MINUTES
Faculty Senate 2025-2026 Meeting #3
https://uml.curriculog.com/agenda:188/form
Monday October 6, 2025 at 3:30-5:00 PM • University Crossing 260

1. **Updates**

    1.1. **Career-Connected Experiences** *(Kevin Petersen)* Update on college-level policies and infrastructure. With the Chancellor's guarantee that every undergraduate student will have the opportunity for a career-connected experience (CCE), we are in the process of building this in each college. In Fall 2024 the Francis College of Engineering (FCE), and in Spring 2025 the College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences (FAHSS) approved policies for meeting the CCE requirement in degree pathways or in other ways. Please take this back to your departments to figure out how your department will meet this guarantee. What resources do you need to offer this for your students? How will this fit in your pathways?

    1.2. **Board of Trustees (BOT) Update** *(Johanna Choo)* https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2732/form Update from the September 26, 2025 BOT meeting held at UMass Dartmouth. Johanna shared details of the BRIGHT Act presented by President Meehan at the BOT meeting. Other details included: fiscal discipline; free tuition for households making less than $75, 000; Seamless transfer from Community Colleges; Governor's Drive Initiative; FY26 Budget Overview; Enrollment - slight decrease in enrollment, but stable overall. International student enrollment is down 13% from last year; Canadian and European are benefitting from this. Further details included: Focused Enrollment; Applicant Sharing Initiatives; Federal Impact on Funded Research.

    1.3. **Transition to Canvas Update** *(Donna Mellen & Patrick Connell)* – **New Agenda item.** The decision to update to Canvas was made about 15 months ago. Overall, it has been a positive experience so far. About 60% of campus is using Canvas now. The transition is happening in four phases. In Spring 2025, the Manning School of Business and the

Zuckerberg College of Health Sciences transitioned from Blackboard to Canvas. In Fall 2025, the College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences has transitioned about 62% of their courses to Canvas, which is about 2, 545 courses so far, and we are starting to onboard Kennedy College of Sciences. In Fall 2026, Francis College of Engineering will start their transition. Blackboard Anthology has filed for Chapter 11; Will keep Bb and Course Eval. Our contract with Bb ends on August 31, 2026. Please don't modify anything in Bb because that is our student record. If you need to modify anything, you can make updates in Canvas. Faculty raised questions about students who had an incomplete in Bb; the incomplete will migrate over to Canvas. Canvas doesn't have a survey capability; Qualtrics is the best for that. If students submit a wrong file, there is a workaround with two options; please contact Academic Technology.

2. **Minutes from Meeting #2 on September 8, 2025** *(Kevin Petersen)*
   https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2715/form Vote to approve the Minutes of September 8, 2025: Yes 89, No 0, Abstain 5. Approved 95%

3. **University-Level Policy Proposals**

   3.1. **Call for Comment #5** – Request to allow transfer credit from approved international universities through established partnership agreements
   https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2685/form

   3.2. **Call for Comment #6** - Request to change the graduate non-degree policy
   https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2678/form

4. **Undergraduate Policy Committee** *(Mike Geiger)*

   4.1. **Minor in Atmospheric Science** *(Lori Weeden)* – **New Plan**
   https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2641/form. The Atmospheric Sciences minor provides students with a foundational understanding of weather and climate and how they shape both people and the natural world. Our coursework provides students with the disciplinary knowledge and analytical skills they need to interpret meteorological and climate data, including weather forecasts and climate change projections, to inform decision making at individual, business, and government scales. This minor equips students with relevant expertise for a wide range of professions, from renewable energy and agriculture to transportation, environmental consulting, and risk management. This minor pairs nicely with new B.S. Data Science degree. Vote to approve the new Minor in Atmospheric Science: Yes 96, No 0, Abstain 1. Approved 99%.

5. **Graduate Policy and Affairs Committee** *(Noah Van Dam)*

5.1. Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Language Arts and Literacy – Licensure Option
(Minjeong Kim) – Change Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2514/form
Change required courses in the plan and subplan: A new course (EDUC.6126 Multilingual Learners with Disabilities: Policy and Practice) has replaced EDUC.5410 Teaching Emergent Bilingual Students; Adding Ed.S. seminar to the Ed.S. licensure pathway by replacing EDUC.5220 Young Adult Literature. Vote to approve: Yes 90, No 0, Abstain 3. Approved 97%.

