

Senate Scholastic Standards Committee

Minutes 11/5/2024

MS Teams

Co-Chairs: Karen Bresciano, Jamie Kleinman

*Karen Bresciano, Co-Chair, The Graduate School

*Jamie Kleinman, Co-Chair, CLAS (Avery Point)

*Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Neag School of Education

*Maureen Armstrong, Dean of Students Office

*Kelly Burke, Engineering

*David Embrick, CLAS (Hartford)

*Holly Fitch, CLAS, Psychological Sciences

*Kristen Govoni, CAHNR

*Morty Ortega, CAHNR

*Jennifer Terni, CLAS

*Lawrence Walsh, Office of Admissions

Erin Ciarimboli, Office of Undergraduate Advising

Robin Coulter, School of Business

Sarah Croucher, Provost's Office, Academic Affairs (Ex-Officio Member)

Jennifer Lease Butts, Honors and Enrichment Program

Brian Rockwood, Registrar's Office

Lauren Schlesselman, CETL, Academic Program Assessment and Learning Initiatives

Christine Wenzel, Center for Students with Disabilities

A. **Approval of Minutes:** [October 15, 2024](#): minutes approved with one abstention

B. Announcements

C. Old Business

- a. Summer/Winter Senate Bylaw Change Proposal: Jamie Kleinman summarized the issue, and concerns that have been raised over what should be a by-law vs a policy, and shared that this was also discussed in a recent meeting with the SEC. The guidance from the SEC for now is to continue moving forward with this proposal as a by-law change in the standard that we always have and that the SEC will be looking to doing a larger overhaul and review of the by-laws separate to this issue. Discussion ensued and Jamie Kleinman thanked everyone for their thoughts. The subcommittee will meet once more to finalize the proposal and include other stakeholders (such as the Registrar's Office), before moving forward.
- b. Lab Transfer Credit (hybrid labs):
- c. [Block Transfer Proposal](#): Sarah Croucher asked this to be addressed today and added that there is a piece that needs to be changed, which would narrow the Block Transfer Proposal down to specific transfer degrees from CT Community Colleges.

Additionally, the proposal would include having The Scholastic Standards Committee standing in to do review of specific cases shared by the Transfer Admissions Office (initial review). Discussion on this will be tabled until the next meeting (11/19/2024). Robin Coulter asked for wording ahead of this next meeting for appropriate review and thoughtful discussion.

D. New Business

- a. [University Senate Policy Change Proposal: Support for Non-Dominant English Speakers](#)
 - i. [Proposal](#)
 - ii. Karen Bresciano introduced the topic and asked the committee for feedback. Sarah Croucher shared that there may be an accreditation aspect to this as there are language requirements in the standards. Discussion continued and both Jennifer Terni and Jamie Kleinman shared concerns about the proposal. Jamie Kleinman added that CSD has a statement that multi-lingualism should not be considered a disability and Dorothea Anagnostopoulos shared that this is also not allowed in K-12 education. Lauren Schlesselman shared that perhaps international students should receive more institutional and structural support rather than a blanket application of something like this proposal supports. Morty Ortega seconded this idea and shared that additional help and guidance for international students would be beneficial. Jennifer Terni proposed that there be a space or unit at the university to support directing students to the right resources. Discussion also ensued regarding the resources that would be required to accommodate this proposal, summarizing that it would not be practical or feasible to be enacted. Karen Bresciano thanked everyone for their opinion and suggested that we write a thoughtful response to the student and contact our colleagues in other offices so they are aware of the proposal and concerns raised. Jennifer Lease Butts seconded this idea, suggesting that the Provost's Office take up the administrative support of directing to other resources.

Tabled until Future Meeting:

- a. Senate By-Laws related to Readmission (Article II, B, 12) to update the language as the university is no longer looking at criminal history (but does look at conduct/discipline). The wording needs to be updated to reflect this policy ([Conduct History Review Committee Policy](#)): Maureen Armstrong brought this to our attention
- b. [Block Transfer Proposal](#): awaiting CCC+ updates/discussion
- c. Bunched Finals Discussion

