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MINUTES

Faculty Senate 2025-2026 Meeting #8

Monday April 6, 2026 at 3:30-5:00 PM • University Crossing 260

1. Updates

1.1. Election Planning (*Kerry Patenaude*)

- **Department 2026-2027 Election Results**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3222/form>
 - On April 1 Kerry P emailed Senate-Elect 2026-2027 to ask for nominations for Officers, Committees, and Committee Chairs
 - Senate-Elect 2026-2027 is encouraged to attend the last meeting of Senate 2025-2026 on May 4 to onboard with Senate 2025-2026.

- **Officer 2026-2027 Elections**
 - Nominations for 2026-2027 Officers opened on April 1 and will close on April 20 (third Monday of April).
 - Nominees should send a brief candidate statement to Kerry Patenaude before 12 noon on Monday April 20.
 - Faculty Senate 2025-2026 will vote for Officers during the May 4 meeting.

- **Committee 2026-2027 Elections**
 - Nominations for 2026-2027 Committee Members should be sent to Kerry Patenaude by Monday April 27 at 12 noon, and can be written in during the May 4 meeting.
 - Colleges will gather and vote for 2026-2027 Committee Members during the May 4 meeting.

- **Committee Chair 2026-2027 Elections**

- Nominations for Chairs should be sent to Kerry Patenaude by Monday April 27 at 12 noon, and can be written in after Colleges vote for Committee Members on May 4.
- Committees will gather and vote for their 2026-2027 Chair at the end of the May 4 meeting.

1.2. REMINDER: Curriculog 2025-2026 is closed (*Kerry Patenaude*)

- **Curriculog 2025-2026 forms closed 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.**
 - Departments are encouraged to submit proposals for changes to the Fall 2027 catalog during the Fall 2026 semester to ensure enough time for workflow approvals and implementation.
 - Deadlines for Curriculog Proposals 2026-2027:
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3227/form>

1.3. SGA Survey Presentation (*Mingon Duffy, Sarah Rine*)

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3230/form>. Each year, the UMass Lowell Student Government Association (SGA), in partnership with the Sociology 4020 Quantitative Methods class, conducts a survey focused on students' experiences. Students will provide highlights of this year's survey results on topics of success and barriers, communication and community and AI.

1.4. Research Production Performance Committee (RPPC) (*Arie Perliger*)

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3228/form>. White Paper Discussion: Academia has changed. The workforce and student body have changed. We would like to think together about new ways to evaluate the performance of faculty in the wide spectrum of activities we engage in as faculty.

1.5. Library Advisory Committee (LAC) (*Alison McConwell, Dennis Christodouleas*)

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3224/form>. FOR A VOTE: Statement of Endorsement Concerning Library Resources and Staffing. As our research profile grows, so too do the obligations that come with it. We have drafted this Statement of Endorsement to respectfully request the administration's full support of Dean Galadriel Chilton's vision to rebuild the library's collections, staffing, and physical spaces to a level commensurate with peer R1 institutions. Vote to endorse: Yes 76, No 0, Abstain 5. [Approved 94%](#).

1.6. Resolution re: RIF Policy (*Kelly Socia, Adam St. Jean*) –

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3220/form>. This resolution was drafted by MSP and shared with Faculty Senate. Please obtain feedback from your departments for discussion at Faculty Senate Meeting #8 on April 6. Vote to endorse: Yes 72, No 0, Abstain 7. **Approved 91%**.

2. Minutes from Meeting #7 on March 2, 2026 (*Kevin Petersen*)

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3223/form> Vote to approve: Yes 76, No 0, Abstain 3. **Approved 96%**.

3. Policy Proposals (*Kevin Petersen*)

3.1. UML – Academic Integrity Policy & Practice (*Julie Nash*) – **Change Policy**

(University-Level) <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2901/form>. FOR A VOTE: 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.

- **Faculty Senate** – Initial Discussion and vote to initiate the 2-month process was approved on 2/2/26
- **Call for Comment #8** – Announced on 2/6/26
- **UPC** – Approved on 3/16/26
- **GPAC** – Approved with changes on 3/23/26
- **Faculty Senate** – Will review & vote on 4/6/26
- Vote to approve: Yes 78, No 1, Abstain 2. **Approved 96%**.

