

Minutes

CALS Curriculum Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
6201 MSB

Voting Members:

- Rick Lankau, co-chair (2024)
- Sebastian Bednarek, co-chair (2025)
- Charles Kaspar (2024)
- Tera Holtz (2024)
- Anna Pidgeon (2025)
- Chuck Nicholson (2026)
- Makayla Schuchardt (2026)

Non-Voting Members:

Ex-Officio:

- Megan Ackerman-Yost
- Diana Frantz Anderson

Student Members:

- Hansini Ayyavaripally
- Kaelyn Stephenson

Meeting Chair:

Voting Members Present: Bednarek, Kaspar, Pidgeon, Nicholson, Schuchardt

Ex-Officio Present: Ackerman-Yost

Student Members:

Consent Agenda

1. Review meeting minutes from October 24, 2023 1:00-1:05
<https://uwmadison.box.com/s/mzen3ujjowlvtd2tn6ntgso2i88m84q7>

Approved by Consent

Action Items

2. **Program Changes – Horticulture MS & PhD** 1:05-1:25
Guest: Jeff Endelman
Lankau/Kaspar
 - <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=646>
 - <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=768>**Agronomy MS & PhD**
Bednarek/Schuchardt
 - <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=603>
 - <https://next-guide.wisc.edu/programadmin/?key=717>Effective: FALL 2024
Reason: Programs moving to new Department of Plant and Agroecosystems Sciences. Update program learning outcomes.

Guest: The Horticulture and Agronomy departments merged, and we needed to move the graduate programs into the new department. We took the opportunity to review our learning outcomes and assessment plans and harmonize them, as we are currently working on proposals to combine these two programs. We wanted to make things easier on ourselves while we are teaching out.

Committee comments:

1. Recommend considering learning outcome alignment with assessment.
2. Recommend reviewing seminars required for the programs.
3. Discussion on the term “midterm” or “qualifying exams” in the assessment plan, and what that means.

Hort: Lankau/Kaspar, 6-0-0

Agron: Bednarek/Nicholson, 6-0-0

3. **Course Change - Genetics/MD Genetics 565: Human Genetics** 1:25-1:35
 Effective: Fall 2024 Pidgeon/Nicholson
 Reason: Update course content (learning outcomes, description
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=4666>)

Approve with AA review: Pidgeon/Nicholson

Comments: Clarify learning outcomes and confirm readings.

6-0-0

4. **Course Change - Genetics 133: Genetics in the News** 1:35-1:45
 Effective: Summer 2024 Schuchardt/Nicholson
 Reason: Course modified to be taught across two semesters. (Ayyavaripally)
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=4646>

Approve with AA review: Schuchardt/Nicholson

Comments: Clarify, confirm, and correct elements within the syllabus, including assigned work and modules.

5. **New Course: Genetics 134: Genomes and Society** 1:45-1:55
 Effective: FALL 2024 Kaspar/Pidgeon
 Reason: Course modified to be taught across two semesters. (Stephenson)
<https://next-guide.wisc.edu/courseadmin/?key=90051>

Defer: Kaspar/Pidgeon

Comments: Consider title reflective of content. Topics seem redundant with 133; with this amount of repetition is this course needed. The description may lead students to believe that the course is a substitute for intro. bio. Simplify grading structure.

6-0-0