MINUTES
Faculty Senate 2025-2026 Meeting #6
https://uml.curriculog.com/agenda:207/form
Monday February 2, 2026 at 3:30-5:00 PM • University Crossing 260

1. Updates

1.1. Moment of Silence for Art Mittler *(Kevin Petersen)* Art was a huge presence and had an enormous impact on UML. He will be sorely missed.

1.2. Provost Search *(Chancellor Julie Chen & Kevin Petersen)*
https://www.imsearch.com/open-searches/university-massachusetts-lowell/provost-and-vice-chancellor-academic-and-student Chancellor Chen provided a brief update on the Provost search process. She expressed appreciation to the search committee, co-chaired by Kevin Petersen and Ann Maglia, for their leadership and work to date. As part of the search process, the university is clearly communicating who we are as an institution and the qualities and priorities we seek in a candidate. The formal public position description is available online. The goal is to generate the largest and strongest possible candidate pool, including individuals who may not have been actively considering a transition. The university seeks a Provost who is genuinely motivated to join UMass Lowell because of its mission, momentum, and identity. Alice Frye asked whether the university is seeking a Provost who would take the institution in a new direction or continue along its current path. Chancellor Chen responded that the university is seeking a candidate who will build upon and advance the existing strategic direction. While new ideas are welcome, the goal is to maintain forward momentum and strengthen established priorities, including CCE and CORE. Kevin Petersen noted that the campus community will be kept informed as the search progresses, and additional meetings will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Leadership Updates

- Congratulations were extended to Joe Hartman on his appointment as President of Western New England University, effective April/May.

- Mike Cipriano has retired; Steve Athanas has assumed his former role.
- Dereck Berger has been appointed Vice President of Advancement at Wentworth Institute of Technology. A search is underway for his replacement.
- Noureddine was formally honored ("knighted," in the French tradition) by the French Consul General.

Enrollment and Retention

Retention has increased by two percentage points compared to last year. Application and enrollment numbers are also trending positively.

1.3. Department Elections for Senators *(Kerry Patenaude)* – As guided by the Faculty Senate [by-laws](), nominations of candidates for the Faculty Senate shall occur in writing to the chairperson of the departmental or academic personnel committee.

- The "**Faculty Senate 2026-2027 Election Timeline**" and "**Faculty Senate 2026-2027 Calendar**" documents are available on your tables and https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2958/form.

- **Senators are elected by their departments for 2-year terms**
    - **Senate 2025-2026** will conclude on August 31, 2026.
        - See "**Senator List by College 2025-2026**" for the current list of senators: https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2958/form
        - [Senators]() with a 2026 end of term may be re-elected or may conclude their service on August 31, 2026.
        - Senators with a 2027 end of term have been elected to serve until August 31, 2027.
    - **Senate 2026-2027** will begin on September 1, 2026 and conclude on August 31, 2027.

- **All Department Chairs should email the results of their department election to Kerry Patenaude before Friday March 20, 2026.**
    - The Executive Committee will review the members of Senate 2026-2027 on the last Monday of March.
    - Nominations for Officers will open on April 1 and will close on the third Monday in April.
    - Newly elected senators for Senate 2026-2027 may, if they wish, attend the April and May Senate 2025-2026 meetings to onboard with the departing senators.
    - Election of Officers, committee members, and committee chairs will take place during the first Monday in May.

1.4. Curriculog Proposal Deadlines *(Kerry Patenaude)* – Reminder for departments to submit 2025-2026 proposals asap for updates to the Fall 2026 catalog.

- The **"Deadlines for Curriculum Proposals 2025-2026"** document is available on your tables and https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2959/form.

- **Curriculog 2025-2026 forms will close for new proposals on March 31.**
  - Proposals for UPC need to reach the UPC step by April 6.
  - Proposals for GPAC need to reach the GPAC step by April 13.
  - All final approvals for updates to the Fall 2026 catalog will conclude at Faculty Senate Meeting #9 on May 4, 2026.

