

OFFICIAL MINUTES BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL

**Seventh Meeting/Academic year
2023-24 March 7, 2024
Meeting Format: Teams**

Voting Members Present: Schatteman, A. (Vice Provost), Cho, K-T. (CEET), Linner, A. (CAST), Saravanan, A. (CHHS), Ferguson, A. (CBUS), Holland, N. (Advising), Chubenko, O. (CLAS), La France, B. (CLAS), Ehsani, S. (CBUS), Hart, B. (CVPA), Thepboriruk, K. (CLAS), Strid, J.E. (CEDU), Caughron, R. (CEDU), Gidaszewski, T. (CLAS).

Voting Members Absent: Salehinia, I. (CEET), Boughton, D. (CVPA), McGowan, B. (Libraries)

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present: Elish-Piper, L. (Provost), Slaby, J. (AVP for Student Affairs), Schmitz, C. (Office of Registrar), Lagunas, M. (Admission), McCarron, S. (Financial Aid), Cotsones, R. (Vice President & Chief Engagements Office), Gawron, I. (Office of Vice Provost), Buhrow, A. (Office of Vice Provost).

The Baccalaureate Council (BC) meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. by Chair Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs

- I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Schatteman called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Ferguson motioned and La France seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Schatteman indicated the minutes were approved via email.
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. HLC Update
 - i. Buhrow led the discussion where she highlighted the following: HLC comprehensive evaluation is coming up with on-campus visits by the HLC where they will meet with various bodies/people to inquire about various accreditation related matters; the mechanics of their report and what it generally might indicate (such as improvements needed, areas that are sufficient or deficient, etc.); financial importance of maintaining accreditation.
 - b. General Education Committee
 - i. Caughron gave a brief report discussing the progress to change general education at NIU. The topics included: the retreats and the progress made there; context to the fundamental debates of general education and technical components such as prerequisites, 300/400 level courses, etc. and assessment.

- c. CUIAE Report –
 - i. Schatteman gave a brief report on the awards and that recipients of teaching awards have been chosen.
 - d. Part 1 – Submitted to BC as Expedited
 - i. No Items were present on Expedited
 - e. Part 2 – Determined to be Expedited by the BC Executive Committee
 - i. Attachment E.2
 - ii. No Items were present on E.2
- IV. Guest Discussions
- Elish-Piper and Cotsones gave a brief presentation concerning the Community-Engaged Course Designation. The overall topics included: NIU’s focus on community engagement, the Carnegie Foundation endorsement of NIU, and the continued great work of the institution to highlight courses that uniquely support the community and instill community engagement values.
- V. DISCUSSION AGENDA
- a. Dates listed after items are when the items were approved at the College
 - i. College of Business –
 - 1. *MKTG 443 – Course Revision – 1/30/2024*
 - a. Schatteman briefly explained that the change is straightforward where they are just adding a prerequisite from inside their own department. Caughron motion to approve the MKTG 443 proposal for the 25-26 catalog. Ferguson seconded. The proposal was approved unanimously.
 - 2. *Business Administration – Program Revision/Deletion - 2/27/2024 - For 24-25 or 25-26 catalog*
 - a. Schatteman led the discussion on this proposal and indicated that the department/college wants the emphasis to be deleted for the 24-25 catalog. The rationale indicated it had low enrollment with a teach out plan for the remaining students. Schatteman indicated that the proposal was passed the deadlines, but the college/department was desiring an exception to have this be for the 24-25 catalog. Schatteman also indicated there are two students current accepted for the program for 24-25. The discussion primarily included: Schatteman, Ferguson, Caughron, Holland, Gawron. Caughron motioned to approve the Business Administration emphasis deletion proposal for the 24-25 catalog. Gidaszewski seconded.

Discussion topics included: The catalog being online and NIU being able to be more responsive to these situations; possibility of variable deadlines in the future; that this would be an exception and not the norm; administrative implications (registrar/financial aid, etc.); process and precedent considerations. The motion to approve the proposal for 24-25 was approved with 9 yes, 0 no, 3 abstentions (Holland, Strid, Ehsani).

- ii. College of Education – *No Curricular Items*
- iii. College of Engineering – *No Curricular Items*
- iv. College of Health and Human Sciences – *No Curricular Items*
- v. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – *No Curricular Items*
- vi. College of Visual and Performing Arts – *No Curricular Items*
- vii. Honors – *No Curricular Items*
- viii. Directly to BC – *No Curricular Items*

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

a. Community-Engaged Course Designation

Schatteman led the discussion indicating the overall mission of the community engagement course designation and the separate committee to help administer the designation. Schatteman highlighted the document with the section specific designations versus course specific designations. Analogies were drawn to the zero and low cost designation for courses as an additional way for students to make informed decisions about which courses to take. Discussion included: Holland, Schatteman, Thepboriruk, Schmitz, Gidaszewski. Thepboriruk motion to approve the creation of the Community-Engaged Course designation. Seconded by La France. The proposal was approved unanimously.

b. Bylaws Update Discussion

Schatteman and Ferguson led the discussion indicating that changes to the bylaws are relatively simple edits to make the language modern and representative of current practice. Strid echoed the straightforward changes to the bylaws being proposed at a later date.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT