

MINUTES OF  
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA

October 15, 2025

**Present:** M. Balong, N. Bird, C. Christopher, D. Cornish, A. Gould, G. Gould, D. Heistad, C. Holcombe, B. Kanago, R. Kidwell, D. Mollenkopf, C. Nedrow, H. Porter Occena, S. Riehl, J. Schraffenberger, J. Zhu

**Absent:** M. Kline, N. Lehman, J. Ophus, A. Tabei

**Guests:** R. Dada, B. Forsyth, B. Hawbaker, D. Hernandez-Saca, S. Meacham, C. Mulholland, R. Rinehart, K. Scholl, K. Tharaldson, S. Vander Zanden

The meeting was called to order by D. Heistad at 3:00 pm in the Presidential Room

**I. Welcome & Introductions**

D. Heistad welcomed all present.

**II. Approval of Minutes – October 1, 2025**

S. Riehl moved to approve the October 1, 2025 minutes. C. Holcombe seconded. D. Heistad asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes. Hearing none.

**D. Heistad called for a vote on the October 1, 2025 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**

**III. Curriculum Review Procedures for Consent Agenda Items**

D. Mollenkopf moved, S. Riehl seconded, to approve the consent agenda.

D. Heistad asked the committee if ELEMECML 4123 could be moved from the editorial pathway to the main agenda to discuss new edits done. Committee agreed.

**D. Heistad called for a vote to approve the consent agenda items, with the addition of removing ELEMECML 4123 from the editorial pathway. Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. Curriculum Review Procedures for Curriculum Proposals in the Department of Elementary and Middle Level Education**

D. Mollenkopf moved, S. Riehl seconded, to approve the Department of Elementary and Middle Level Education proposals.

##### **Agenda Items – Courses**

- ELEMECML 3164: Methods of Teaching Elementary and Middle-Level School Social Studies (edited)

R. Dada stated that ELEMECML 3164 has already been renumbered and renamed as EDUC 3524/5524. R. Dada suggested renaming the EDUC course to Teaching Methods II: Teaching Elementary and Middle-Level Social Studies. S. Riehl asked if the ELEMECML 3164 course would not be taught. R. Dada confirmed.

S. Riehl wondered if there was a reason to separate the course designed for the middle-level students and the course designed for elementary students. R. Dada stated that the course for middle-level students has not been taught for quite some time. R. Kidwell will shred the edits to ELEMECML 3164 and make the course title edits to EDUC 3524/5524.

- ELEMECML 4123: Methods of Teaching Health, Fitness, Visual and Performing Arts Integration in the Elementary Classroom (edited)

R. Dada explained that the intent was to repackage the content of KAAHS 2045 with ELEMECML 4123 – this will make the program more efficient. Since the courses have different contents, R. Dada admitted that a new number should have been requested rather than a title change.

R. Kidwell will work with R. Dada on creating a new number for ELEMECML 4123.

- LITED 3000: Foundations of Reading Test Success (added)

S. Vander Zanden explained that the course is intended to support students that are required by the state to take a professional exam. It's zero credits so students don't have to pay for the course, since

there's a fee to take the test. S. Vander Zanden went on to say that a no-credit course like LITED 3000 would allow the student to use financial aid to pay for the test.

S. Riehl asked if students could choose to take the course – will it be notated. S. Vander Zanden responded, saying students could choose to take the course and test scores can now be entered in SIS. S. Riehl confirmed that the department isn't adding the course to a program. B. Forsyth stated that it's not required.

M. Balong wondered if there was a way to keep a record of who's taken the course. S. Vander Zanden said there are mechanisms to track who's taken the test and this course could be a way to document to the state that extra support is being provided.

R. Kidwell asked if the course could be repeated. B. Forsyth responded, saying that the course should be repeatable. S. Riehl went on to ask if it would be a pass/fail course. B. Forsyth compared the course to the Wilson College of Business professional readiness courses – they're also credit/no-credit and zero credit hours. R. Kidwell asked the department if it should be stated that the course can be repeated. The department confirmed.

**Chair Heistad called for a vote on the motion to approve the Department of Elementary and Middle Level Education proposals. The motion passed unanimously.**

**V. Curriculum Review Procedures for Curriculum Proposals in the Department of Literacy, Early Childhood & Special Education**

D. Mollenkopf moved, S. Riehl seconded, to approve the Department of Literacy, Early Childhood & Special Education proposals.

