

CAS Faculty Assembly
Meeting Agenda
January 16, 2026
2:00 p.m.
Kinard Auditorium 018

- I. Welcome – *Casey Cothran*
- II. Approval of Minutes from October 24, 2025, meeting ([Appendix A](#))
- III. General Education Assessment in Blackboard – *KB Gwebu*
- IV. Downloading Annual Reports from Interfolio – *Margaret Gillikin*
- V. CAS Committees
 - a. CAS Curriculum Committee – *Tom Polaski*
 - i. Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2025 meeting ([Appendix B](#))
 - ii. Approval of Minutes from January 6, 2026 meeting ([Appendix C](#))
- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Remarks from the Dean – *Takita Sumter*
- IX. Announcements
- X. Adjournment

Note: Quorum (35% of full-time faculty) is 47 faculty members for Faculty Assembly.
The minimum attendance to do business (20% of full-time faculty) is 26 faculty members.

CAS Faculty Assembly Meeting

October 24, 2025

2:00 p.m.

Kinard Auditorium 018

Minutes

- I. Welcome – *Casey Cothran*
 - a. Called to Order at 2:01 with quorum, 22 online and 47 in person
 - b. Secretary: Heather Listhartke and Parliamentarian: Tom Polaski
- II. Approval of Minutes from September 12, 2025, meeting ([Appendix A](#))
 - a. Approved
- III. WinthropLIFE – *Program Director, Ryan Morrison*
 - a. Is an inclusive post-secondary program dedicated to support students with intellectual disabilities to become independent contributors to the community.
 - b. Promoting lifelong learning and personal enrichment.
 - c. Life students audit the courses they take. You can grade- on effort and attendance, but it won't matter.
 - d. If there are behavior problems, let Ryan Morrison know. morrisonr@winthrop.edu
 - e. There is a GA and student mentors—all paid,
 - f. Greenhouses and Gardens called LIFE farms. Students get paid for working and contributing to the community. They sold flowers—may still have some left, and going forward expanding.
- IV. CAS Committees
 - a. CAS Curriculum Committee – *Tom Polaski*
 - i. Approval of Minutes from October 9, 2025, meeting ([Appendix B](#))
 - ii. New Programs- approved
 - 1. B.S. Health Sciences
 - iii. Program Edits- all approved
 - 1. Bachelor of Arts in IDVS
 - 2. Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and Advertising
 - 3. Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition (Dietetics)
 - 4. Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition (Health Promotion)- program elimination
 - iv. Changes to Minor- approved
 - 1. Minor in Digital Media and Communication- rename from MCOM minor
 - 2. Minor in Human Nutrition- numbers changes

- v. New Courses- all approved
 - 1. Biol 423: Developmental Biology
 - 2. HSCI 101, 223, 227, 300, 380, 406, 428, 490, 494
 - 3. IDVS 300:
- vi. Course Modifications- all approved
 - 1. Biol 322
 - 2. Nutr 380
 - 3. Nutr 428
- vii. Blanket Petition
 - 1. Count WRIT 200 in both Writing minors
- viii. Next meeting December 9th, materials submitted by the week previously
 - b. Faculty Advisory Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics – *Devon Fitzgerald, Kori Bloomquist, and Christian Gratten*
- i. There's a new harassment policy that is to protect students against harassment based on gambling bets.
- ii. Faculty supporting students—attend events for students in class, if there's a connection to get your classes involved, Very impactful professor (VIP) award for professors,
 - 1. Nov 3- 8 AM mens BB game on ESPN--Monday
 - 2. Jan 14- Academic Success Night
- V. Program Director policy revision- Greg Oakes
 - a. To create consistency, clarity about the Academic Program Director positions as it relates to the college
 - b. ALC revised the policy in Spring/Summer 2025
 - c. Colleges draft their own policy, consult with chairs, finalize policy, and notify faculty assembly to share results
 - d. Institutional policy is in the policy repository
 - i. Appt procedure, core roles and responsibilities
 - ii. Sets standard of 3 hrs reassigned time/year
 - iii. Acknowledges variety of roles based on disciplinary or pedagogical specifics and potential impact on appropriate compensation
 - iv. Called on colleges to establish college-level specifics of roles, responsibilities
 - e. Cas policy is in the faculty handbook and the chairs handbook
 - i. Identifies roles and responsibilities for CAS director appts

