

**OFFICIAL MINUTES
BACCALAUREATE
COUNCIL
Second Meeting/Academic year
2023-24 November 9, 2023
Meeting Format: Teams**

Voting Members Present: La France (CLAS), A. Ferguson (CBUS), T. Gidaszewski (CLAS), S. Ehsani (CBUS), D. Boughton (CVPA), A. Linner (CLAS), B. McGowan (Libraries), I. Salehinia (CEET), J. Evar Strid (CEDU), K. Thepboriruk (CLAS), O. Chubenko (CLAS), R. Caughron (CEDU), A. Saravanan (CHHS), K. Cho (CEET), N. Holland (Advising).

Voting Members Absent: A. Zaker (CBUS), P. Chheav (CLAS), B. Hart (CVPA)

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present: J. Slaby (AVP for Student Affairs or designee), C. Schmitz (Office of Registrar), M. Lagunas (Director of Admissions), A. Schatteman (Vice Provost), I. Gawron (Curriculum Coordinator/Catalog Editor), R. Smith (Transfer Center Coordinator), C. Garvey (Information Technology), A. Hutchinson (Educational Services and Programs), S. McCarron (Financial Aid).

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 approve the agenda for November 9, 2023. Ferguson motioned. McGowan seconded. Motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Schatteman called a motion to approve the minutes. Ferguson motioned. Thepboriruk seconded. The minutes were approved.
- III. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Section E Expedited Curricular Changes – Schatteman called a motion to approve the expedited proposals. Caughron motioned. Smith seconded. The committee went through the expedited items briefly with minor discussion occasionally. Topics included clarifications sought about what “satisfactory performance” meant in relation to MATH placement, among various description/rationale discussions. The expedited proposals were approved unanimously.
 - b. Part 1 – Submitted to BC as Expedited
 - i. Attachment E.1
 - c. Part 2 – Determined to be Expedited by the BC Executive Committee
 - i. Attachment E.2
- IV. DISCUSSION AGENDA
 - a. For inclusion in the 2024-2025 Catalog. Dates listed after items are when the items were approved at the College
Caughron motioned a vote to discuss all of the section A items and vote on them at the end of the discussion. Ferguson seconded. After the discussion of all of the items, a vote was initiated where all

section A proposals were approved except proposals related to AHLS 472 with 10 ayes and 1 abstention.

- i. College of Business – No Curricular Items
- ii. College of Education – No Curricular Items
- iii. College of Engineering –
 1. Industrial Management and Technology – Program Revision – 10/02/2023
 - a. Schatteman introduced this proposal and there was a brief discussion on the rationale. It was not clear which program they were referencing in the rationale, but it was eventually discovered.
 2. Energy and Environmental Engineering Technology – Program Revision – 10/02/2023
 - a. Schatteman briefly indicated that the change to this program was just in the title. There was no discussion.
 3. Mechanical Engineering - Program Revision – 10/10/2023
 - a. Schatteman indicated that they are tweaking their elective hours but are equaling things out accordingly so total hours do not change.
 4. Engineering Technology - Program Revision – 10/10/2023
 - a. Schatteman indicates the changes are increasing hours in the program, but are decreasing hours outside of the department. There was no discussion.
- iv. College of Health and Human Sciences –
 1. Illinois Director Credential Certificate – Program Revision – 09/15/2023
 - a. Schatteman explained the changes as mostly cleaning up copy/courses. There was a brief discussion on the exact formatting concerning one of the lines.
 2. AHLS 472 – New Course – 09/29/2023
 - a. Significant discussion occurred on AHLS 472 where the rationale did not indicate why the course should have consent of instructor and why the course was variable hour in regard to the lab component. Given this involved program changes, relevant programs were pulled for further information from the department/college. This discussion included: Strid, Ferguson, Schatteman, Schmitz, Thepboriruk
 3. AHLS 471 – New Course – 09/29/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on AHLS 471.

4. Medical Laboratory Sciences – Program Revision – 09/29/2023
 - a. Pulled from Agenda
5. Medical Laboratory Sciences Workforce Development Certificates – Program Revision – 09/29/2023
 - a. Pulled from Agenda
- v. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences –
 1. Asian American Studies – Program Revision – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal.
 2. Computer Science B.S. – Program Revision – 09/20/2023
 - a. Discussion occurred inquiring about why the Math credit hours are being reduced and how it should be industry standard to have higher level math in Computer Science programs. This discussion included: Linner, Schatteman, Ferguson.
 3. Economics B.A. or B.S. – Program Revision – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal.
 4. Minor in Economics – Program Revision – 09/20/2023
 - a. Schatteman explained the changes and indicated that this proposal was discussed thoroughly in the executive BC meeting. Discussion occurred on this proposal involving topics such as: minors with options, transcripts, curricular complexity and why these are not separate minors. This discussion included: Schatteman, Ferguson, Gawron, La France, Schmitz, Linner, Thepboriruk
 5. FLFR 324 – New Course – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 6. FLFR 340 – New Course – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 7. FLFR 442 – New Course – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 8. FLFR 430 – New Course – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 9. FLSP 430 – New Course – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 10. FLSP 430 for Human Diversity Designation – Other Catalog Change – 09/20/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal
 11. World Languages and Cultures B.A. – Program Revision – 09/20/2023

- a. There was a general discussion on the FLFR course proposals and how they are aiming to institutionalize course topics and better include it in the program(s). Thepboriruk explained the course/program changes.

12. Educator Licensure – Biology – Other Catalog Changes
– 09/27/2023

- vi. College of Visual and Performing Arts – No Curricular Items
- vii. Honors – No Curricular Items
- viii. Directly to BC –
 - 1. UNIV 301 – Course Revision - 10/11/2023
 - a. Little discussion occurred on this proposal. Schatteman explained that UNIV courses go directly to the BC.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. General Education Committee Report – Recommendation to eliminate Pathways program
 - i. Schatteman explained the recommendation to eliminate the Pathways program and how no courses in General Education are going to be removed from Gen Ed with the elimination of the Pathways program. Topics overall included: curricular complexity, student/staff/faculty dissatisfaction with the program, and how it does not appear to serve a purpose. Discussion included: Schatteman, Caughron. Holland motioned a vote to eliminate the Pathways program. Gidaszewski seconded. All voted in favor.
- b. Quality Matters designation of courses in MyNIU
 - i. Schatteman explained the Quality Matters designation and how this is something the university is pursuing. It was overall explained as a designation for online courses that meet a certain criteria. Little discussion occurred on this topic.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Gidaszewski motioned to adjourn. Holland seconded.