WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee
Minutes of 2 November 2026

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee was called to order at 10:02 a.m. on 2 November 2026, via Webex by Katherine Suender, chair.

Members Present: Elissa Allen, Samantha Collet, Lisa DeChano-Cook, Kwangmin Lee, Vincent Lyon-Callo, Matilda McLean, Marie Moreno, Katherine Suender, Nathan Tabor
Members Absent: Kathryn Wagner
Advisory Members Present: Annemarie Bates, Melinda Lockett, Colleen Stano, Sharon VanDyken
Advisory Members Absent: Jacquelyn Bizzell, Lucy Parrott
Ex officio Present: Dana Hammond

Quorum

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

Agenda

[MOTION] It was moved by Tabor, seconded by Moreno, to accept the 2 November 2026 agenda as provided. The motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

[MOTION] It was moved by Lee, seconded by Hammond, to accept the 19 October 2026 minutes as distributed. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Officers

Chair Suender reported that majority of curriculum proposals postponed at last week's meeting have been corrected and processed. Three pending proposals await substantial revisions, and updated documents have not been received for two of the three.

Ex officio Hammond did not provide a report.

Reports of University Representatives

WMU Essential Studies Interim Faculty Director Allen provided the director's report noting that she will continue communicating with proposal submitters.

DeChano-Cook did not provide a Curriculum Manager Report.

Unfinished Business

[MOTION] It was moved by Tabor, seconded by Hammond, to approve the following curriculum proposal. The motion carried

- LAT - 2010 - Latin Composition

[MOTION] It was moved by Tabor, seconded by Hammond, to postpone the following curriculum proposals to the next meeting. The motion carried

- FYE - 2100 - First-Year Experience
- GEOS - 1600 - Blue Planet: How Water Shapes Our World

New Business

[MOTION] It was moved by Tabor, seconded by Hammond, to approve the following curriculum proposals. The motion carried

- COM - 1000 - Communication and Community Engagement
- COM - 2710 - Introduction to User Experience (UX)
- ECON - 2190 - Economic Principles of Sustainability, the Environment, and Natural Resources
- OCL - 2000 - Principles of Organizational Change and Development

- OCL - 3000 - Workplace Culture
- OCL - 3050 - Organizational Consulting
- OCL - 3200 - Great Thinkers of Organizational Change
- OCL - 4300 - Understanding and Designing the Global Organization

[MOTION] It was moved by Tabor, seconded by Hammond, to postpone the following curriculum proposal to the next meeting. The motion carried

- BCM - 2080 - Communicating Data in Business

Announcements

None.

Adjournment

Chair Suender adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m. The WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee will meet on 9 November 2026 via Webex.

Approval

Submitted by Kwangmin Lee, Secretary

Minutes approved on 9 November 2026.