- **Curriculog 2026-2027 forms will open on August 1.**

1.5. Other Updates

Never Attended Reports – Julie Nash asked for everyone to complete the "Never Attended" so that we fulfill our requirements for student financial aid. The deadline is Wednesday.

More Information – Feedback we received was the folks would like more information. Senior Cab slides will get distributed regularly: how we respond to things like ICE, as well as all agenda items.

CORE Committee – Engineering and Business have a seat available.

2. **Minutes from Meeting #5 on December 1, 2025** *(Kevin Petersen)* https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2944/form Vote to approve the minutes: Yes 79, No 0, Abstain 3. Approved 96%.

3. **Policy & Pilot Proposals** *(Kevin Petersen)*

   3.1. **UML – Clarify the Policy on Graduate Student Transfer Credit** *(Noah Van Dam)* – **Change Policy (University-Level)** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2859/form. REMINDER AND UPDATE: UMass Lowell currently maintains two related policies governing graduate credit applied toward doctoral programs:

   1. Graduate Student Transfer Credit policy – This applies when individual graduate courses are transferred into a program
   2. Acceptance of Master's Degree Toward Doctoral Requirements policy – This applies when a student's entire earned master's degree is accepted toward a doctoral program.

To reduce confusion, GPAC recommends adding a brief clarifying statement at the beginning of the Transfer Credit policy. Students will either transfer in single course, or transfer in an entire master's degree.

- **Faculty Senate** – Initial Discussion and vote to initiate the 2-month process was approved on 12/1/25
- **Call for Comment #7** – Announced on 12/5/25
- **UPC** – Will review on 2/9/26
- **GPAC** – Will review on 2/17/26
- **Faculty Senate** – Will review on 3/2/26

3.2. **UML – Academic Integrity** *(Julie Nash)* – **Change Policy (University-Level)** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2901/form. FOR INITIAL DISCUSSION: This proposal updates the academic integrity policy to better match current teaching and learning conditions, especially the widespread availability of generative AI tools. The revisions clarify expectations for students and instructors, explicitly address unauthorized AI-assisted work as academic misconduct, and provide concrete examples to reduce ambiguity. The proposal also strengthens consistency and fairness in how cases are documented and handled by standardizing reporting and reinforcing the sanctions and appeal process, including circumstances when violations are discovered after a course ends. Vice-Provost Nash mentioned that we want to make sure we have a way to track that a student has a violation; we can't go back several semesters to change a grade, but we can take appropriate action when we see repeated offenses. Sarah Rozelle mentioned an inconsistency between the text of the proposal and the uploaded documents, and requested clarification re: the intention to mail a letter and how long the offense will be on the student record. Vice-Provost Nash will update the text of the proposal. Other discussion included discouragement from relying on AI-detecting software, but rather citing students for not using their own work, and a reminder that banning technology in the classroom serves to "out" students with certain disabilities who are entitled to use of a computer. Vote to approve with the updated text: Yes 80, No 1, Abstain 0. Approved 99%.

3.3. **Introduction of a Pilot Process** *(Paula Haines & Kerry Patenaude)*

PILOT: Credits for Prior Learning Portfolio Process *(Colleen Tapley, Robai Werunga, Aaron Smith-Walter, Jason Carter)* **Propose a Curricular Pilot to inform future policy change** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2703/form**.** The goal of the CPL pilot is to determine whether UMass Lowell can recognize verified, college-level prior learning under faculty governance in a way that maintains academic rigor, supports student success and equity, and complies with NECHE accreditation standards. Share PPT. The pilot will run for two semesters (spring and fall 2026) in two programs (BA Education and Master of Public Administration) with a limited number of students. The onus will be on the student to present evidence of the prior learning related to specific courses that students will be able to substitute. E.g. Grant Writing; opportunity for 1-to-1 match for experience to course. If a student is denied, they may be offered the opportunity to resubmit within a specified deadline. If a student is not approved for a course reduction, they could potentially be excused from the requirement for something else. A supervisor or manager will need to write a letter of support. Lessons learned from

the pilot will allow for improvement. A request was made to include the rubric in the proposal. Vote to approve the proposed pilot: Yes 68, No 8, Abstain 5. Approved 84%.

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

   4.1. **Department Policy – Nursing SSON General Policies** *(Nicole Champagne)* – **Change Policy (Department-Level)** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2873/form. Update the Academic Progression policy and remove the following areas of the General Policies: Appeal Process for Program Dismissal, HESI Policy, and Basic Math Competency and Medication Calculation Policy. UPC discussed the nature of proposal and the fact that the change is just bringing catalog in line with current practice. This update is part of preparation for March accreditation visit. Confirmed with the Registrar that a Spring 2026 effective date is fine given nature of this proposal. Approved by Executive Committee on behalf of Faculty Senate. This is really bringing the catalog in line with current practice before accreditation.

   4.2. **B.A. Political Science – Law & Politics** *(Joshua Dyck)* – **Change Subplan** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2833/form. Change the list of approved electives: Add LGST.2100 Restorative Justice, LGST.2610 Introduction to Legal Concepts, LGST.2870 Legal Writing, LGST.3790 The Relationship of Law, Logic, and Ethics, LGST.3870 Legal Research Methods; and add the following stipulation to the degree pathway: "Up to 2 classes (6 credits) from approved LGST electives may be used to fulfill concentration requirements in POLI-Law & Politics. Up to 2 classes (6 credits) may be shared between the POLI-Law & Politics Major and the Legal Studies Minor. UPC discussed program proposals #1 and #8 together with Joshua Dyck and Michelle Veilleux. The Minor in Legal Studies was moved from the Criminal Justice department to the Political Science department this past year. Vote to approve: Yes 76, No 0, Abstain 0. Approved 100%.

   4.3. **Minor in Legal Studies** *(Michelle Veilleux)* – **Change Plan** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2716/form. Change the list of approved electives: Add POLI.2300 Law & the Legal System, POLI.3110 Foundations of Law, POLI.3350 Constitutional Law: Power and Principles, POLI.3370 Constitutional Law: Rights & Liberties, POLI.3390 Supreme Course Seminar; update the catalog description, and add the following language to the degree pathway: "Up to 2 classes (6 credits) from approved POLI electives may be used to fulfill the Legal Studies minor. Up to 2 classes (6 credits) may be shared between the Legal Studies Minor and the POLI-Law & Politics Major. Vote to approve: Yes 77, No 0, Abstain 2. Approved 97%.

   4.4. **B.S. Business Administration – All concentrations: (1) Accounting, (2) Management, (3) Finance, (4) Management Information Systems, (5) Analytics & Operations Management, (6) Entrepreneurship, (7) Marketing, (8) International Business** *(Deborah Casey)* – **Change Subplans**

https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2756/form. Change required courses: Add FINA.2000 Personal Finance, MIST.2020 Emerging Technologies in Data Storytelling, and MATH.2830 Introduction to Statistics; Remove MATH.1220 Management Calculus, ECON.2110 Statistics for Business and Economics I, and HIST.xxxx course for AH elective. Change the sequence of courses in the degree pathway, and add the Career-Connected Experience requirement. Sarah Rozelle inquired if there is there a letter of support from Math. Jennifer Gonzales-Zugasti shared that MATH has discussed at length and is comfortable with the change. Students can move into the new pathway, and if students don't pass ALEKS, they will have to go back to Fundamentals of Algebra. Vote to approve: Yes 66, No 7, Abstain 7. Approved 82%.

4.5. B.S. Business Administration – All concentrations (online): (1) Management, (2) Finance, (3) Management Information Systems, (4) Analytics & Operations Management, (5) Entrepreneurship, (6) Marketing, (7) International Business, (8) General Business *(Deborah Casey)* – **Change Subplans** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2773/form. Change required courses: Add FINA.2000 Personal Finance, MIST.2020 Emerging Technologies in Data Storytelling, and MATH.2830 Introduction to Statistics; Remove MATH.1220 Management Calculus, ECON.2110 Statistics for Business and Economics I, and HIST.xxxx course for AH elective. Change the sequence of courses in the degree pathway, and add the Career-Connected Experience requirement for online students. Vote to approve: Yes 61, No 6, Abstain 9. Approved 80%.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

