WMU ESSENTIAL STUDIES COURSE REVIEW AND APPROVAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of 28 September 2026

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee, WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee, was called to order at 10:01 a.m. on 28 September 2026, via Webex by Elissa Allen, chair of the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee.

Members Present: Elissa Allen, Lisa DeChano-Cook, Dana Hammond, Kwangmin Lee, Matilda McLean, Katherine Suender, Nathan Tabor, Kathryn Wagner
Members Absent: Samantha Collet, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Marie Moreno
Advisory Members Present: Jacquelyn Bizzell, Lucy Parrott, Colleen Stano, Sharon Van Dyken, Destiny Wallace
Advisory Members Absent: Melinda Lockett
Guest(s): Decker Hains, Executive Board Director and Parliamentarian, Emily Teall, Aviation

Quorum

A quorum was present with six voting members in attendance, of the six needed to establish a quorum.

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Suender, seconded by Wagner, to accept the 28 September 2026 agenda as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Suender, seconded by Lee, to accept the 20 April 2026 minutes as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

[MOTION] It was moved by Hammond, seconded by McLean, to elect Katherine Suender as Chair. The motion carried.

The Vice Chair was election was postponed until the next meeting.

[MOTION] It was moved by Suender, seconded by Tabor, to elect Kwangmin Lee as Secretary. The motion carried.

Committee 2026-27 Charges

Chair Allen charged the committee.

Action Items

Curriculum Proposals

- GEOG – 2050 – Human Geography was postponed until the next meeting.

Reports of University Representatives

Chair Allen did not provide a WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee report.

Curriculum Manager DeChano-Cook reported that the WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee will meet weekly throughout November 2026.

New Business

None.

Unfinished Business

None.

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m. The WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee will meet on 19 October 2026 via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Kwangmin Lee, Secretary

Minutes approved on 19 October 2026.