- ii. Identifies factors that influence the substance of the position and the appropriate compensation
- iii. if position changes significantly, compensation to be reviewed and adjusted appropriately.
- VI. Old Business -none
- VII. New Business-none
- VIII. Remarks from the Dean – Takita Sumter
 - a. There is a new staff emeritus policies are in the works, and likely those first ones will happen in the spring.
 - b. Memorial for Guy Reel on Nov 15 11-1
 - c. New Encore Distinguished Lecture series on Nov 13 @ 7:30 with Brett Woodfill and a Mass Comm alum
 - d. Travel Deadline- Nov 15th is next date
 - e. Budget update- Winthrop is in good budget shape with budget and the 2.85 million surplus-half will go to the reserve, and the other will split between the president's contingency, and the rest will be refunneled back to funding previous cuts
 - f. Cas Holiday Party- December 9th
 - g. Thompson Scholar Award- Jan 17th
 - h. Spring Graduation is May 9th for BOTH graduate and undergraduate (due to lower numbers of graduates right now)
 - i. Enrollment-We're almost back up to older levels on enrollment numbers for the college.
 - j. Kudos
 - i. Publication by Hubbard, Katherine about COVID 19 Booster information seeking
 - ii. Sara English selected for Fred Rodgers Fellowship, held 6 propfessional presentations
 - iii. Julie Orme, Educator of the year, and publication
 - iv. Monique Constance Huggins publication
 - v. Anthony Hill- elected to board of directors for National Association of SW
 - vi. Ashley Garrick- completed MBA and elected president elect to NASW-SC board of directors
 - vii. Mariah Yousefian, JaShanti Davis, and Jerry Wickerson elected as representatives to the Board of Directors
 - viii. Shira Culbreath Grad director
 - ix. Aubrey Sejuit- 2 publications and work with Veterans, and award for "Women of Influence" from Columbia Regional Business
 - x. Jennifer Dixon McKnight's book is out- We Paved the Way

- xi. Margaret Gillikin and Williams co published book chapter
- xii. Margaret Gillikin published 3 papers
- xiii. AJ Campbell gained her doctorate
- xiv. Casey Cothran presentation
- xv. Amanda Hiner published
- xvi. Dr. Sikels completed advanced DEI certification
- xvii. Ida Oesteraas published
- xviii. Tony Hobert 6 student submitted abstracts and were accepted for conference presentation
- xix. Adolphus Belk coauthored book was included in classics collection
- xx. Elizabeth Weikel finishing Cahir as term—this is the second term she served
- xxi. Stephanie Nielsen 50% students sat for, passed and have full time positions
- xxii. Jessie Hoffan president elect of state chapter for nutrition and dietetics
- xxiii. Hope Lima- publications 2 chapters, a book, and spoke at 5 conferences including an international conference
- xxiv. Kathryn Cole published in Genes
- xxv. Frost and Westover published genome sequences
- xxvi. Chenjowski published and award for new equipment with Timea Fernandez
- xxvii. Brasington published
- xxviii. Wozniak made advising site for health professionals and helped create new partnerships for internships
- xxix. Jennifer Schafer took students to a presentation
- xxx. Sal Blair put a new publication on fish species

IX. Announcements

- a. Next faculty assembly meeting January 16, 2pm Kinard 018, items by January 9, presentation by the 14th
- b. Future meeting March 6th
- c. Medieval Studies Wednesday “Things that go Bump in the Night” approved cultural event 7:30 in Kinard 018
- d. Faculty Learning Talk about AI solutions in First Thursday of month Common Time in Digs 220
- e. Colloquium Nov 10th
- f. South Carolina Nov 18th 5pm in Owens G01 Teachers and Immigration
- g. Winthrop Magazine is out-neat stories and things about CAS happenings
- h. SCWK race happening tomorrow- in today’s daily digest

X. Adjournment

- a. Motioned, second, adjourned at 3:31pm

Note: Quorum (35% of full-time faculty) is 47 faculty members for Faculty Assembly.

The minimum attendance to do business (20% of full-time faculty) is 26 faculty members.

CAS Curriculum Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2025

11:00 AM

Kinard 105

1. Attending: Tom Polaski, Gwen Daley, Veronica Ahadzie, Heather Listhartke, Jeffrey Sinn, Jessie Hoffman, and Tony Hobert; student reps McKenna Bruce & Dylan Thomas, Greg Oakes (ex officio)
2. Minutes from October 9, 2025 meeting approved
3. Items requiring a vote:

Program Edits

Name	Vote
BA in Social Studies Education	Approved with edits: add elective 0-3 hours, change elevate % to superscript.
BA in Individualized Studies	Approved
TOTAL PROGRAM EDITS	2

