

# Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 12:30 p.m.  
145 Soils/King Hall

**Voting Members Present:** Balster, Goldman, Holden, Kucharik, Wattiaux (arrived 12:45pm)

**Student Members Present:** Mui

**Voting Members Absent:** Anderson, Courtenay

**CALS Ex Officio:** Ackerman-Yost, Wassarman

Meeting called to order at 12:32pm.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from April 9, 2019. Balster
2. **BIOCHEM 630** – Cellular Signal Transduction Mechanisms  
Course change: to add BIOLOGY/ZOOLOGY 151 as a possibility for intro bio prerequisite  
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=1140>

Items 1 and 2 approved by consent.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Program change proposal to have GENETICS 527 Balster  
(Developmental Genetics for Conservation and Regeneration)  
satisfy Capstone requirement for Genetics and Genomics Major

Motion to accept GENETICS 527 as a Capstone for Genetics: Balster/Goldman

Discussion: Course appears to be an advanced course that requires in-depth evaluation of material. Multiple committee members were familiar with the course as it is taught, in addition to as presented in the original course proposal, and agreed that it appeared to meet the requirements to be a capstone.

Vote: 4-0-0, accepted

2. **BIOCHEM 721** – Biochemical Communication Kucharik  
Effective Fall 2019  
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12805>

Motion to approve: Kucharik/Balster

Discussion: Course is a required course in a three-course series for graduate students, and provides valuable communications methods, including proposals, peer review, and manuscript revision. The syllabus was largely sufficient; however, the committee had some questions on grading and requisites, as well as some other minor questions. These include: the percentages in the “exams, quizzes, papers,

etc” doesn’t add up to 100%; participation etc above 15% needs some more explanation to meet college requirements; recommendation to spell out iPiB at least once in the syllabus; need to improve definition of credit hour; requisites need to be adjusted to graduate/professional student standing; unclear whether requisites should include the previous course in the series. Ackerman-Yost to follow up with proposer with friendly amendments.

Vote: 5-0-0, approved with friendly amendments.

3. **(revisited) BIOCHEM 719** - From Atoms to Molecules Balster  
Effective Fall 2019  
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=12614>

Motion to approve: Balster/Holden

Discussion: The course has been previously reviewed by the committee, but needed amendments to the course justification. Course is meant for first-semester iPiB graduate students, and provides a foundation in biophysical chemistry. The committee found the course description and syllabus was sufficient. The revised justification was accepted. Recommend adding that this is the first course in the series.

Vote: 5-0-0, approved with friendly feedback

4. Certificate in Management of Crops and Soils Jennifer Blazek

- Program change for one requirement:
  - Original: **FISC 104: Grain Crops Production & Management**
  - Revised: choice of either **FISC 104** or **FISC 58: Forage Crops**
- From proposal: The purpose of this proposal is to rearrange some of the curricular requirements to allow for more flexibility and personalization by students. This change is as a result of an update to the curricular requirements of FISC's 1st Year Certificate. The proposed change is to take a required course and allow students to choose to fulfill credit requirements through that course (Grain Crops) or through Forage Crops, which was previously required through the 1st Year Certificate (Foundations of Farm & Agribusiness Management). Also this change allows the program to better respond and adapt to the changing needs of the industry and our students.

Motion to approve program change: Goldman/Wattiaux

Vote: 5-0-0, approved

5. Certificate in Farm and Equipment Operations Jennifer Blazek

- Program change for one requirement:
  - Original: **FISC 110: Livestock Housing** required
  - Revised: choice of  
**FISC 21: Agricultural Sales;**  
**FISC 23: Safe and Effective Uses of Pesticides in Agronomic Crops;**  
**FISC 110: Livestock Housing;** or

### **FISC 142: Identification and Management of Agronomic Pests**

- The purpose of this proposal is to rearrange some of the curricular requirements to allow for more flexibility and personalization by students. The change proposed is to take the Livestock Housing course out of the list of core courses and add it to a short list of elective courses students can choose from. Also this change allows the program to better respond and adapt to the changing needs of the industry and our students.

Motion to approve program revision to provide a choice of the above four courses to replace FISC 110:  
Balster/Kucharik

Vote: 5-0-0

### **INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- Future discussion: What expectations are there for department approval prior to CALS Curriculum Committee? Balster

Comment in Lumen re: which deliberative body approved and date of approval of course or course change.

MEAY: work on guidelines on expectations on what course/program approvals look like and how to communicate departmental approval.

- REACH Presentation

Guests:  
Nikki Bollig,  
Maria Peters,  
Ivy Corfis

Presentation on campus initiative to provide information to instructors on who is taking their classes – pooled data on academic and demographic information. Initiative is still in planning stages, so where that information will be provided and what data exactly will be available is not yet firm. Ivy and Nikki emphasized that this data was not for analytics, but for instructor information only. Smaller courses may not have information available, since it must preserve anonymity of students. Committee provided feedback on possible content and use of information by instructors and departments.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm.