

Academic Leadership Council
Meeting Minutes
1:00 pm
Friday, December 5, 2025
TTC 1320

Present: Almeda C, Bernard D, Brady J, Coblenz D, Digby K, Hadzic O, Hughes-Winfrey S, Keena T, Loucks D, McCann V, Myers S, Ott J, Pearson S, Prister L, Pruis C, Ratliff J, Rivard K, Ross C, Walman S, Well L

Non-voting attendees: Abbott J, Adams M, Bergen N, Eagan P, Fontaine A, Marsh-Peek A, Naatjes K, Postula S, Snead A, Talsma B, Wagner J, Walters M, Washington E, Washington L.M.

1. Call to Order – 1:02 pm
2. Review/Revise Agenda
3. Approve Minutes – Minutes for Friday, November 7, 2025 – Approved.
 - Correction to 6.1- Certificate is being phased out, but students can still take Dietary Management exam.
4. Guests- Dr. L. Marshall Washington – Strategic Plan: year three update on main goals
 - Goal #1: Focus on forecasting and meeting the needs of current and future students while preparing for future learners to holistically support their education goals
 - Goal #2: Embed diversity, equity and inclusivity in all processes across the college
 - Goal #3: Leverage broad expertise and international partnerships to best serve the college community
- 4.1. Year Four focus 2025-2026
 - Focus on Master plans for strategic quality improvement that is aligned with the colleges mission statement and overall strategic plan
5. Officer Reports
 - 5.1. Chair - Jenny Ott
 - In the process of choosing different spaces for meeting to ensure everyone can hear and participate. Guests are welcome.
 - In the process of recalibrating secretary role. Meeting notes will no longer be emailed, minutes will serve as official record for meetings. An official email will be sent to address additional action items.
 - Guided self-placement (Section 9)
 - 5.2. Vice Chair - Philipp Jonas – No Report
 - 5.3. Secretary – Susan Pearson- No Report
 - 5.4. Master of Committees – Kevin Dockerty – No Report
 - 5.5. Faculty Liaison – Jim Ratliff – No Report
6. Academic Services – Paige Eagan
 - 6.1. Course and Curriculum – Joe Brady- Committee Information
 - Four items were presented for approval to include:
 - Level 1: New pilot course HORT 237P, HORT Field Observation Internship, Instructor permission is required for the course. New pilot active Winter 2026.
 - Level 2: EDU 111 changed to EDU 211, Teaching Lab II: PreK-Grade 3
EDU 112 changed to EDU 212, Teaching Lab III: Grades 3-6
EDU 230 has updated CLO and course description to align with industry standards
 - 6.1.2 Motion to approve changes to HORT and EDU courses; Moved; Seconded – Motion approved.

- 6.1.3. Level 3: Cheryl Almeda provided additional insight on Level 3 changes
 - 14 New additional ECE courses have been added to program
 - Students can earn a AAS degree through Ferris State
 - New ECE courses will be offered in 7-week format, students will take 2 courses at a time using cohort model. Program will be housed at AWH.
 - All courses are transferable to Ferris State to complete a BA. Courses are 100% online.
 - Ferris State will complete all student observations locally
- 6.1.4 Motion to approve 14 new courses for AAS degree; Moved; Seconded – Motion approved.
- 6.1.5. Motion to approve Early Childhood AAS degree; Moved; Seconded – Motion approved.
- 6.1.6 Level 3: Course Inactivation for: ART 273, CUL 200, CUL 260, CUL 265, and LEN 110
 - ART 290, CUL 112, CUL 275, and LEN 112 will satisfy requirements for above courses
- 6.1.7 Motion to approve inactivation of above course with replacements; Moved; Seconded – Motion approved.
- 6.1.8 Level 3: Program Inactivation: DM.COA: Dietary Manager COA
- 6.1.9 Motion to approve program inactivation; Moved; Seconded – Motion approved.

- 6.2 Faculty Instruction Manual
- 6.3 Grant updates
- 6.4 Accreditation update – Angela Marsh-Peek
 - First drafts are coming in and individuals may be contacted for additional feedback. In January, assurance team to facilitate mock interviews and may reach out for feedback.
 - Dr. Sweeney will assist with preparation for March HLC visit. Contact Angela with questions.

- 6.5 Other
 - Paige Eagan: Chair training available on Banner
- 6.6 Nkenge Bergan
 - Attended Moving Michigan Males Forward seminar in Lansing, MI. MI currently looking at Gov. Whitmer’s 60 by 2030 initiative on how to assist males with pursuing higher education and work force development. Meetings and conversation will continue at state level.
 - KV Circle Center: soft launch in November, is a market students can attend weekly for food, toiletries, and baby care items with a two-bag limit. Students must be active and are required to complete an application to participate. Possible expansion of additional items and clothing in the future.
- 6.7 Paige Eagan
 - The Kalamazoo Promise has partnered with KVCC and Wayne State University in a new initiative to offer wraparound services to students. The partnership will include field trips between KVCC and WSU to provide transfer information. The Promise will provide transportation, WSU will provide housing while encouraging student to return to Kalamazoo to help build the community.
 - New positions filled- Avery Stressman, Youth Pipeline/Dual Enrollment Coordinator; Sarah Hubbell, Associate Dean for Student Records Registration & Youth Pipelines. Interviews are taking place for Director of Early Middle College program. Kelly Naatjes, Curriculum Operations Manager, and Sonya Hollins, Alumni Relations Manager.
 - Art Hop in Kalamazoo on 12/5/25

- 7 Faculty Support – Gail Fredericks – No Report

- 8 Unfinished Business
 - 8.1 Evaluation Kit, moving to new questions is on hold at this time
 - 8.2 FERPA FAQ sheet forthcoming, Sarah Hubbell

9 New Business

- 9.1 Members shared early faculty observations related to Guided Self-Placement, which was implemented in Summer 2025. Across multiple disciplines, instructors are seeing some students enroll in courses without the skill foundation needed for success, which can impact student outcomes and classroom experience. Importantly, the discussion also noted that this may not be a GSP-only issue, but one connected to the limited use of developmental options due to cost, time and financial aid considerations. No decisions were made at this meeting; the focus was on sharing observations and identifying questions to explore further as Fall data becomes available.

10 Outstanding Issues and Updates

10.1 Enrollment Reporting

11 Upcoming meeting dates for 2025/2026— 1PM—4370/80 TTC

11.1 January 9

11.2 February 6

11.3 March 6- to be changed, as this is spring break

11.4 April 3

12 Other

12.1 Reminders-

- CLO/ILO data submission is required for all courses part-time and full-time faculty are teaching starting in Fall 2026. Data can be submitted anytime.

12.2 Announcements-

13. Adjournment – 2:43 pm.