

**ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY DALLAS
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

May 27, 2025

3pm CST

<https://blogs.acu.edu/cgpsacademiccouncil/>

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the ACU Dallas Academic Council was called to order at 3:00pm, on May 27, 2025.

OPENING CEREMONIES

The invocation was given by Brandon Podgorski.

ROLL CALL

Members in attendance: Alicia Ramirez, Aline Ayala, Bill Hunt, Brandon Podgorski, Brenda McAdoo, Darlene Breaux, Deanna Melton-Riddle, Dena Counts, Jacqueline Bluit, Jenn Gillin, Joe Feliciano, Jon Wiener, Kipi Fleming, Kristy Williams, Meghan Hope, Nancy Kucinski, Sandra Cleveland, Sara Salkil, Stephanie Wanamaker, Tiffany Dahlman, and Twyla Williams-Damond.

Members absent: Brandy Chalmers, Kathy Carroll, Marica Sotelo, Nannette Glenn, Scott Self, Sheila Jones, Theresa Naldoza

Guests present: Jessica Smith, Karen Witemeyer, Lori Anne Shaw, Mark McCallon, and Alison Pirtle

QUORUM

A quorum was present.

MINUTES

The minutes from April 28, 2025 were approved as presented.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- CONR 612 Course Outcome Change
- MFTO 591, 592, 595, 596, 597, 598 Course Outcome Changes
 - 595 had the wrong documents linked on the blog. The Chair sent the correct document to the council for review during the meeting . All members agreed that the document was fine for adoption.
- MFTO 601/590, 692, 693, 698 Course Outcome Changes
- COMO 408 Course Title Change

Informational items are approved by consent and voting is not required by the council on these items. There were no objections and these items were adopted.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The chair invited Brandon Podgorski to explain the new course proposals that support the BSSLM – Bachelor of Science in Sports Leadership and Management: SPLD 201, 221, 231, 241, 331, 363, and 491.

Discussion: Nancy Kucinski asked about the large learning outcomes of SPLD 241 Can Brandon Podgorski explained that he has taught this class in a previous institution. The textbook touches each subject in a way that makes sense in the realm of sport.

Alicia Ramirez moved to approve and Kipi Fleming seconded the motion to approve the new course proposals that support the BSSLM – Bachelor of Science in Sports Leadership and Management: SPLD 201, 221, 231, 241, 331, 363, and 491. The motion carried with 17 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

2. The chair invited Alicia Ramirez to explain the proposed admission changes to the CMDO program.

Discussion: None

Stephanie Wanamaker moved to approve and Bill Hunt seconded the motion to approve the admission changes to the CMDO program. The motion carried with 18 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

3. The chair invited Alicia Ramirez to explain the proposed prereq changes for CSDO courses 319, 352, 356, 371, 380, 471, 493, and 494 along with a prereq change and description change for CSDO 357.

Discussion: None

Deanna Melton-Riddle moved to approve and Sandra Cleveland seconded the motion to approve the the proposed prereq changes for CSDO courses 319, 352, 356, 371, 380, 471, 493, and 494 along with a prereq change and description change for CSDO 357. The motion carried with 19 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

4. The chair invited Sandra Cleveland to explain a new track proposal and the accompanying courses from DNP.

Discussion: None

Brenda McAdoo moved to approve and Kristy Williams seconded the motion to approve the new track proposal and the accompanying courses from DNP. The motion carried with 17 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

5. The chair invited Jacqueline Bluit to explain the two new GenEd courses proposed: MATO 109 and MSCO 235.

Discussion: None

Tiffany Dahlman moved to approve and Brandon Podgorski seconded the motion to approve the two new GenEd courses proposed: MATO 109 and MSCO 235. The motion carried with 19 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

6. The chair invited Kipi Fleming to explain two new proposed courses for the CONR program: CONR 624 and CONR 642.

Discussion: None

Bill Hunt moved to approve and Joe Feliciano seconded the motion to approve the two new proposed courses for the CONR program: CONR 624 and CONR 642. The motion carried with 17 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

7. The chair invited Kipi Fleming to explain the addition of CONR 624 and 642 to: Graduate Certificate in Conflict Management, MACMR Healthcare Org Track, MACMR Org Track, MACMR Practitioner Track.

Discussion: None

Sara Salkil moved to approve and Jenn Gillin seconded the motion to approve the addition of CONR 624 and 642 to: Graduate Certificate in Conflict Management, MACMR Healthcare Org Track, MACMR Org Track, MACMR Practitioner Track. The motion carried with 19 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

8. The chair invited Kipi Fleming to explain the proposed closures of the Certificate in Healthcare Collaboration and Conflict Management, the Conflict Management Certificate for Church Leaders, and the Conflict Management Certificate for Educators as well as the closure of the course, CONR 605.

Discussion: Jessica Smith requested that Kipi attach confirmation of Chris Riley's approval. The chair will ensure these are attached to the documents when sent out for final signatures, as well as updated on the blog.

Nancy Kucinski moved to approve and Brenda McAdoo seconded the motion to approve the closures of the Certificate in Healthcare Collaboration and Conflict Management, the Conflict Management Certificate for Church Leaders, and the Conflict Management Certificate for Educators as well as the closure of the course, CONR 605. The motion carried with 18 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

9. The chair invited Sara Salkil to explain a new policy proposal for MFTO regarding repeating MFTO courses.

Discussion: Joe Feliciano asked how often these situations arise. Sara Salkil commented that it's anecdotal at his point, but there has been an uptick lately in cases.

Joe Feliciano moved to approve and Bill Hunt seconded the motion to approve the new policy for repeating MFTO courses. The motion carried with 18 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

10. The chair invited Stephanie Wanamaker to explain a new certificate aimed at Rising Scholars.

Discussion: Sara Salkil asked about the admission requirements on page 9, specifically what is the ACU Sports Leadership Academy? Jessica Smith mentioned that schools currently targeted by Stephen Johnson and Tamara Long are specifically focused in the area of sports leadership, however, expanded interests will potentially be added later. This is a short-term issue that will need to be addressed within a year or so and that the program is designed to be flexible. Jessica Smith also commented on the presentation of how this certificate will appear (not changing content). Chris Riley suggests the name be presented as "Rising Scholars Certificate" instead of "Certificate in Rising Scholars". It has also been suggested that in the curriculum, we change language to "choose 6 hours" instead of "choose 2 of the following options". Nancy Kucinski asked why all the possible electives that are 200 level? Jessica Smith explained that the target audience is high school age, which lends itself to 200 level courses (not higher). Some 200 level courses were excluded (i.e. Composition, Macroeconomics) because the targeted schools already have a solution for those typical courses. These schools were interested in "non-typical" objectives. These students will be in their own clustered block and PDs will know which blocks are dual-credit students. Alline Ayala explained that these students need to have their own cohort since they are minors.

Jacqueline Bluitt moved to approve and Darlene Breaux seconded the motion to approve the Rising Scholars Certificate pending the amendments to the language on page 12 (name change) and page 13 (choose 6 hours). The motion carried with 18 yes and 0 no votes and 1 abstention.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next meeting will occur on **June 23, 2025** at 3:00pm CST. Submissions for business items due in Council Folder by Monday, June 9th at noon.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 3:48 pm CST.

APPROVAL

Minutes approved this X day of MONTH, 2025.

Dena Counts, Chair