

## SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

MS Teams Online

### PRESENT:

#### Voting Members

Brett Favaro  
Celia Brinkerhoff  
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald  
Lindsay Norris  
Naomi Ben-Yehuda  
Parthi Krishnan  
Richard Popoff  
Shelley Boyd

#### Ex-Officio

Diane Purvey, Acting President  
Kwuntiltunaat (Kim Baird), Chancellor

#### Non-Voting Members

Catherine Schwichtenberg  
Leeann Waddington  
Meredith Laird  
Nadia Henwood  
Nishan Perera

#### Administrative Resources

Michelle Molnar

#### Guests

Cate Tohill  
Fiona Whittington-Walsh  
John Rose

### NOT PRESENT:

#### Voting Members

Ron Murray

#### Non-Voting Members

### 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

**Richard Popoff moved the agenda be confirmed as circulated.**

**The motion carried.**

### 3. Approval of Minutes, February 4, 2026

**Celia Brinkerhoff moved the minutes be accepted as amended.**

**The motion carried.**

### 4. Chair's Report

Catherine Schwichtenberg, Chair, provided an update on the work of the subcommittees. She noted that the Subcommittee on Quantitative Courses has been actively reviewing courses to ensure they continue to meet the quantitative criteria, and that the Subcommittee on Pathway

Courses has been engaged in reviewing DFW rates for undergraduate pathway courses. Item 6.2 is a report arising from these discussions.

## **5. New Business**

### **5.1. Course Submissions**

The committee requested CRWR 1100, 1200, and 1240 be removed from the list and discussed separately.

**Parthi Krishnan moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend that Senate approve the March 2026 list of new, revised and discontinued course outlines, excluding CRWR 1100, 1200, and 1240.**

**The motion carried.**

*ACTION:* The Office of the Registrar will connect with the CRWR department to clarify the intention of the changes to the course prerequisites, which limit access as they do not include testing and other equivalencies to the Undergraduate English Proficiency.

### **5.2. Program Change: Certificate in Education Assistant**

Cate Tohill, presented the minor change to the program as well as the inclusion of the curriculum map.

**Parthi Krishnan moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend that Senate approve the revisions to the Certificate in Education Assistant Program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

### **5.3. Program Change: Bachelor of Arts, Major in Applied Geography**

John Rose, Geography instructor, detailed significant changes to the BA major, including restructuring second-year skills courses, integrating physical geography content, reducing prescriptiveness in upper-level requirements, and introducing new courses to address student demand and flexibility.

**Parthi Krishnan moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend Senate approve the revisions to the Bachelor of Arts, Major in Applied Geography program and associated new and revised courses, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

### **5.4. Program Change: Associate of Arts in Geography**

John Rose, explained that changes to the associate degree and minor were made to harmonize first- and second-year requirements with the major, increase skills training, and remove outdated or rarely offered courses.

**Parthi Krishnan moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend Senate approve the revisions to the Associate of Arts, Major in Applied Geography program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

### **5.5. Program Change: Minor in Geography**

**Shelley Boyd moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend Senate approve the revisions to the Minor in Geography program, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

#### **5.6. English Proficiency Requirement – Amendment**

Fiona Whittington-Walsh, Lead Advisor on Disability, Accessibility, and Inclusion and faculty, Department of Sociology and Nadia Henwood, Associate Vice-President, Enrollment Services and Registrar presented the proposed revisions to the university's English proficiency requirement to support the Including All Citizens Pathway (IACP), noting this is the final step in formalizing the admissions category for select programs.

**Shelley Boyd moved that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend that Senate approve the revisions to the University’s English Proficiency Requirement, effective September 1, 2026.**

**The motion carried.**

### **6. Items for Discussion**

#### **6.1. DQAB Determination Update**

Meredith Laird, Manager, Curriculum Support, updated the committee on the outcome that DQAB determined that the changes to the Bachelor of Psychiatric Nursing program does not constitute a new degree.

#### **6.2. UG Course Removals from Pathways**

Catherine Schwichtenberg, led a discussion on the review of undergraduate courses on the pathway, noting that the Subcommittee on Pathway Courses (SPWC) identified undergraduate courses with persistently high DFW rates for pathway students.

The committee discussed appropriate metrics for evaluating pathway courses and supported focusing analysis on F and W grades, with consideration of grade distributions to provide additional context. Emphasis was placed on aligning pathway courses with student success rather than enrollment.

The committee noted that pathway challenges may require additional student supports and broader consideration of learning outcomes and support structures, beyond changes to course lists alone.

The process for removal and potential reinstatement of pathway courses was clarified, noting that faculty councils have authority for removal and that a review and reapplication process is in place.

#### **6.3. 2026 – 2027 Senate and Committee Meeting Calendar**

The chair presented the draft Senate and committee meeting calendar for feedback.

### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.