

UConn Senate Scholastic Standards Committee

October 6, 2025, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | MS Teams

Agenda:

1. Committee members went around the virtual room to do introductions and welcome new student committee members
2. Approval of Minutes
 - [Minutes of September 22, 2025 Meeting](#): minutes were approved unanimously
3. Old Business:
 - [By-law cleanup – Academic Notice](#): The committee live reviewed the draft by-law change to clean up language from “scholastic probation” to “academic notice” and edits were made. Maureen Armstrong raised some concerns about the policies themselves being dated, to be addressed at a future meeting. The draft by-law change proposal was approved unanimously by voice vote by the committee.
 - Attendance Policy ([draft survey](#)): CLAS Head’s Attendance Survey: Jennifer Terni introduced a draft survey of questions that they propose this committee send to CLAS Department Heads to get a sense of their thoughts on attendance and any related concerns. Committee members live updated questions in the draft and discussed the best ways to move forward. Some committee members expressed a preference in sharing this survey with department heads across the entire university and not limited to CLAS. Sarah Croucher presented a slide deck that offered clarifications on the policy and related procedures (1) institutional “attendance policy: students must attend the first class or have a documented absence (2) policy that allows instructors to involuntarily remove students from a class if they do not attend on the first day (or have an excused absence), intended to manage waitlist requests (3) sick note/class absence policies – set standards for what faculty may (or may not) require if a student is absent from class. Discussion ensued and committee members agreed that establishing a policy to take mandatory attendance is not the direction we would like to take, but something needs to be done to shift this cultural issue.
4. New Business
 - [Course Learning Objectives](#): The Co-Chairs introduced this issue, sharing that the SEC has asked numerous Senate committees to review this linked statement to publish baseline course learning objectives from the Provost’s Office and give feedback to the SEC. Sarah Croucher clarified that the SEC asked for this statement and that the ability to publish course learning objectives somewhere within the university is within the Provost’s Office purview. They also added that there is a method in which we can add Course Learning Objectives through CourseLeaf,

sharing an example in the chat. Lindsay Cummings asked for clarifying as to what the Provost's Office means by "publish," – when, where, and how students will receive communications on learning objectives. Concerns were raised regarding the fear of publishing this information in a public way that could open faculty to harassment. Additional concerns were raised regarding the Course Catalog to publish Course Learning Objectives due to the fact that multiple professors teach the same courses and may not use the same format, assessments, textbooks, etc. Discussion also ensued regarding the syllabus repository and issues of intellectual property. Concerns were also raised regarding the administrative maintenance of publishing these, as they may be subject to frequent change. Confusion was shared over where the request to publish course learning objectives for all courses originated. Discussion ended due to time constraints and Lindsay Cummings summarized that instituting a mechanism to ensure that TOI course learning objectives are standard even when the new faculty takes over is important, but it is the publication of these, especially through CourseLeaf, that is of concern.

Members & Attendance:

- ***Lindsay Cummings, Co-Chair, SFA**
- ***Jennifer Terni, Co-Chair, CLAS**
- *Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Neag School of Education (*absent*)
- *Karen Bresciano, The Graduate School (*absent*)
- *Erin Ciarimboli, Office of Undergraduate Advising
- *David Embrick, CLAS (Hartford) (*absent*)
- *Holly Fitch, CLAS, Psychological Sciences
- *Morty Ortega, CAHNR (*absent*)
- *Carrie Fernandes, Office of Financial Aid
- Maureen Armstrong, Dean of Students Office
- Smith Bernard, Undergraduate Student
- Sarah Croucher, Provost's Office, Academic Affairs
- Jennifer Lease Butts, Honors and Enrichment Program (Ex-Officio)
- Isabella Norato, Undergraduate Student
- Brian Rockwood, Registrar's Office (*absent*)
- Lauren Schlesselman, CETL, Academic Program Assessment and Learning Initiatives
- Nadia Upah, Graduate Student
- Lawrence Walsh, Office of Admissions (*absent*)
- Christine Wenzel, Center for Students with Disabilities

*Members are Senators, Academic Year 2025-2026

Potential Upcoming Topics:

- NECHE/Accreditation prep
- Final exams (Dan Schwartz)

- Incomplete/Temporary Grades Policy: Do we want to revisit the topic (again)? Should another Senate committee be involved? (Erin and Maureen)
- [High school Math requirements](#) (Larry Walsh & Holly Fitch)
- Academic Integrity & Artificial Intelligence (presenters at 10/20 Meeting)
- Accommodations & Faculty Support – awaiting response & next steps from SEC who have received the Learning Accommodations Taskforce Report
- Part-Time Dean’s List (subcommittee work) – to report at a future meeting