OFFICIAL MINUTES BACCALAUREATE COUNCIL

**Eighth Meeting/Academic year 2024-2025 April 10, 2025**

**Meeting Format: Teams**

Voting Members Present: Chubenko, O. (CLAS); McGowan, B. (ULIB); Vahedian Khezerlou, A. (CBUS); Chen, J. (CHHS); Linner, A. (CLAS); Holland, N. (Advising); Conro (Student Representative); Uhrine, E. (Student Rep); La France, B. (CLAS); Salehinia, I. (CEET); Ehsani, S. (CBUS); Devroye, A. (CVPA); B. Perez (CEDU); Strid, J.E. (CEDU); Patel, K. (CHHS); Mills, W. (CEET);

Voting Members Absent: Boughton, D. (CVPA); Thepboriruk, K. (CLAS); Sanner, G. (Student Rep); Sharp, S. (CLAS);

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members Present: Schmitz, C. (Office of Registrar); Lagunas, M. (Admission); Gawron, I. (Office of Vice Provost); Buhrow, A. (Office of Vice Provost). Boldman, R. (AVP for Student Affairs); Garvey, C. (Information Tech Associate); Buhrow, A. (Educational Services and Programs); Lopez, R. (Community College Initiative); Schatteman, A. (Vice Provost); Salmon, J. (Disability Resource Center); Ishaq, F. (CIUAE); Richter, S. (Teaching Excellence & Support); Slaby, J. (Disability Resource Center)

The Baccalaureate Council (BC) meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by Chair Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs.

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

France motioned to approve the agenda. Holland seconded. The agenda was adopted.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

* 3-13-24 BC Minutes were approved via email.

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* Reports from Standing Committees of the BC:
  + General Education Committee
    - Buhrow gave a brief description of GEC’s efforts. Topics included: Three projects consisting of refreshing the rubrics, a math pilot related to the rubrics, and a COMS 100 pilot. Dynamics of the rubric refresh and various presentation of the MATH pilot and data related to the pilot; upcoming meetings and presentation of the COMS 100 pilot forthcoming.
  + Committee for the Improvement of the Undergraduate Experience (CIUAE)
    - Ishaq gave a brief description of CIUAE work. Topics included: awards granted; various communications related to the awards.
  + Honors Committee
    - Patel gave a brief description of the Honors Committee. Topics included: reviewing applications for honors/Gen Ed courses for the next academic year.

1. PRESENTATIONS

Neurodiverse Students at NIU – Salmon

Salmon presented on the topic. Topics included: statistics about NIU’s population that is neurodiverse; definitional components; equity and reasonable accommodations considerations; specific programming to support these students; changes to campus to support students, such as LED lights instead of fluorescent lights. Little discussion occurred on these topics.

AI Teaching and Learning Committee – Richter/Radasanu

Richter presented on the topic. Topics included: various working groups related to AI; AI literacy and fundamentals of AI; ethical considerations of AI; syllabus considerations; General education considerations; structural components of the AI committees work with understanding AI (Bloom’s Taxonomy). Discussion included: Patel, Richter, Schatteman. Discussion topics included: equity with financial components of AI.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA *For inclusion in the 2026-2027 Catalog***

Guiding Note: *Please see on the forms the “Show Current with Markup” in the Discussion tab to view changes to the proposals. For program proposals, you may need to click “Preview Curriculum” and click the red pencil indicating “Show Current with Markup.”*

Schatteman asked if any of the proposals on the consent agenda should be moved to the discussion agenda. Hearing none, the consent agenda was approved.

College of Education

* [LTLA 301](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1411/form) – Course Delete
* [LTRE 231](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1412/form) – Course Delete
* [LTRE 310](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1413/form) – Course Delete
* [LTRE 431](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1414/form) - Course Delete
* [SESE 210](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1233/form) – Course Delete
* [SESE 250](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1234/form) – Course Delete
* [SESE 304](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1235/form) – Course Delete
* [SESE 375](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1236/form) – Course Delete
* [SESE 410](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1237/form) – Course Delete
* [SESE 421](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1238/form) – Course Delete
* [TLCI 340](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1416/form) – Course Delete
* [TLCI 424](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1415/form) – Course Delete
* [TLCI 482](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1417/form) – Course Delete
* [TLCI 483](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1418/form) - Course Delete
* [TLCI 493](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1419/form) – Course Delete
* [TLEE 333](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1263/form) – Course Change

College of Health and Human Sciences

* [NURS 480](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1161/form) – Course Delete

College of Engineering

* [TECH 432](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1258/form) – Course Delete

**VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA**  ***For inclusion in the 2026-2027 Catalog*.**

**College of Engineering***–* *No curricular items*

**College of Business**– *No curricular items*

**College of Education –**

Gawron explained the proposal. The proposal was aiming to reduce the amount of emphases it offers and, Strid indicated that they are procedurally move them to the appropriate department. Little discussion occurred on the proposal. Strid motioned to approve the proposal. Perez seconded. **The proposal was approved unanimously.**

* [Elementary Education (B.S. Ed.)](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1262/form) – *Program Change*

**College of Health and Human Sciences –** *No curricular items*

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences *–*** *No curricular items*

**College of Visual and Performing Arts***–*

Gawron explained the proposal. The only change is a simple change adding jazz theory as an option in a couple of the programs. Little discussion occurred on the proposal. Devroye motioned to approve the proposal. McGowan seconded. **The proposal was approved unanimously.**

* [Music (B.M.)](https://niu.curriculog.com/proposal:1257/form) *– Program Change*

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

* Online Course and Program Policy – Creed/Schatteman

Schatteman described the agenda item. Topics included: the need for updating the Online Course and Program Policy given the increased desire of online programs and the lack of specific policy on online programs; dynamics of online programs versus in person programs; progress on the policy. Strid motioned to approve the policy. McGowan seconded. 11 voted in favor. 1 abstained. **The proposal was approved.**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Strid motioned to adjourn. McGowan seconded. The meeting adjourned approximately 1:30 p.m.