

I. Call to Order and Attendance

The meeting was called to order with a quorum present. Members confirmed attendance, with Melanie Madden assisting with roll call verification.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Christopher Sanderson moved to approve, Paul seconded. The minutes were approved without objection.

III. Reports

Academic Affairs Report (Greg Heileman)

Greg provided updates on several key initiatives:

- The council will present approval items to ABOR at the February meeting, with efforts to concentrate approvals at that time and one additional session at term's end.
- **CourseDog Implementation:** The new workflow system goes live tomorrow (November 19). The system will streamline the approval process, with proposals, comments, and workflow tracking all visible in one platform. A technical issue with signature settings has been resolved—signatures will now come from Curricular Affairs rather than CourseDog directly.
- **UNIV 101/301 Workgroup:** The group is conducting stakeholder focus groups and will prepare a report for the Provost in December with revision recommendations and options. Faculty Senate focus groups need to be rescheduled due to invitation issues.

Arizona Online Report (John Kramkowski)

- Completed proposal submission process for new programs entering Arizona Online for Fall 2027
- Determination letters will be sent next month
- Continuing course refresh process for all Arizona Online programs
- Establishing a 3-5 year curriculum development cycle for programs

Office of the Registrar Report (Alex Underwood)

- Registration is active for winter and spring terms, with yesterday marking the last major enrollment appointment day for first-year students

- Just under 20,000 undergraduate students already enrolled for spring term
- Announced realignment: transfer credit services joining the Registrar's Office, with extended support services for incoming and transitioning transfer students

Academic Advising Report (Sharon Aiken- Wisniewski)

Sharon was unable to attend and will report in December.

General Education Committee Update (Jeremy Vetter)

Jeremy provided extensive updates on General Education developments:

Civic Learning Initiatives:

- Approved the "Civic Exploration" attribute for existing BC/EP courses, addressing one of seven ABOR civic learning areas
- Approved the "Civic Institutions" required course category, which must address all seven major areas
- Student learning outcomes established for both initiatives
- Interest forms now available on the website for faculty to submit courses

New Attribute - Understanding and Value Difference (UVD):

- Replaces the eliminated diversity and equity attribute
- Language based on long-standing ABOR-approved programmatic outcomes
- Focuses on skills students will learn rather than political content
- Name comes directly from existing ABOR-approved learning outcomes

Timeline for Civic Institutions Courses:

- December 1 deadline for expedited submissions of existing BC/EP courses adding the civic exploration attribute
- March 1 deadline for full civic institutions courses to be included in Spring 2027 catalog
- Discussion about potentially offering courses in Fall 2026, with Alex and team working on solutions to catalog deadlines
- Courses need approval before new student registration opens in late April

IV. Subcommittee Reports

Academic Programs Subcommittee (Christopher Domin)

The subcommittee had a robust agenda after an easy previous month:

Approved Items (Consent Agenda):

- One new minor
- One new major: BS in Agricultural and Applied Economics (consolidates BS in Agribusiness Economics and Management with BS in Environmental and Water Resources Economics)
- Two new emphases in Applied Humanities:
 - Animal-Human Interaction emphasis
 - Astrobiology emphasis

Discussion Item:

- Personal Brand and Money Management Minor (Norton School/CALES): Removed from consent agenda due to concerns about:
 - Lack of criticality in curriculum
 - Insufficient ethics content
 - Need for contract law component (discussions ongoing with College of Law regarding appropriate courses)
 - Questions about academic rigor and cohesiveness
 - Feedback provided to department; awaiting response

Disestablishments:

- One disestablishment approved, related to administrative reorganization rather than substantive program changes

Curriculum and Policy Subcommittee (Allyson Roof)

Several initiatives underway:

Compassionate Certificate of Achievement:

- For students unable to return due to disability or terminal illness

- Similar to posthumous degrees but for living students
- Working with Alex's team on criteria

Syllabus Policy Revisions:

- Updating language (D2L to Brightspace, OA to UCAT)
- Condensing policies via URLs rather than full text
- Considering requirement for syllabi in Brightspace/LMS
- Discussing timing requirement (within first week of classes)
- Addressing enforcement mechanisms
- Exemptions needed for certain courses (honors thesis, individual studies)

V. Full UGC Report

College Representation

Discussion about College of Law representation on UGC. The college now offers undergraduate courses through joint degrees (JBA). Bylaws currently specify "degree-granting colleges." Similar situation exists with Optical Sciences. The chair will review bylaws and consult with UCAC for consistency.

Approval Process Clarification

Greg clarified the standard approval process: when proposals receive negative votes at subcommittee level, proposers can choose to withdraw, revise, or move forward. If moving forward, all subsequent committees see the proposal with voting record. This follows standard shared governance procedures similar to ABOR's process.