3.2. UML – Academic Calendar (*Noah Van Dam*) – **Change Policy (University-Level)**

<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3009/form>. REMINDER AND UPDATE: This proposal establishes a standing framework for determining the University's academic calendar. Rather than generating the fall and spring calendars annually, the academic calendar for each year will be selected from a set of pre-approved calendars adopted as an appendix to this policy. Selection will be determined by (1) the weekday on which September 1 falls and (2) whether the academic year includes February 29. The proposal does not modify the existing definition of the semester length and does not alter the duration of fall or spring terms.

- **Faculty Senate** – Initial Discussion and vote to initiate the 2-month process was approved on 3/2/26

- Call for Comment #9 – Announced on 3/6/26
- UPC – Will review on 4/13/26
- GPAC – Will review on 4/22/26
- Faculty Senate – Will review & vote on 5/4/26

4. Undergraduate Policy Committee (*Mike Geiger*)

1. **Requests for a New Prefix** (*Mai Nguyen*) **Discussion**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3226/form>. Before creating a new prefix, the implications of sharing credits and/or courses with similar content need to be addressed at the committee level. Requests should include a clear justification and consideration for how the new prefix will impact other degree pathways, particularly because there are implications for course sharing, classroom assignments, and faculty workload. UPC discussed the need for a university-level policy regarding requests for a new prefix.
2. **B.S. Data Science** (*David Adams/Ming Shao/Steve Norton*) **Request for New Prefix:** AIDA. Vote to approve: Yes 66, No 5, Abstain 5. **Approved 87%.**
3. **B.S. Data Science** (*David Adams/Ming Shao*) **Change Name of Plan**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2965/form>. Change the name of the plan to "Applied Artificial Intelligence and Data Science". *The request in this proposal is also included in the next proposal. For implementation purposes, UPC will ensure that any information provided in this proposal is the same as the information provided in the next proposal, before the proposals move further toward implementation.* Vote to approve: Yes 67, No 5, Abstain 2. **Approved 91%.**
4. **B.S. Data Science** (*David Adams/Ming Shao*) **Change Plan**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2903/form>. Change the title of the plan to "Applied Artificial Intelligence and Data Science". Change the required courses: add seven new courses and remove four courses. Change the list of approved electives: add one free elective. Vote to approve: Yes 68, No 3, Abstain 5. **Approved 89%.**
5. **B.S. Industrial Engineering** (*David Claudio*) **Change Plan**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3064/form>. Change required courses: Add MATH.3850 Applied Statistics and IENG.4025 Production and Inventory Management; Remove MATH.3860 Prob and Statistics I and IENG.4050 Production and Inventory Management. Vote to approve: Yes 74, No 0, Abstain 2. **Approved 97%.**
6. **B.S. Nutritional Science – Dietetics Option** (*Mary Kate Keyes*) **Change Plan**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3075/form>. Change required courses: Remove MATH.1210 Management Precalculus; Add MATH.1225 Precalculus Mathematics I.

- MATH.1210 focuses on business applications that the students in this program do not need while MATH.1225 delivers non-field-specific fundamental mathematics education. Vote to approve: Yes 78, No 0, Abstain 1. **Approved 99%**.
7. **B.S. Nutritional Science – General Option** (*Mary Kate Keyes*) **Change Plan** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3082/form>. Change the title of the subplan to "Precision Nutrition". Change the required course list, list of approved electives, and sequence of courses. Vote to approve: Yes 72, No 0, Abstain 3. **Approved 96%**.
 8. **B.S. Nutritional Science – Nutrition & Wellness Option** (*Mary Kate Keyes*) **Change Plan** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3081/form>. Change required courses: Add MATH.1225 Precalculus Mathematics I and EXER.1020 Exercise for Health and Wellness; Remove MATH.1210 Management Precalculus and EXER.2020 Introduction to Exercise Science. Change the sequence of courses. Vote to approve: Yes 78, No 0, Abstain 1. **Approved 99%**.
 9. **B.S. Public Health – Community Health/Health Promotion** (*Karyn Heavner*) **Change Subplan** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3068/form>. Change the name of the subplan to "Community Health". Update the required courses and the list of approved electives, change the sequence of courses, the GPA and course grade requirements, and the courses used to fulfill SS and STEM designations. Vote to approve: Yes 74, No 1, Abstain 1. **Approved 97%**.
 10. **B.S. Public Health – Health Sciences** (*Karyn Heavner*) **Change Subplan** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3050/form>. Update the required courses and the list of approved electives, change the sequence of courses, the GPA and course grade requirements, and the courses used to fulfill SS and STEM designations. Vote to approve: Yes 74, No 1, Abstain 1. **Approved 97%**.
 11. **B.S. Public Health – Pre-Nursing** (*Karyn Heavner*) **New Subplan** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3085/form>. Students in the Pre-Nursing concentration complete coursework that prepares them for entry-level public health positions and meet prerequisites for accelerated nursing, other nursing programs, or graduate studies in Public Health (MPH). The curriculum includes STEM and social science courses which support a strong public health foundation. Graduates are prepared to work in healthcare facilities, community health centers, nonprofit organizations, industry, and state or local health departments. Those who pursue a nursing program following graduation can apply public health principles to improve patient and community health. Vote to approve: Yes 71, No 2, Abstain 3. **Approved 93%**.
 12. **Finance Department** (*Amit Deokar*) **Request for New Prefix: REAL** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3096/form>. The Finance department wants to create a new Real Estate concentration and a new Real Estate minor. They do not

want Finance students to use Real Estate courses as their electives, and vice versa. The department plans to start with REAL Special Topics courses and grow them into a concentration and minor. Vote to approve: Yes 55, No 11, Abstain 10. [Approved 72%](#).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Approved unless there are objections

13. **B.A. English – Journalism and Professional Writing** (*Katie Shrieves, Natalie Houston*) **Change Lists of Approved Electives** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3015/form>. Add one course to the Writing Electives requirement: ENGL.3691 History and Theory of Media.
14. **B.A. English – Literature** (*Katie Shrieves, Natalie Houston*) **Change Lists of Approved Electives** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3013/form>. Add one course to the ENGL.3/4xxx Post-1900 literature course requirement: ENGL.3375 Psychology and Stories We Tell.
15. **B.A. English – all subplans: (1) Creative Writing, (2) Journalism and Professional Writing, (3) Literature** (*Katie Shrieves, Natalie Houston*) **Change Lists of Approved Electives** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3014/form>. Add one course to the ENGL.3/4xxx Literature Elective requirement, and the ENGL.2/3/4xxx Literature Elective requirement: ENGL.3375 Psychology and Stories We Tell.
16. **B.A. Peace and Conflict Studies** (*Deina Abdelkader, Jason Carter, Ardeth Thawngmung*) **Pause Admissions** <https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2945/form>. Faculty are considering the best pathway forward for the Peace and Conflict Studies major after student levels fell to an unsustainable level. Several options are being considered, and this pause will allow further discussions and determinations on the best pathway forward for the program and how a viable enrollment threshold may be achieved.
17. **Course Proposals (74)**
 - **New Courses** are being added to the catalog, and then need to be scheduled for FA26. Advising began March 30 and the **Fall 2026 Schedule of Classes** will be available on April 6.
 - **Planning Ahead for 2026-2027:** For new courses that departments want to add to the catalog:
 1. For **Winter 2027** or **Spring 2027 Schedule of Classes**, Curriculog proposals should reach UPC by September 2026 (launch proposals in August 2026).

2. For **Summer 2027 Schedule of Classes**, Curriculog proposals should reach UPC by December 2026 (launch proposals in August-November 2026).
3. For **Fall 2027 Schedule of Classes**, Curriculog proposals should reach UPC by February 2027 (launch proposals in August-December 2026).

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

1. **Department Policy – Nursing – Grading Policy DNP Students** (*Lisa Marchand*) – **Change Policy (Department-Level)**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:2989/form>. Change/add the grading and progression requirements for the Nursing DNP Program to be more stringent than the university policy. Vote to approve: Yes 70, No 1, Abstain 0. **Approved 99%**.
2. **Department Policy – Nursing – Nursing PhD Program Progression** (*Ainat Koren*) – **Change Policy (Department-Level)**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3074/form>. Change/add the grading and progression requirements for the Nursing PhD Program to be more stringent than the university policy. Vote to approve: Yes 72, No 1, Abstain 0. **Approved 99%**.
3. **DPT Doctor of Physical Therapy** (*David Cornell*) – **Change Plan**
<https://uml.curriculog.com/proposal:3090/form>. Change required courses, sequence of courses, and course titles. Change the number of credits from 95 to 104. Vote to approve: Yes 72, No 0, Abstain 1. **Approved 99%**.

6. Executive Session

Next: Faculty Senate Meeting #9 on Monday May 4 2026 at 3:00-5:00 pm (*note the earlier start time*) in University Crossing 260. Please sit at your “College” tables.