New Courses

Name	Vote
ENVS364 Energy Resources	Approved
ENVS342 Environmental Justice	Approved
BIOL448H Biology Thesis Research 1	Approved
BIOL354H Investigations Organismal Bio	Approved (edit: drop CHEM 105 from descript as pre-req.)
BIOL353H Investigations Cell Molec Bio	Approved
BIOL352H Investigations Eco Evo	Approved
ENVS170 Drone Fundamentals	Approved
ENVS306 Air Quality	Approved
ENVS301 Environment Field Exploration	Approved

Course Edits

Name	Vote
SCST590 Princ of Teach Soc Studies I	Approved (edit: add pre-reqs to free form; and drop "c" from "Princ" so as to match SCST591)
SCST591 Prin of Teach Soc Studies II	Approved
GEOL340 Hydrogeology	Approved (edit: add pre-reqs to free form)
BIOL450H Biology Thesis Research 2	Approved
NUTR500 Research in Dietetics	Approved (edit: add pre-reqs to free form)
NUTR400 Undergraduate Dietetic Research	Approved (edit: add pre-reqs to free form)
GEOG306 Geo of Latin Amer & Caribbean	Approved (edit: add pre-reqs to free form)
TOTAL COURSE EDITS	7

4. Blanket Petitions – **All Approved**

- . CRJU 327 and CRJU 322 (Criminal Justice Minor)
- . CRJU 327 and CRJU 322 (Sociology: Criminology Concentration)
- . Environmental Sciences & Studies
- . BS BMRS Concentration
- . Professional Writing Minor

5. Student Petitions – **Both Approved**

- . Petition 1
- . Petition 2

6. Next Meeting:

- . Tentative meeting scheduled for Dec 16th at 10:30 via zoom to approve student petitions as needed.
- . Next meeting schedule for January 6, 2026 @ 11:00am in Kinard 105

CAS Curriculum Committee Meeting

Minutes for January 6, 2026; Kinard 105 and zoom

Attending: Gwen Daley, Anthony Hobert, Jessie Hoffman, Heather Listhartke, Greg Oakes (ex-officio), Tom Polaski (chair), Jeff Sinn (secretary)

Minutes for 12/9/2025 were approved

Program Edits

BS in Biology-BioMed Research

- Approved with Edits
 - The hours for “(If BIOL421 is chosen from above, choose one additional course from Area C.)” **should be 0-4, not 3-4.**
 - The hours for “Area D” **should be 0-10, not 0-9.**
 - The hours for “Requirements in Major” **should be 75-81, not 75-82.**

BS in Biology – Conservation

- Approved with Edits
 - For the line “ Select courses from among the following to total 3 hours in Conservation Experiential Learning”, **add space a between “552” and “(. ”**
 - The hours “Area D” **should be 5-12, not 5-15.**

BS in Biology (general)

- Approved with Edits
 - The hours for “Select one course from Areas A, B, and C. Choose an additional course from A, B, or C” **should be 12-16, not 14-16.**
 - The hours for “Area D” **should be 10-17, not 10-15.**

BS in Environmental Sciences

- Approved

BA in Environmental Studies

- Approved with Edits
 - In the Gen Ed block, the hours for Quantitative Skills and Natural Science **should be 10-12, not 9-12.**
 - The line for Quantitative Skills should read “See approved list; **may be partially met** in major with MATH241 or BSAN205.” Also, the hours **should be 3-8, not 0-3.**
 - The hours for Natural Science **should be 0-4, not 0-3.**
 - The Gen Ed subtotal for hours **should be 27-41, not 29-47.**
 - The Elective hours **should be 5-34, not 2-35.**

New Courses

BIOL372 Undergraduate Research Biology

- Approved

Course Edits

NUTR500H Research in Dietetics

- Approved with edits. **Add spaces** after period in Course Description. **Clean up the Assessment Rationale** for SACS purposes.

GEOG308 Intro to Geospatial Tech

- Approved

GEOG305 Intro to Geographic Info Syst

- Approved

PSYC 322 Applied Psychological Research

- Approved with edits. Fix discrepancies in pre-reqs
 - **Free-Form requirements:** (*this seems correct*)
 - ♣ Prerequisite: PSYC 301 with a grade of C- or better
 - ♣ Corequisite or Prerequisite: PSYC 302
 - **Justifications:** (*this seems inconsistent or at least confusing*)
 - ♣ “The revisions to PSYC 301 and 302 make having PSYC 302 a pre/co-requisite unnecessary.” -- *Language is confusing as the course in question is PYSC 322 for which there are pre/co-requisites.*
 - **Catalog description:** (*should specify PSYC 302 pre/co-requisite.*)
 - ♣ “Prerequisite: PSYC 301 with a grade of C- or better”

No Blanket Petitions

No Student Petitions

Next Mtg: 2/24/26 & 11:00 am in Kinard 105