CourseDog Workflow Details

Members will receive emails when proposals reach UGC for review. A dashboard will show all pending items. The chair records the committee's single vote rather than individual member votes. Comments can be added by members but will be visible to proposers. The system is designed for transparency while maintaining committee discussion integrity.

VI. Consent Agenda

Motion: Allyson moved to approve all consent agenda items (one new major, two new emphases). Jeremy seconded.

The following were unanimously approved:

- BS in Agricultural and Applied Economics (CALES)
- BA in Applied Humanities, Animal-Human Interaction emphasis
- BA in Applied Humanities, Astrobiology emphasis

Discussion noted that Applied Humanities now has 11 emphases (potentially 13 with these additions) and approximately 372 majors (grew from 15 five years ago). Emphases draw from expertise across colleges and serve students who need different pathways than traditional disciplinary programs.

VII. Discussion Items

Personal Brand and Money Management Minor

The subcommittee continues work with the Norton School on addressing concerns about contract law, ethics, academic rigor, and cohesiveness. No vote taken; returned to subcommittee.

Second Language Exception Request (Eller College)

Allyson presented the request from Eller College of Management for a second language exception for the BS in Business Administration degree.

Background:

- Current policy requires 2 years high school second language plus additional university coursework
- College of Engineering has existing exception (can verify completion by method of their choosing)
- UGEC indicated they would not grant such exceptions today if requested

Eller's Reasoning:

- Competitiveness with other business programs
- Limited elective space (6-9 credits)
- Desire to add AI and other contemporary courses
- Need decision by end of November for Fall 2026 curriculum changes

Subcommittee Concerns:

- Second language acquisition important for communication and cultural exposure

- Consistency needed across Gen Ed to prevent students from backtracking when changing majors
- Hundreds of students leave the program (particularly after accounting courses)
- Multiple-use courses policy allows programs to develop Gen Ed courses that also satisfy major requirements
- Eller had not explored this option
- Concern about "slippery slope" if exceptions granted

Curriculum and Policy Subcommittee Vote: Unanimously denied the request

UGC Discussion:

- Questions about prerequisites for Gen Ed courses (foundations can have prerequisites, other categories generally cannot)
- Alternative of requesting 128-unit curriculum instead of 120 units
- Engineering recruitment not affected by language requirement
- No evidence students choose programs based on second language requirements

Motion: Jeremy moved to deny the request. Christopher seconded.

Vote: 14 in favor of denying the exception request. No opposition. No abstentions.

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Presentation: Office of the Chief AI Officer

Rudy Gonzales Salcido and Amanda Harrell presented on AI initiatives at the University.

Responsible AI Definition

Working on common language around responsible AI, incorporating ethical principles, transparency, legal standards, and societal values, with consideration for broader societal and environmental impacts.

Recent Accomplishments

- Established Arizona Institute for AI and Society (AI2S), reorganizing ICDI, Data Science Institute, and Cybers
- Launched AI Roadmapping for University of Arizona
- Launched AI Insights seminar series

- Launched AI Innovation Pilot Program (working with athletics, facing data access challenges)
- Launched Research Community of Excellence meetings (space/defense, critical minerals/mining)
- Finalizing AI and Health Initiative strategy

Current Tools Available

- Zoom AI Companion
- Microsoft Copilot
- Adobe Firefly and Creative Cloud
- Google Notebook LM
- Google Gemini Chat

Google AI Education Accelerator

Working to develop strategy for campus-wide rollout of Google AI Education Accelerator offerings.

AI Roadmapping Framework

Vision: Establish U of A as national leader in responsible AI

Mission: Develop resources, programming, guidance, and infrastructure to enhance AI innovation in education, research, and operations

Eight Teams Working on Roadmap:

- Various teams with co-leads campus-wide
- Currently in Phase 2 (planning and refinement)
- December 5 deadline for roadmap completion
- Spring 2026: Launch pilots
- Plan to iterate, improve, and expand successful initiatives

AI Insights Series (Amanda Harrell)

- Weekly virtual seminars, Tuesdays 12-1pm, started October 1
- Open to all experience levels

- 25-35 attendees per session (students, faculty, staff from across campus)
- Features 3 presenters per session (10-12 minutes each plus discussion)
- Looking for presenters—no need to be experts
- Recordings available on website
- Next session: December 2 (no session November 26)

Opportunities for Engagement

- Join AI Roadmapping teams (QR code provided)
- Present at AI Insights series
- Invite office to present to specific groups
- Upcoming information sessions (basic and advanced) on AI tools
- Share feedback via website: responsibleai.arizona.edu

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 PM, 15 minutes over scheduled time.