**Agenda Items – Program**

- DISABILITY AWARENESS-CERT: Disability Awareness and Inclusive Leadership Certificate (added)

C. Holcombe mentioned that asterisks are needed on multiple courses. S. Riehl went on to ask if the certificate is only for teachers. S. Vander Zanden explained that an undergraduate teaching major could pursue the certificate, and they would've already met the prerequisites – non-teaching majors have other options for courses to take.

S. Riehl asked how many non-teaching students the department is expecting – how might they run the new SPIE 4201 course if only one person signs up. S. Vander Zanden responded saying it could be responsive/flexible to the student. S. Riehl asked why a non-teaching student would pursue this certificate. S. Vander Zanden explained that she could see a variety of other majors pursuing the certificate – it covers inclusive environments.

C. Holcombe added that an asterisk is needed on SPIE 4150. R. Kidwell will add the appropriate asterisks.

### **Agenda Items – Courses**

- SPIE 2500: Inclusive Music for All Learners (added)

B. Kanago suggested saying ‘Introduction to instructional strategies’ in the description rather than ‘This course will introduce instructional strategies’. R. Kidwell will update the course description of SPIE 2500.

- SPIE 4152: Career and Vocational Programming for Individuals with Disabilities (added)

S. Riehl asked about the prerequisite – ‘students must hold a teaching license’. R. Kidwell added that the prerequisite is not enforceable. R. Dada explained that it’s a BOEE requirement – students would need a special education endorsement 5-12 to pursue additional special education endorsements.

R. Kidwell asked if there’s a certificate that SPIE 4152 is a part of that gets students to the endorsement. R. Dada responded saying there is a graduate certificate. R. Kidwell followed up asking if the certificate has admission requirements of having the teaching license. R. Kidwell then suggested having ‘instructor consent’ as a prerequisite. S. Vander Zanden suggested having ‘department consent’ as the prerequisite.

R. Kidwell will update the prerequisite of SPIE 4152 to ‘department consent’.

- SPIE 4155: Cooperative Occupational Education Programs for Students with Disabilities (added)

B. Kanago suggested putting ‘equips’ rather than ‘This course is designed to equip’ for the course description. The same prerequisite edit from SPIE 4152 should also be made to 4155.

- SPIE 4201: Experience in Special & Inclusive Environments (added)

B. Kanago suggested saying 'Provides students the opportunity' rather than 'This experience offers students the opportunity' in the description.

R. Kidwell will update the course descriptions and prerequisites as necessary.

**Chair Heistad called for a vote on the motion to approve the Department of Literacy, Early Childhood & Special Education proposals. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **VI. Curriculum Review Procedures for Curriculum Proposals in the Department of Learning, Leadership and Community**

D. Mollenkopf moved, S. Riehl seconded, to approve the Department of Learning, Leadership and Community proposals.

### **Agenda Items – Programs**

- ESPORTSADMIN-BA: Esports Administration Major (added)

B. Kanago expressed his concerns with the ESPORTSADMIN-BA not offering sufficient business training. B. Kanago went on to say that a student would be better off taking a business major and then add on either the ESPORTSADMIN-CERT or ESPORTSADMIN-MINOR. R. Rinehart explained that a variety of different courses are offered within the major that involve Marketing, Management, Public Relations, etc. B. Kanago responded, saying the skills are not highly transferable, nor will it help students with their careers. R. Rinehart stated that there is specific content within the major. Additionally, communication majors already get jobs within these areas.

B. Kanago went on to say that students would be better served by having a business major. R. Rinehart asked what could be done to satisfy B. Kanago's concerns. B. Kanago stated he'd be more convinced if the department had requirements that were required for a student to be an Esports major – professional standards.

D. Heistad wondered if LRNTECH 2200 & LRNTECH 2600 were approved to be a part of UNIFI. J. Schraffenberger said one course has been approved, the other one is revised and re-submitted, but the committee is confident the revisions will be met.