5.2. Education Specialist (Ed.S.) in Language Arts and Literacy – Non-Licensure Option *(Minjeong Kim)* – Change Subplan
https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2515/form Change required courses in the plan and subplan: A new course (EDUC.6126 Multilingual Learners with Disabilities: Policy and Practice) has replaced EDUC.5410 Teaching Emergent Bilingual Students. Vote to approve: Yes 91, No 0, Abstain 3. Approved 97%.

5.3. Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Language Arts and Literacy – Non-Licensure Option *(Minjeong Kim)* – Change Subplan
https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2513/form Add EDUC.6126 Multilingual Learners with Disabilities: Policy and Practice; Remove EDUC.5410 Teaching Emergent Bilingual Students. Vote to approve: Yes 87, No 0, Abstain 5. Approved 95%.

5.4. Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Language Arts and Literacy – Licensure Option *(Minjeong Kim)* – Change Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2511/form Add EDUC.6126 Multilingual Learners with Disabilities: Policy and Practice; Remove EDUC.5410 Teaching Emergent Bilingual Students. Vote to approve: Yes 92, No 0, Abstain 5. Approved 95%.

5.5. Master of Science (M.S.) – Business Analytics – Big Data and Applied AI Option *(Nichalin Summerfield)* – New Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2681/form The Big Data and Applied AI option reflects the growing role of artificial intelligence in business decision-making. It provides students with rigorous training in data science methods, machine learning, and AI-driven analytics, preparing them to tackle complex business challenges using cutting-edge techniques. By combining technical depth with practical applications, this option equips graduates with the skills sought by employers in today's data-driven economy and positions them for success in analytics and data science careers. The Master of Science in Business Analytics requires 10 courses (30 credits). Students complete a core of 7 required courses (21 credits) and complete 3 elective courses (9 credits) within their chosen option. Vote to approve: Yes 85, No 4, Abstain 6. Approved 89%.

5.6. Master of Science (M.S.) – Business Analytics – General Business Analytics Option *(Nichalin Summerfield)* – New Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2679/form

The General Business Analytics option provides students with a broad foundation in analytics concepts, methods, and applications across diverse business domains. This option emphasizes flexibility, allowing students to select from a wide range of electives that match their professional interests and career goals. The Master of Science in Business Analytics requires 10 courses (30 credits). Students complete a core of 7 required courses (21 credits) and complete 3 elective courses (9 credits) within their chosen option. Vote to approve: Yes 85, No 2, Abstain 2. Approved 96%.

5.7. Master of Science (M.S.) – Business Analytics – Healthcare Analytics Option *(Nichalin Summerfield)* – New Subplan https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2680/form The Healthcare Analytics Option is designed for students who wish to specialize in applying analytics within healthcare contexts, an area of growing demand in both industry and public policy. The electives in this option provide a combination of analytical tools and domain-specific knowledge, preparing graduates for careers in healthcare administration, data analytics, and other roles at the intersection of business and healthcare. Vote to approve: Yes 88, No 5, Abstain 2. Approved 93%.

5.8. Master of Science (M.S.) Nursing – Family Health Nursing *(Lisa Marchand)* – Change Admission Requirement https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2690/form The request aims to result in the following: The application portal will be open September 1 through March 1. After March 1, the application portal will close, and applications will not be accepted into the portal. The application deadline for Spring admissions is November 1. The application deadline for Summer/Fall admissions is March 1. Vote to approve: Yes 90, No 0, Abstain 4. Approved 96%.

5.9. Master of Science (M.S.) Nursing – Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practician *(Lisa Marchand)* – Change Admission Requirement https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2689/form The request aims to result in the following: The application portal will be open September 1 through March 1. After March 1, the application portal will close, and applications will not be accepted into the portal. The application deadline for Spring admissions is November 1. The application deadline for Summer/Fall admissions is March 1. Vote to approve: Yes 93, No 0, Abstain 5. Approved 95%.

Please follow your proposal in the Curriculog workflow to see the UML System Updates.

Executive Session: President Kevin Petersen called an executive session for faculty only to discuss topics in which to engage faculty governance. Topics included career-connected experiences, an update from the Scheduling Task Force, universal calendar planning for semester schedules, Core Curriculum, and invited speakers on campus, and 90-credit degrees.

Motion to adjourn, seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53pm.

Next: Faculty Senate Meeting #4 on Monday November 3, 2025 at 3:30-5:00 pm in Coburn 255.