

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

2:00 p.m. –4:00 p.m.

MS Teams

Present		Presenters and Administrative Resources
Voting Members	Non-Voting Members	Michelle Molnar
Brett Favaro	Catherine Schwichtenberg, Chair	
Celia Brinkerhoff	Meredith Laird	
Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald	Nadia Henwood	
Naomi Ben-Yehuda	Nishan Perera	
Parthi Krishnan		Guests
Richard Popoff		David Connop Price
Shelley Boyd		Josephine Chan
Not Present:		
Leeann Waddington		

1. Call to Order and Opening Remarks

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

The chair acknowledged KPU's commitment to reconciliation and recognition that we live, work and study in a region that overlaps with the unceded traditional and ancestral First Nations territories of the Musqueam, Katzie, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Qayqayt, and Kwikwetlem, and with the lands of the Kwantlen First Nation, which gifted its name to this university.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the agenda be approved as circulated.

3. Approval of the Minutes

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED THAT the minutes be approved as circulated.

4. Chair's Report

4.1. Member Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves and shared a fun fact from their summer.

4.2. Committee Mandate and Membership Review

The chair reviewed the Curriculum Committee's responsibilities, membership structure, vacancies, and inter-committee coordination. The committee noted a gap in the mandate regarding results of the program review process leading to program revisions. The chair noted that she planned to review the revised program review process and will report back at a future meeting.

4.3. **Key Documents and Common Agenda Items**

The committee discussed the significance of key policies, including AC10 – Development and Change of Senate-Approved Programs and AC14 – KPU Credential Framework, which guide much of the committee's work. The Chair also identified the Course Outline Manual, which is due for a comprehensive review, and the Academic Plan as important resources informing the committee's decision-making.

It was noted that requests related to intake cancellations, program suspensions, and program discontinuations are considered by the Senate Standing Committee on Academic Planning and Priorities (SSCAPP) and the Senate Standing Committee on University Budget (SSCUB) in accordance with AC10 procedures. While these matters do not fall within this committee's mandate, members were encouraged to remain aware of programs undergoing such changes given their broader academic implications.

5. **New Business**

5.1. **SSCC Subcommittee Nominations**

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum appoint the following members to their subcommittees:

Subcommittee on Pathway Courses:

- Rajdeep Gill, Faculty Member, Faculty of Arts, Voting, September 10, 2026 – August 31, 2029
- Mike Harris, Academic Advisor, Voting, September 10, 2026 – August 31, 2029

Subcommittee on Quantitative Courses:

- Mariana Gatzeva, Faculty Member, Faculty of Arts, Voting, September 10, 2026 – August 31, 2029
- Victor Martinez, Faculty Members, Wilson School of Design, Voting, September 10, 2026 – August 31, 2026

5.2. **Undergraduate Pathway Course Recommendations**

The committee received a report from the Pathway Subcommittee on its review of pathway-designated courses, which examined DFW rates from Fall 2022–Summer 2026.

Members considered a revised governance approach whereby Senate would recommend that Faculties review pathway designations using established criteria and data and, where appropriate, remove pathway designations through their usual governance processes. The proposed process includes consultation with OREG, consideration of course-capacity planning and student impacts, and the provision of appropriate pedagogical supports.

Members emphasized the importance of understanding the effect of proposed changes on current and prospective pathway students and requested that faculty review materials include student-impact data, including the number of affected students, pathway and non-pathway DFW rates, and other relevant information to support informed decision-making.

Discussion also highlighted the need for clear student communication, consideration of access supports and awareness of available teaching and learning resources.

The original motion was amended to:

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED that the Senate Standing Committee on Curriculum recommend that Senate recommend that Faculties review the criteria and data, and remove the pathway designation for the listed courses through their usual governance process, that the respective Deans consult with OREG on implications, that plans be put in place to ensure there is course capacity for pathway students once the course list is reduced for Pathway 2 and Pathway 3, and that faculty have the necessary pedagogical supports for pathway courses. These changes should be completed in time for implementation for September 1, 2027.

6. Items for Discussion

6.1. DQAB Determination Update

Meredith Laird, Manager, Curricular Support, reported that the Bachelor of Traditional Chinese Medicine was determined by the Degree Quality Assessment Board not to constitute a new degree, allowing implementation to proceed as approved.

7. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The date of the next meeting is October 7, 2026.
