

# Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 9, 2021, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Voting members present: Courtenay, Goldman, Kucharik, Ney, Van Pijkeren, Vermillion Kalmon,  
Wattiaux

Student Members present: Mui

Absent: Holden, Rossman

Ex Officio: Barber, Ackerman-Yost

Minutes Taken by: Arnfelt

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Review meeting minutes from February 23, 2021.

Item 1 approved by consent.

## ACTION ITEMS

1. Re-review: New course  
**BSE 380: Introductory Data Science for the Agricultural Life Sciences**  
Effective Summer 2021  
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=14055>  
Vermillion Kalmon/  
Van Pijkeren

Motion to not approve (Vermillion Kalmon, Van Pijkeren)

Discussion: The updated proposal provided context to how this course differs from SOIL SCI 585 and some information on how much time is expected per week on different activities. The committee discussed that more information is still needed on learning outcomes, coding languages, and participation. As collegial feedback, the committee recommended that the syllabus include more concrete information on due dates and schedules for graded materials.

Vote: 7-0-0

2. **CALS Teaching and Advising Awards**  
a. WALSAA Outstanding Advisor Award  
b. Arthur J. and Ellen A. Maurer Extra Mile Award  
c. Spitzer Excellence in Teaching Award  
Goldman  
/Ackerman-Yost

Motion to move into closed session (Courtenay, Wattiaux) Vote: 7-0-0

The committee went into a closed session to discuss the nominations for the WALSAA outstanding award, Extra Mile Award, and Spitzer award.

Motion to move into an open session (Kucharik, Goldman) Vote: 6-0-0

## INFORMATIONAL AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Plant Biology Named Option – Suspended, to be Discontinued

Effective Fall 2021

<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=998>

Discussion: The program is closing this Named Option based on feedback from its program review. The last time a student could declare the Plant Biology Named Option would be Summer 2021. L&S and CALS APC have approved the discontinuation of this Named Option.

2. Regular and Substantive interaction – feedback for UCC

See Materials in Box

<https://kb.wisc.edu/apir/107640>

<https://kb.wisc.edu/vesta/77498>

Discussion: The requirements for regular and substantive interaction will be part of the syllabus and Lumen proposal. The UCC requested Irwin, as chair of CALS Curriculum Committee, provide any feedback on the documentation and guidance provided for instructors. The committee discussed whether this would change the scope of its review. The committee suggested that additional support for this policy could include getting feedback from students about whether regular and substantive interaction is provided in the course. They also discussed the importance of interaction in courses, and suggested providing information on how instructors currently interact during their courses.

Meeting adjourned 2:27pm