4.6. B.S. Biology – Pre-Medical / Pre-Health *(Frederic Chain)* – **Change List of Approved Electives** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2817/form. Add six courses to the list of approved Pre-Med/Health electives: BIOL.3420 Comp. Vertebrate Anatomy; BIOL.3440L Comp. Vertebrate Anatomy Lab;BIOL.4300 Cancer Genomics; BIOL.4385 Epigenetics & Chromatin; BIOL.4500 Parasitic Protozoology; BIOL.4945L Host-Pathogen; Interaction Lab.

4.7. B.S. Exercise Science – Pre-Physician Assistant *(Kyle Coffey)* – **Change List of Approved Electives** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2866/form. Add four courses to the list of required chemistry course choices: CHEM.1210 Chemistry I, CHEM.1230L Chemistry I Laboratory, CHEM.1220 Chemistry II, and CHEM.1240L Chemistry II Laboratory. A reminder came up that Chem I carries a math pre-requisite now, and interested students will therefore have to take the ALEKS test and potentially algebra if they don't score high enough on the test.

4.8. Certificate (UG) Post-Baccalaureate – Pre-Dental *(Frederic Chain)* – **Change List of Approved Electives** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2816/form. Add two courses to

the list of required course choices: BIOL.2200 Principles of Cellular Biology; BIOL.2350 Genetics. The program is designed to allow students to take courses to use for their application for dental school.

4.9. Certificate (UG) Post-Baccalaureate – Pre-Medical *(Frederic Chain)* – **Change List of Approved Electives** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2815/form. Add three courses to the list of required course choices: BIOL.2001 Biology MCAT Analysis; BIOL.2200 Principles of Cellular Biology; BIOL.2350 Genetics. Required courses, but from a list of approved electives. The program is designed to allow students to take courses to use for their application for medical school.

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

5.1. MBA Master of Business Administration – all 9 subplans *(Yi Yang)* – **Change Plan** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2830/form Update the concurrent program language re: double-counting up to 9-credits: Remove "No credit can be double counted between two master degree programs"; Add "Students may double-count up to 9-credits between the MSEM and MBA degrees as long as these credits fulfill the curriculum requirements for both programs. The nine subplans are: (1) Accounting, (2) Business Analytics, (3) Entrepreneurship, (4) Finance, (5) Healthcare, (6) Information Technology, (7) International Business, (8) Managerial Leadership, and (9) Marketing. A joint proposal to create a concurrent program with MSEM. First proposal after the change in policy. Some courses required in one are electives in the other, and vice versa. Vote to approve: Yes 76, No 0, Abstain 3. Approved 96%.

5.2. M.S. Engineering Management *(Bradley Mingels)* – **Change Plan** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2880/form Update the concurrent program language re: double-counting up to 9-credits: Remove "No credit can be double counted between two master degree programs"; Add "Students may double-count up to 9-credits between the MSEM and MBA degrees as long as these credits fulfill the curriculum requirements for both programs. A joint proposal to create a concurrent program with MBA. Vote to approve: Yes 76, No 0, Abstain 4. Approved 96%.

5.3. ADMISSIONS: M.M. Music Education *(Seth Adams)* – **Change Graduate Admission Requirements** https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2844/form Change the standardized test admission requirement: Remove the requirement to submit verification of appropriate MTEL passing scores and/or provisional certification prior to admission. The department now instructs masters students in the music education program to take the MTEL exams toward the end of their graduate coursework but before their student teaching practicum. Vote to approve: Yes 77, No 1, Abstain 4. Approved 94%.

5.4. FAHSS Senators – Chris Leider has needed to step away from her role in GPAC this semester; Eleanor Abrams is taking her place. Please reach out to Noah Van Dam with any questions.

6. Executive Session

Meeting adjourned 4:47pm.

Next: Faculty Senate Meeting #7 on Monday March 2, 2026 at 3:30-5:00 pm in University Crossing 260.