the DPT program due to the extensive demands and requirements of their accreditation body has sufficiently addressed all APR components. We believe the APR process was followed in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Provost's office and that all parties involved had opportunities for active participation. This report was reviewed by the current program director who provided some additional updates on the new timeline for their next CAPTE review process as well as some clarifying comments which we integrated into the report. We recommend that the CAC accept this report as documentation that the APR process was followed with integrity.

Motion: Laura Almstead called a vote to accept the APR report for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. **The motion carried.**

- B. **Cellular, Molecular, and Biomedical Sciences** – Eric Monsen and Ann Hazelrigg acted as review subcommittee for the Academic Program Review of the Cellular, Molecular and Biomedical Sciences (CMB) Program. The full APR report is attached to these minutes. The faculty in the CMB Program completed a thorough self-study for the purposes of this Academic Program Review. In addition, the program had a comprehensive external review from J. Scott Butler, PhD, University of Rochester Medical Center and Carol Wilusz, PhD, Colorado State University, which included online meetings with faculty, the Program Director, students, and alumni. The conclusion of the virtual site visit included an exit meeting among Dr. Poynter, Dr. Butler and

Dr. Wilusz as well as members of this CAC subcommittee. Upon receipt of the external reviewer's report, the program was provided an opportunity to respond and provide any additional information to inform the APR process. The CAC subcommittee reached out to Dr. Matthew Poynter, Program Director, to invite additional input. He has since responded with modifications that have been incorporated into this report, and he is in agreement with its findings.

We believe the APR process was followed in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Provost's office and that all parties – students, alumni, faculty, and staff - involved had opportunities for active participation and contribution to the review process. We recommend that the CAC accept this report as documentation that the APR process was followed diligently and with integrity.

Motion: Laura Almstead called a vote to accept the subcommittee's report on the APR of the Cellular, Molecular, and Biomedical Sciences Program. **The motion carried.**

- VI. **New Business:** Laura Almstead will follow-up with volunteers regarding APR subcommittees for Biochemistry, Chemistry and Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:04 p.m.