Council on Academic Affairs
Minutes
February 5, 2026

The February 5, 2026, meeting of the Council on Academic Affairs was held at 2:00 pm in Booth Library Witters Conference Room.

Members Present: Dr. Sace Elder, Dr. Marita Gronnvoll, Dr. Andy Parrish, Dr. Marshall Lassak, Ms. Juanita Cross, Dr. Stefan Eckert, Dr. Sham'ah Md.-Yunus, Dr. Aimee Janssen-Robinson and Ms. Emilee Boyd

Members Absent: Dr. Chris Becker

Staff Present: Ms. Patty Watson and Suzie Park

Guests Present: Brad Bennington, Matt Gill, Mike Cornebise and Katie Shaw

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

I. **Approval of the January 22, 2026 CAA Meeting Minutes.**
Elder moved and Boyd seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written.

II. **Communications:**

a. **College Curriculum and General Education Committee Minutes:**
November 15, 2025 minutes of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Curriculum Committee meeting.

b. **Executive Actions:**

1. January 23, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Chris Mitchell, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to expand the selection of elective courses in the ART: Studio Art Option (B.A.) for both the 2D and 3D emphases. For the 2D emphasis, add ART 3940: History of Graphic Design, to the Art History electives. For the 3D emphasis, add FMD 2243: Apparel construction, to the 3D Studio Art elective list.

2. January 23, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Chris Mitchell, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to add FMD 4926: Visual Merchandising, to the elective options for the ART: Graphic Design Option (B.F.A.) curriculum.

3. January 23, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Chris Mitchell, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to expand selection of elective courses in the Art with Teacher Licensure Option (B.F.A.) to include specific options for the Fashion Merchandising program (housed in the Department of Art & Design).

4. January 22, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Mike Cornebise, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to add an alternate prerequisite (BIO 2291: Anatomy and Physiology I, Honors) as an "or" option with the current BIO 2210: Anatomy and Physiology I, prerequisite for BIO 2220: Anatomy and Physiology II.

5. January 22, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Mike Cornebise, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to change the name of BIO 4816 from "Study of Biotic Communities" to "Aquatic Techniques." Change the course description of BIO 4816 and remove a prerequisite (BIO 4810).

6. January 23, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Chris Mitchell, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to change the course title and course description for CMN 2010 (currently CMN 2010: Introduction to Communication Theories) to CMN 2010: Approaches to Communication. Also change the catalog description to more accurately describe how the course is currently taught.

7. January 23, 2026 memorandum from Associate Dean Chris Mitchell, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, requesting executive action to update the course description of JOU 2001G: Journalism & Democracy to more accurately reflect current instruction of the course.

8. November 18, 2025 memorandum from Associate Dean Jill Hutti, College of Health and Human Services, requesting executive action to modify prerequisites for KSR 3340, KSR 3720, KSR 3860, KSR 4440, KSR 4450, and KSR 4460.

9. November 17, 2025 memorandum from Associate Dean Jill Hutti, College of Health and Human Services, requesting executive action to remove major/minor restriction to the course HSL 3850: Child and Adolescent Development.

c. Waiver reports:
None

d. Grade Appeals:
None

e. Committee Reports:
Janssen-Robinson reported that the General Education Committee is close to making a recommendation to eliminate Senior Seminars. They are also finalizing the presentation schedule.

III. Items to be added to the agenda:
None

IV. Items to be Acted Upon:

1. 26-004 Fashion Merchandizing major (revised program) Eckert moved and Parrish seconded the proposal. Dr. Katie Shaw presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
2. 26-005 CMN 2040: Critical Analysis: Everyone's a Critic (revised course) Eckert moved and Cross seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
3. 26-006 CMN 2920G: Strategic Communication & Advocacy in Today's World (revised course) Boyd moved and Elder seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
4. 26-007 CMN 3640: Interpersonal Communication (revised course) Janssen-Robinson moved and Eckert seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.

5. 26-008 CMN 3650: Organizational Communication (revised course) Janssen-Robinson moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
6. 26-009 CMN 3710G: Communication Across Differences (revised course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
7. 26-010 CMN 3960: Public Relations Writing & Content Creation (revised course) Eckert moved and Elder seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
8. 26-011 CMN 4460: Professional Development in Communication and Public Relations (revised course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
9. 26-012 CMN 4980: Social and Digital Media Analytics (new course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
10. 26-013 JOU 2101: News Reporting and Writing (revised course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
11. 26-014 JOU 3000: Advanced Reporting (revised course) Boyd moved and Cross seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
12. 26-015 JOU 3001: Photojournalism (revised course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
13. 26-016 JOU 3110: Visual Journalism: Concepts & Techniques (new course) Eckert moved and Cross seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was approved as amended with one abstention.
14. 26-017 JOU 3302: Multiplatform Editing (new course) Eckert moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
15. 26-018 JOU 4102: Feature Writing (new course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
16. 26-019 JOU 4751: Advanced Photojournalism (revised course) Eckert moved and Cross seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
17. 26-020 Proposal to create SCJ prefix. Elder moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
18. 26-021 SCJ 1000G: Media Literacy in the 21st Century (new course) Eckert moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was approved as written with one no vote.
19. 26-022 SCJ 2000: Digital Content Creation and Engagement (new course) Eckert moved and Janssen-Robinson seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as written.
20. 26-023 SCJ 3000: Workplace and Professional Communication (new course) Janssen-Robinson moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was unanimously approved as amended.
21. 26-024 Deletion of the B.S. In Health communication. Elder moved and Boyd seconded the proposal. Dr. Matt Gill presented the proposal. The proposal was approved as written with one abstention.

V. Discussion Items:

None

VI. Other:
None

VII. Pending:
None

VIII. Upcoming: We will need to work on bylaw changes due to the University reorganization.

IX. Meeting Adjournment:
Elder moved and Boyd seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Minutes prepared by Ms. Patty Watson