

UConn Senate Scholastic Standards Committee

December 8, 2025, 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | MS Teams

Agenda:

1. Approval of Minutes: minutes approved with one abstention by voice vote
 - [Minutes of November 17, 2025 Meeting](#)
2. Old Business:
 - Attendance Policy (FINAL survey): Lindsay Cummings shared that questions are finalized and the survey will be distributed to the CLAS Dean's Office later this week to be shared with Deans and Department Heads.
 - Follow-Up on Resolutions Scheduled to go to the Senate (Presentation) on December 1, 2025:
 1. [Clean-up of "Academic Integrity" By-Law language](#): passed by vote; no further action needed. By-Laws will be updated to reflect this change in the coming weeks.
 2. [Part-Time Dean's List Resolution](#): respond to comments/concerns raised during Senate meeting
 1. What happens if a student takes no courses in the Spring?: Brian Rockwood shared that students are only eligible for Dean's List if they are active during the semester in which Dean's List is calculated. He proposed adding a few words to the by-law change proposal for clarity to avoid confusion.
 2. Look at the language regarding the fall/spring average: language was updated for clarity.

Changes were made directly in a [new draft motion inclusive of amended language](#).
 - 3. [High school Math requirements](#)
 1. Grammatical edit recommended by a senator via email:
 1. *Students attending secondary school programs outside of the United States that do not follow the typical US model of secondary education will have their curriculum evaluated within the context of the educational system **in which** they attend.*

The committee discussed this proposed change and voted unanimously by voice vote to remove “in which” from the sentence above. The motion going to the floor at the February meeting will be amended to reflect this change but will not need to be presented as an amendment to the motion for Senate approval as the change is grammatical and not substantive.

3. New Business

- [Math 2600 \(Winter Break Course\) Transfer](#): Jennifer Terni shared an email sent by a concerned faculty member regarding the UConn transfer of a winter break course offered at CT State and discussion ensued. It was discussed that departments can address such concerns at the course level and a general lack of interest in making course transfer policies more restrictive was shared by both faculty and student members of the committee, one of whom is an undergraduate transfer student from CT State. It was determined that Larry Walsh’s presence would be key to this discussion and committee response to the concern, and so the topic was tabled to a future meeting for continued discussion. Co-Chair Lindsay Cummings also offered to reach out to the faculty member for any data they have supporting their concerns that could be shared and included in the future discussion.
- Final Exam scheduling, [religious observance](#): Lindsay Cummings shared that a faculty member had shared concerns about religious observance related to the finals schedule – they had encountered some difficulties in changing their final when it was scheduled on a Saturday which was not aligned with their religious observance. Sarah Croucher shared some insight on the religious observance policy, which should be addressed by OIE for employees. Maureen Armstrong shared some insights on how these issues are handled in relation to students who require accommodations for religious observances. Discussion ensued on scheduling procedures related to finals, how block scheduling works (specific to Wednesdays only) and how procedures may be different on different campuses. Concerns were shared about how these types of issues may be exacerbated as enrollment/class sizes increase while faculty receive fewer resources in the form of TA support. Brian Rockwood added that over time more faculty have been opting out of final exams, which has helped with congestion during this period. It was added that in some instances faculty have been moving finals to take place during the last week of classes, which is against the by-laws and is addressed on a case-by-case basis. Christine Wenzel shared that they have seen an increase in paper exams (rather than online) due to the increase in AI use and potential academic integrity violations and so more exams have been proctored by their office than previous years. The need for UConn to develop a Testing Center to accommodate the increasing needs of student accommodations was shared. Lindsay Cummings thanked committee members for their insight and stated that they will review the policy and advice on potential communications on advance planning for similar situations.
- INFORM: [Minimum Class Size Enrollment, Policy on | University Policies](#): Lindsay Cummings informed the committee of this new policy and opened the floor to discussion. Discussion ensued on budgetary pressures and increased enrollment/class sizes and concerns on how these factors interact with AI influences on student learning. Sarah Croucher added some clarifying comments

regarding the policy, particularly regarding exceptions to this policy (such as W Courses). A question was asked regarding exceptions for practicums and Brian Rockwood confirmed that they are an exception. Brian Rockwood added that available classroom space will be a concern.

- CLAS class/GA policy: Jennifer Terni shared concerns regarding the new CLAS GA policy sharing that a course of 240 students will now only receive 10 hours of GA support. Concerns were raised regarding workload being shifted onto faculty during times that are already strained. Discussion also ensued regarding undergraduate TA work and it was added that the Faculty Standards Committee is currently reviewing these programs.
- Discussion also ensued regarding service commitments for faculty and staff at UConn and concerns were raised regarding the lack of recognition for people who take on these roles at the university.

Members & Attendance:

- ***Lindsay Cummings, Co-Chair, SFA**
- ***Jennifer Terni, Co-Chair, CLAS**
- *Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Neag School of Education
- *Karen Bresciano, The Graduate School
- *Erin Ciarimboli, Office of Undergraduate Advising
- *David Embrick, CLAS (Hartford) (*absent*)
- *Holly Fitch, CLAS, Psychological Sciences
- *Elaine Choung-Hee Lee, CAHNR
- *Morty Ortega, CAHNR
- *Carrie Fernandes, Office of Student Financial Aid Services
- 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) (*absent*)
- Isabella Norato, Undergraduate Student (*absent*)
- Brian Rockwood, Registrar's Office
- 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)

- [Course Learning Objectives](#) (awaiting SEC)