

Curriculum Committee, College of Arts and Sciences*

Membership

Voting Members

- Dean of the College, ex officio
- Ten members of the faculty (four elected from the division of the humanities, three from the division of social sciences, and three from the division of natural sciences/mathematics; each faculty member is elected for a three year, staggered term; faculty members cannot be reelected to consecutive terms.)
- Four students (one student representing each class, appointed by the Associate Dean in consultation with the Committee following nominations by the Committee and interview by the Associate Dean; student members can be reappointed.)

Non-Voting Members

- Associate Dean (to serve as permanent secretary)
- Library Representative
- Common Learning Agenda Coordinator
- Associate Registrar

The voting members of the Curriculum Committee elect the chair annually from the faculty membership.

Established Practices

Faculty who have served as members of the Committee for only one year may be nominated in the following year. Faculty members who are on leave for one semester are usually not replaced. Vacancies with more than one year remaining in the term are to be filled permanently at the next election; in the meantime, vacancies are filled by special election. Student members who will be abroad for a semester are not replaced.

Jurisdiction of the Curriculum Committee

The College of Arts and Sciences faculty has jurisdiction over all aspects of the curriculum of the College. This includes all matters related to course offerings, the establishment of degrees, of majors, of minors, and of the provisions and requirements of those degrees, majors, and/or minors. (Of course, many matters also require the approval of the Dean, the President, and/or the Board of Trustees.)

*Latest revision: 8/19/2004

The Curriculum Committee, as representatives of the College faculty and with the understanding that the College faculty retains ultimate authority, has jurisdiction over the above, except for individually proposed interdepartmental majors, the authority for which has been delegated to the Interdepartmental Major Committee. The Committee on International Education (CIE) is a subcommittee shared between the Curriculum Committee and the Committee on Instruction. The Curriculum Committee receives recommendations from the CIE in response to their monitoring of existing Bucknell University programs. In addition, the CIE transmits to the Curriculum Committee recommendations from proposal reviews for new Bucknell programs, exchanges, and institutional affiliations with other programs. The CIE also works in conjunction with the Curriculum Committee in the review, evaluation, and approval of off-campus study options.

The College faculty may also prescribe the scope and limits of the Curriculum Committee's role, by, for example, determining when the Curriculum Committee is to have recommending and when final authority. Aside from reacting and responding to requests to consider particular proposals (such as the initiation of a new major or program), the Committee, as representative of the faculty, has the responsibility to continually monitor the overall curriculum and to provide, and propose revisions in, a philosophically and practically coherent curricular framework.

The Curriculum Committee, as the primary elected committee of the College faculty, also has been asked to advise the Dean from time to time. Such has historically included the approval of fractional credits, naming of academic departments or programs, the appointment of the Common Learning Agenda Coordinator, and the organization of the Office of the Dean.

The College's (and the Committee's) jurisdiction over the curriculum is complete. The majors, minors, and degrees, although identified with particular departments or programs, are each subject to monitoring and approval by the College; no department, program, or division has "special" ownership and jurisdiction over any major, minor, or degree program.

Procedure for Curricular Changes

(Adopted by the Faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, October 30, 1972)

Curricular changes are essentially of two kinds: (1) those that are intradepartmental in nature and do not significantly affect programs, faculty, or students outside a given department; (2) those that are basically interdepartmental in nature and do significantly affect programs, faculty, or students outside a given department, or which involve the establishing of new programs within a given department. The following is recommended as a procedure for handling these changes:

1. A department chairperson proposes the changes (e.g., new courses, deletion of old courses, new programs, etc.) to the dean.
2. The dean and the department chairperson first decide the matter of jurisdiction.

- a. If they agree that the proposed change is basically intradepartmental in nature, the decision will be made jointly by the department chairperson and the dean.
 - b. If, on the other hand, they disagree regarding jurisdiction, the matter will be forwarded to the Curriculum Committee for resolution.
3. If the department chairperson and the dean agree that the proposed change is significantly interdepartmental in nature, the proposed change will be submitted to the Curriculum Committee, which will either reject the proposal or approve and transmit it to the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences for final action.

This procedure in no way infringes upon the privilege of any individual or group to take an issue to the faculty directly for a decision.