B. Kanago stated that he doesn't see a necessity for a major like this.

D. Heistad asked about the internship opportunities for the ESPORTSADMIN-BA. R. Rinehart explained that social media management and running esports events are some of the opportunities students will have. B. Kanago went on to express his concerns about esport management programs not having enough business courses incorporated within them.

K. Scholl explained that their students are now running esports projects during their internships – resulting in students learning how to market. K. Scholl went on to say that this major will be offered to students who don't want a business degree but want to be able to pursue a major like this. It offers a more focused immersion to a growing major.

B. Forsyth added that minors will get students that have already come here, while majors will move the needle to bring new students in. This program is for students who don't find a home in the Wilson College of Business but are interested in making something out of it.

D. Heistad stated that to get this program started it would be low risk. C. Mulholland explained that the department is confident in this program because they're already teaching most of the courses.

- ESPORTSADMIN-CERT: Esports Administration Certificate (added)
- ESPORTSADMIN-MINOR: Esports Administration Minor (added)

M. Balong suggested making the language within the supporting documents clearer.

- ESPORTSCOACH-CERT: Esports Coaching K12 Certificate (added)

S. Riehl asked if there would be a credential students would need to be a coach if they aren't a teaching major. B. Forsyth explained that it is possible to have coaches in a school that aren't teachers. The state has also produced a coaching endorsement.

C. Mulholland told the committee that there are superintendent partners that are excited about the new certificate – there's an avenue to meet needs within the K-12 districts.

S. Riehl asked if including 'K12' in the certificate title is limiting. B. Forsyth responded, saying for a school it would be attractive. M. Balong wondered how colleges would view it. S. Riehl wondered if

‘K12’ in the title would also scare students away. Rather should ‘K12’ be removed from the title, so it doesn’t limit the audience. R. Kidwell added that the title of the certificate could change later if an endorsement becomes available.

The department will discuss the possibility of removing ‘K12’ from the ESPORTSCOACH-CERT title and will let the Registrar’s Office know for updating.

- NONPROFMGMT-CERT: Nonprofit Leadership Certificate (edited)

S. Riehl stated that the listed choice of RTNL 2210 or RNTL 4210 is ‘false’ because RTNL 2210 is a prerequisite for RTNL 4210. K. Scholl will talk with the department to discuss excluding RTNL 2210 from the prerequisite of RTNL 4210. S. Riehl added that a better title for the courses may be appropriate. K. Scholl will let D. Heistad and R. Kidwell know what the resolution is.

- OUTDOOREDLEAD-MINOR: Outdoor Education and Leadership Minor (added)

S. Riehl mentioned that asterisks are needed on RTNL 4557, BIOL 3109, AT 1018 & AT 1019. However, there is a pathway without the prerequisites.

R. Kidwell wondered if it could be nine credits from any course within the ‘outdoor activity courses’ and ‘elective course’ options. K. Scholl confirmed. D. Heistad suggested removing the ‘elective courses’ and ‘outdoor activity courses’ headings so there’s one list. R. Kidwell will remove the appropriate headings.

- OUTDOORREC-CERT: Outdoor Leadership and Education Certificate (deleted)

## **Agenda Items – Courses**

- LRNTECH 1200: Playgrounds to Pixels: Meaningful Gaming (added)

B. Kanago stated that the description needs to be updated to ‘we use concepts from many fields’ rather than ‘we use concepts many fields’. R. Kidwell will update the course description.

- LRNTECH 2200: Gamecraft: From Mechanics to Meaning (added)

S. Riehl asked if LRNTECH 1200 and LRNTECH 2200 are UNIFI courses. J. Schraffenberger said one course has been accepted and one is being revised.

- LRNTECH 2600: From Player to Leader: The Esports Experience (added)
- POSTSEC 2000: Supporting Students in Collegiate Environments (added)

B. Kanago suggested that the description on POSTSEC 2000 start with ‘students will discuss’. R. Kidwell will update the description.

**Chair Heistad called for a vote on the motion to approve the Department of Learning, Leadership and Community proposals pending that the prerequisite issue in the NONPROFMGMT-CERT gets resolved. The motion passed unanimously.**

**VII. Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 22, 3:00 pm, Presidential Room, Maucker Union**

Clean-up (if needed) / End of Cycle Review.

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ava Gould

Office of the Registrar

cc: UCC

GCCC

Guests