

Council on Academic Affairs
Minutes
April 24, 2025

The April 24, 2025, meeting of the Council on Academic Affairs was held at 2:00 pm in Booth Library Witters Conference Room.

Members Present: Dr. Chris Becker, Ms. Juanita Cross, Dr. Stefan Eckert, Dr. Sace Elder, Dr. Marita Gronnvoll, Dr. Billy Hung, Dr. Aimee Janssen-Robinson, Dr. Jeannie Ludlow, Ms. Ty Rae, Dr. Sham'ah Md.-Yunus

Members Absent: none

Staff Present: Ms. Patty Watson, Dr. Suzie Park

Guests Present: Mr. Christobal Dominguez, Mr. Brad Bennington, Dr. Michael Gillespie, Dr. Teshome Abebe, Dr. Catherine Polydore and John Slater

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ludlow at 2:00 pm.

I. Approval of the April 10, 2025 CAA Meeting Minutes.

Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written.

II. Communications:

a. College Curriculum and General Education Committee Minutes:

None

b. Executive Actions:

1. April 10, 2025 memorandum from Acting Dean Gillespie, Student Success, requesting executive action to update Undergraduate Catalog language to represent a name change from "Gateway Program" to "Pathways to Achievement, Commitment and Knowledge (P.A.C.K.) Program."
2. April 3, 2025 memorandum from Dean Storsved, College of Health and Human Services, requesting executive action to add ECN 3875 Health Economics as an elective course option for the Aging Studies Minor.

c. Waiver reports:

None

d. Grade Appeals:

None

e. General Education Committee Minutes:

None

- f. Committee Reports:** The General Education Committee is writing and reviewing draft reports and will prepare the final report for CAA. The Faculty Laureate committee announced Dr. C.C. Wharram is this year's Faculty Laureate.

g. Other business:

III. Items to be added to the agenda:

None

IV. Items to be Acted Upon:

1. 25-060 ECN minor Revised program. Becker moved and Cross seconded the proposal. Dr. Teshome Abebe presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
2. 25-061 Catalog revision - relocate IDS program in the UG catalog. Gronnvoll moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Mr. Brad Bennington presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
3. 25-062 CHE 4750 new course proposal. Hung moved and Eckert seconded the proposal. Dr. Catherine Polydore presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
4. 25-063 CHE 4751 new course proposal. Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Catherine Polydore presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
5. 25-064 CHE 4752 new course proposal. Eckert moved and Hung seconded the proposal. Dr. Catherine Polydore presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
6. 25-065 BA ECN, Revised Program. Becker moved and Eckert seconded the proposal. Dr. Teshome Abebe presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
7. 25-066 BA ECN, International, Revised Program. Becker moved and Eckert seconded the proposal. Dr. Teshome Abebe presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.

V. Discussion Items:

1. From Provost Hendrickson: VPAA, VPSA, and Deans group are “trying to bring more engagement and intention to the annual convocation. Therefore, we will no longer call this event ‘convocation’ given that we feel that most new students and probably all first-gen students, have no idea what this means. It will be called the ‘new student welcome’ (or something akin to that).” As part of these changes, VPAA Hendrickson requests that CAA reconsider the name of the “Faculty Laureate” award, which is perhaps even more foreign to new students and new parents.” He has shared this same concern with the Faculty Senate exec. He is “open to a different name that is more accessible and understandable for our students,” to be adopted beginning at the Fall 2026 convocation (after this coming Fall’s convocation).

After the committee discussed changing the name of the Faculty Laureate award Janssen-Robinson moved and Gronnvoll seconded the motion to keep the award name of Faculty Laureate. The vote was unanimously approved.

2. From the CAA chair: in light of recent CAA votes, we should look again at the CAA bylaws to assess whether they need to be amended.

Ludlow handed out some excerpts of the CAA bylaws with items she felt needed re-affirmed or revised. The new model of course delivery is not in the bylaws and it will be amended in the fall.

VI. Other:

Election of CAA officers AY 25-26. Gronnvoll agreed to be Chair for the upcoming year. Ludlow volunteered to be Vice Chair. Both were unanimously approved.

VII. Pending:

None

VIII. Meeting Adjournment:

Gronnvoll moved and Hung seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.

Minutes prepared by Ms. Patty Watson