



The University of Vermont  
FACULTY SENATE

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

Thursday, November 2, 2017, 4:15 – 6:15 pm

Present: Professors Almstead, Cepeda-Benito, Dale, Everse, Garrison, Goodwin, Hughes, Ivakhiv, Kasser, Kervick, Nichols, Rosebush, Rowe\*, Sisk, Strickler, Tomas, Wojewoda\*, SGA Representative McHugh, GSS Representative Marcotte

Absent: Professors Dickinson, Hazelrigg, Marshall, Monsen, Ultsch

Guests: Cathy Paris, Brian Reed, Veronika Carter, Cindy Forehand, Beth Taylor-Nolan

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Chair Almstead called the meeting to order at 4:17 pm in 427A Waterman.

- I. **Approval of the Minutes.** Amy Tomas moved to accept the minutes of the October 5, 2017 meeting as written. The motion was seconded and carried, with three abstaining.

II. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Laura Almstead made the following remarks:

- Welcome Antonio Cepeda-Benito, newly elected CAC representative from the College of Arts & Sciences.
- The CAC report to the October meeting of the Board of Trustees was well received.
- The agenda for the December CAC meeting is anticipated to be very full. The December CAC meeting is the final meeting for proposals to come to vote in order to make the deadline for inclusion in the Fall catalog.
- Thank you to the subcommittees for their efficient work, enabling them to present the proposals for consideration today.

III. **Reports:**

- A. **Integrative Health Care Certificates (Undergraduate, CDE), CNHS.** Stephen Everse and Ellen Rowe have reviewed and recommend approval of the proposals for two new certificates in Integrative Healthcare submitted by: 1) the Department of Rehabilitation and Movement Science in CNHS for creation of an Undergraduate Certificate with an anticipated start date of Spring 2018 with Karen Westervelt as the Educational Director and Cara Feldman-Hunt as the Administrative Director, and 2) Continuing and Distance Education (CDE) for the creation of an Academic Certificate with an anticipated start date of Spring 2018.

These two certificate proposals were generated in response to concerns raised about a previous proposal reviewed last Spring for a minor in Integrative Healthcare. In response, the proposers made major revisions, and have generated two certificate proposals which fully addressed these concerns. These certificate programs will provide a broad-based education in the theoretical and experiential underpinnings of Integrative Healthcare, including scientific and philosophical models, treatment modalities, and the policies affecting implementation. Students (UVM, professionals, and community members) will learn policies and practices that promote incorporating integrative healthcare into clinical practice.

**Motion:** Laura Almstead called a vote to approve the proposed two new Integrative Healthcare certificate programs (Undergraduate, CDE) in the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

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

**B. MS in Biomedical Engineering, CEMS/Graduate College.** Ann Hazelrigg and Jeffrey Hughes reviewed and recommend approval of a proposal for a new Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering submitted by the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (CEMS) in conjunction with the Graduate College. There is strong support for this program in both CEMS and the Larner College of Medicine and justified need. The M.S. degree fills a present void between an established Ph.D. program in Bioengineering and a newly introduced BS program in Biomedical Engineering. The proposed new program aligns with the current mission of UVM in a way that increases STEM education across campus. An accelerate pathway is available for UVM students enrolled in the BS in Biomedical Engineering, and therefore may help retain UVM students interested in pursuing post-baccalaureate studies in the field, but are not interested in a PhD program.

**Motion:** Laura Almstead called a vote to approve the proposed new Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering submitted by the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences.

**Vote:** 20 Approve, 0 Oppose, 1 Abstain

#### **IV. Other Business**

**A. MS in NR Leadership for Sustainability concentration to MPS degree, RSEN/Graduate College.** The Graduate College, in conjunction with the Rubenstein School for the Environment and Natural Resources (RSEN) and Continuing and Distance Education, requests that the Leadership for Sustainability Concentration of the MS in Natural Resources become a separate Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in Leadership for Sustainability. The MPS is a type of Master's degree concentrated in an applied field of study. The Leadership for Sustainability Concentration is an online/minimum residency curriculum with a culminating project. The Leadership for Sustainability has an applied focus, and is project-based rather than thesis based. Therefore, it is better suited to be a MPS degree. There will be no change in the curriculum. The requested change must go through the full approval process (votes by the CAC,

Faculty Senate, and Board of Trustees) because it is creating a new degree program. Although the MPS is a relatively common degree nationally, if approved, the MPS in Leadership for Sustainability will be the first MPS at UVM.

**Motion:** Stephen Everse moved to approve the request that the Leadership for Sustainability Concentration of the MS in Natural Resources become a separate Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in Leadership for Sustainability. The motion was seconded and carried.

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

## V. **APR Reports:**

**A. Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.** Amy Tomas, Colby Kervick, Jennifer Sick, and Jackie Weinstock acted as the review subcommittee, and their report is attached to these minutes. The subcommittee reviewed the self-study report submitted by RSENR, the external reviewers' report and RSENR's response to the reviewers' report, and strongly recommends approval of the RSENR undergraduate and graduate programs reviewed through the current APR. The subcommittee appreciates the careful preparation and consideration which has been given to this process by the members of RSENR. The external reviewers were highly favorable in their summary of the program strengths, noting the high quality of RSENR personnel and students, along with their dedication to the school's mission. They found the integrated program structure, core curriculum, and service-learning courses to be unique among current offerings in the field. They agreed with the unit's assessment that it is indeed a "special place", noting the school ranks highly in terms of student satisfaction, learning, employment and motivation. The subcommittee concurs with the reviewers' positive assessment of the RSENR programs and appreciates the careful consideration which has been given to their recommendations.

**Motion:** Stephen Everse moved to accept the subcommittee's report on the APR of Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

**Vote:** 20 Approve, 0 Oppose, 1 Abstain

## VI. **New Business**

- A. Subcommittee needed for a proposal for a **new BA and new minor in Health and Society (CAS)**. Rosemary Dale will chair, and Rosie Rosebush will second for the review of this combined package.
- B. Subcommittee needed for a proposal for a **new MS in Engineering Management (CEMS)**. Jeff Marshall will chair, and Aaron Nichols will second.
- C. Subcommittee needed for a proposal for a **new PhD in Complex Systems and Data Science**. J. Dickinson will chair, and Sue Kasser will second.

**VII. Adjournment.** Ellen Rowe moved to adjourn at 5:36 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried.

\*via phone