

Undergraduate Curriculum Council

Meeting Minutes*

September 24, 2025

Members Present

Chelsie Dubay (Chair), Julie Fox-Horton, Mike Stoots, Christiana Keinath, T. Jason Davis, Brad Edwards, Daniel Hedden, Evelyn Roach, Cynthia Edwards, Stacie Hill, William Flora, Teresa Brooks-Taylor

Members Absent

Melissa Webb, Allen Coates, Cindy Phillips

Guests Present

Dr. Narges Sareh (Clemmer College of Education and Human Development), Dr. Karin Keith (Interim Chair, Early Childhood Education), Dr. Daniel Johnson (Geosciences)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chair Chelsie Dubay. The meeting was conducted virtually via Zoom.

Approval of Previous Minutes

- The minutes from the **September 10, 2025** meeting were reviewed.
 - Motion to approve: Julie Fox-Horton
 - Second: Mike Stoots
 - Vote: Approved with one abstention.
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New Business

1. New Course – ECED 3125: Lesson Planning and Standards for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

- **Overview:** Dr. Narges Sareh presented the proposed new course, created following accreditation self-study results indicating a need for stronger student preparation in lesson planning.
- **Reviewer Comments:**
 - Julie Fox-Horton recommended spelling out “NAEYC” (National Association for the Education of Young Children) in the catalog description and justification. Dr. Sareh agreed to make the change.
 - Clarification was provided that this is a **non-licensure** concentration course.
- **Motion:** Julie Fox-Horton motioned to approve as amended.
- **Second:** Mike Stoots
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
- **Confirmation of Criteria:**
 - ✓ Course consistent with university goals
 - ✓ Course adds value to the Department of Early Childhood Education, Clemmer College of Education and Human Development, and the university
 - ✓ Course objectives are appropriate
 - ✓ Learning outcomes are evaluated to be of appropriate rigor for a 3000-level course
 - ✓ Course leveled appropriately at 3000 level
 - ✓ Credit hours appropriate at 3

Compliance Statement:

In its review, the UCC found the course to be consistent with university goals. It adds value to the proposing department and college. The learning outcomes are of appropriate rigor for the level of the course. The course level is appropriate based on an assessment of the overall course content and role in the department's curriculum. The credit hours are appropriately set based on the workload.

2. New Course – ECED 4160: STEM Curriculum Development with Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

- **Overview:** Dr. Narges Sareh presented the new course designed to expand content offerings in STEM for Early Care and Education, aligning with updated NAEYC standards.
- **Reviewer Comments:**
 - T. Jason Davis suggested spelling out STEM at first reference in the catalog description.
 - Evelyn Roach recommended removing the word “students” in the description; alternatives were discussed.
 - Brad Edwards noted grading scale inconsistencies; revisions to point totals and percentage ranges will be added.
- **Motion:** T. Jason Davis motioned to approve as amended.
- **Second:** Brad Edwards
- **Vote:** Approved unanimously.

- **Confirmation of Criteria:**
 - ✓ Course consistent with university goals
 - ✓ Course adds value to the Department of Early Childhood Education, Clemmer College of Education and Human Development, and the university
 - ✓ Course objectives are appropriate
 - ✓ Learning outcomes are evaluated to be of appropriate rigor for a 4000-level course
 - ✓ Course leveled appropriately at 4000 level
 - ✓ Credit hours appropriate at 3

Compliance Statement included as above.

3. Curriculum Revision – Early Childhood Development, Early Care & Education Concentration (Non-Substantive)

- **Overview:** Dr. Sareh presented revisions including:
 - Addition of ECED 3125 and ECED 4160
 - Incorporation of existing special education and advocacy courses
 - Replacement of “advisor-approved electives” with “free electives” (14–17 hours) to reduce CPOS complications for transfer students
 - Removal of the minor requirement; students may choose to pursue a minor using elective hours.
 - **Reviewer Comments:**
 - Mike Stoots and Daniel Hedden noted minor formatting and capitalization issues.
 - Cynthia Edwards raised DegreeWorks/CPOS concerns, recommending defined electives or free elective designation.
 - Evelyn Roach suggested replacing advisor-approved electives with free electives to simplify advising.
 - **Motion:** Daniel Hedden motioned to approve as amended.
 - **Second:** Mike Stoots
 - **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
 - **Confirmation of Criteria:**
 - ✓ Proposal consistent with university goals
 - ✓ Proposal adds value to the Department of Early Childhood Education, Clemmer College of Education and Human Development, and the university
 - ✓ Learning outcomes appropriate
 - ✓ Courses appropriate
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4. New Course – GEOS 3200: Introductory Soil Science

- **Overview:** Dr. Daniel Johnson presented this introductory soils course to support development of a soils curriculum, with potential broad appeal to both geoscience majors and non-majors.
 - **Reviewer Comments:** Christiana Keinath confirmed academic justification included potential student audiences.
 - **Motion:** Christiana Keinath
 - **Second:** T. Jason Davis
 - **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
 - **Confirmation of Criteria:**
 - ✓ Course consistent with university goals
 - ✓ Course adds value to the Department of Geosciences, College of Arts & Sciences, and the university
 - ✓ Course objectives are appropriate
 - ✓ Learning outcomes evaluated to be of appropriate rigor for a 3000-level course
 - ✓ Credit hours appropriate at 3
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5. New Course – GEOS 4040: Advanced Soil Science

- **Overview:** Dr. Johnson presented this advanced soils course, following previous offerings as a special topics course.
 - **Reviewer Comments:**
 - Teresa Brooks Taylor noted a typo (“complete” → “completed”) and questioned the scheduling cycle.
 - Evelyn Roach recommended adjusting the implementation term for scheduling flexibility.
 - **Motion:** Teresa Brooks Taylor motioned to approve as amended.
 - **Second:** Christiana Keinath
 - **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
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6. New Course – GEOS 4050: Soil Profile Descriptions

- **Overview:** Dr. Johnson described this field-based lab course focusing on soil profile reports and professional skills.
 - **Reviewer Comments:** Jason Davis suggested removing “previously taught” language. No further edits required.
 - **Motion:** Brad Edwards
 - **Second:** T. Jason Davis
 - **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
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7. Curriculum Revision – Academic Minor: Sport Management (Non-Substantive)

- **Overview:** T. Jason Davis presented the revised minor, aligning requirements with the Park and Recreation minor by adding flexibility (12 hours of core + 6 hours electives). No new courses introduced.
 - **Reviewer Comments:** Julie Fox-Horton noted the proposal was clear and beneficial for DegreeWorks tracking.
 - **Motion:** Julie Fox-Horton
 - **Second:** Christiana Keinath
 - **Vote:** Approved unanimously.
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Other Business

- Chair Chelsie Dubay noted vacant seats remain for **Faculty Senate** and **Arts & Sciences** representation. Committee members were encouraged to recommend colleagues.
 - Meeting minutes will be cleaned from the transcript and attached to the record; agenda for the next meeting will be distributed by next Wednesday.
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Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.
