

Members in Attendance

Dr. Brad Bechard
Dr. Jessica Boyer
Dr. Dan Casmier
Mr. Kaia Ecklund
Dr. Leanne Frost
Ms. Daisy Gibson
Dr. Matthew Hill
Ms. Natalya McLees
Dr. Eleazar Ortega
Dr. Toni Sawhill
Ms. Dena Wagner-Fossen
Ms. Elyssa Wassmann
Ms. Hope Westerman

Faculty, Staff and Guests in Attendance

Dr. Tina Gambhir
Ms. Kris Hancke
Ms. Deb Huestis
Ms. Catherine Joshu
Ms. Toni Quinn
Mr. Neil Romney
Ms. Kristi Voboril

Dr. Jessica Boyer called the meeting to order.

Minutes

September 12, 2025

Dr. Boyer asked for a motion to approve the minutes. So moved by Matthew Hill and seconded by Daisy Gibson. Dena noted a correction: "College" was omitted from "MyMSU Great Falls College." The September 12 minutes will be revised to incorporate that correction. With no further discussion or amendments, a vote was taken, the motion passed and the minutes with the noted revision were unanimously approved.

Information Items

2025-1010-01 Notify CC of CODA approval of replacing HTH 140 with DENT 175
Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist – Rachael Bruce

Natalya McLees spoke about this item. CODA approved the request to change regular pharmacology HTH 140 with DENT 175, effective Fall 2026.

Discussion Items – require a vote – presented by Jana Parsons

A2025-1114-01 Create new course LIT 163 Fantasy and Science Fiction – Sam Downs

A2025-1114-02 Add LIT 163 to Associate of Arts core program – Sam Downs

A2025-1114-03 Add LIT 163 to General Studies Certificate core program – Sam Downs

A2025-1114-04 Add LIT 163 to Associate of Science core program – Sam Downs

Jana Parsons presented these four items. They include requesting the new course and adding that course to the AA, GS, and AS core programs.

Years ago our English Department had a more robust curriculum. The current offerings include two composition courses, a couple courses that serve CTE, and a narrow number of electives. The existing electives have been popular, especially the mythologies course. A student survey showed the top category of potential elective classes was a Science Fiction/Fantasy course. The department wanted courses that were transferable within the system, would give students the opportunity to explore, and would be in line with state course offerings. This course was the least transferrable of the options unless it was included in the three core programs. At least 80% of Western's objectives have been met.

This change will be effective Spring 2026.

Due to the quick effective date and the fact that the next CC meeting is not until November 14, CC members approved an immediate electronic vote on these four items. Toni will request the e-vote today with a deadline no later than Friday, October 17 so it can be completed before fall break.

Update: These four items were approved by an electronic vote on October 16, 2025.

Action Items - None

Other Agenda Items

Develop a strategic goal for the year – due 10/15/25 – Dr. Jessica Boyer

Members discussed extending last year's strategic goal. Informing that discussion was incorporating OCHE's recent forms changes into Curriculum Council forms as well as the survey results. Dr. Boyer asked for a motion to extend the due date for the strategic goal: so moved and seconded. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Last year's goal:

The curriculum council will review all council documents and update as needed to align with the needs of all stakeholders by the end of the academic year.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Toni will send out the forms survey to each submitter in a timely manner. Dena noted the upcoming deadlines and that the college is now using MyMSU Great Falls College.

Adjournment

Dr. Boyer asked for a motion to adjourn; so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:17.