

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

PROVOST REPORT

LEAD CORE CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the LEAD Core Curriculum is moving forward. A steering committee, *LEAD Implementation Team (LIT)*, is overseeing the implementation.

CORE INQUIRY PROGRAM

In the fall, the College offered five Inquiries-- Climate, Justice, the Idea of the West, the Meaning of Music, and Public & Environmental Health. This spring, faculty are developing three additional Inquiries (titles tentative): Gender & Power, Visual Media & Communication, and Latinx American Studies. Based on past experience, we anticipate a total of 175 students will participate in an Inquiry with the anticipated distribution shown below.

Integrated Inquiry	Students	Integrated Inquiry	Students
The Meaning of Music	10	The Idea of the West	15
Public & Environmental Health	40	Latinx American Studies	20
Justice	30	Gender & Power	25
Climate	20	Visual Media & Communication	25

Just as an example, Figure 1 illustrates a sample pathway through the Environmental & Public Health Integrated Inquiry.

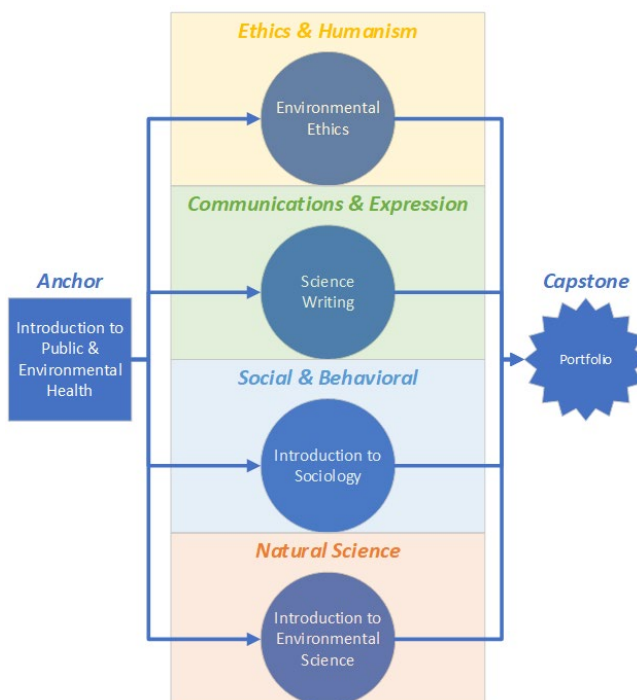


Figure 1: Sample Integrated Inquiry (Public & Environmental Health)

Students begin with a required introductory course, take four electives from within four broad perspectives on the theme (Communication & Expression, Ethics & Humanism, Natural Science, and Social & Behavioral) and integrate the entire experience in a portfolio. Based on the experience with hybrid instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic, faculty are working on an online module for the Portfolio that will serve as a concrete artifact expressing the integration of learning across the Inquiry.

CORE-P PROFESSIONALISM SEMINAR SERIES

All first-time, first year students enrolled in Career & Network Navigation I (CORE-P 101) in the fall 2020 semester. CORE-P 101 focuses on building relationships and networking with reflection on the student's own strengths, interests, values and how they relate to the workplace. The pandemic required slight changes to the curriculum in the fall, most notably, students utilized the JobIQ platform for two assignments, where it has previously been used once. JobIQ facilitated students' ability to connect with both upperclassmen (new assignment) and alumni/friends of the college. Nearly half of survey respondents who used JobIQ during the fall semester said this experience had a "moderate to major" effect on their feelings of connectedness to the campus community. Eleven students (2.8%) failed the course and 2 students took incompletes. Each of these students disclosed specific stressors related to the pandemic. To that end, this is likely not an indicator of future student performance in the class. Moving into Spring 2021, Career & Network Navigation II (CORE-P 102) is moving forward for first year students with minimal adjustments from the pandemic. CORE-P 102 focuses on effectively communicating in a professional setting including through resumes and mock interviews.

Finally, and perhaps most notably, the pandemic had a significant impact in piloting externship placement sites for The Honors College Externship (COPE-P 201). As a result, we have turned our focus to internal opportunities, working with campus partners to build externship placements at the Boyden Gallery and The Kate Chandler Campus Farm among other sites. We are actively working with all of our existing and target externship placement sites to develop placements which students will be invited to apply for at the conclusion of the externship course in order to fulfill the honors college promise.

PROGRAM-TO-PROGRAM ARTICULATION AGREEMENTS

The College continues to work with Maryland community colleges to establish program-to-program articulation agreements. While progress has been slower than planned, several agreements have been finalized and several more are in the final stages of editing. This work will continue throughout the 2019-2020 academic year.

As of this writing, the following table provides the status of the various articulation agreements.

ST MARY'S

COLLEGE of MARYLAND

The National Public Honors College

SMCM Department/Program	College of Southern Maryland	Anne Arundel Community College	Howard Community College	Montgomery College	Community College of Baltimore County	Baltimore Community College	Prince George's Community College	Carroll Community College	Frederick Community College	Hagerstown Community College	Harford Community College	WorWic Community College
Anthropology		In-Prep	In-Prep				In-Prep					
Art	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Art History		Sent										
Biology	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Biochemistry	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent		Signed					
Chemistry	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent		Signed					
Economics												
Educational Studies	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent		Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Signed
English	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Environment Studies	In-Prep	In-Prep	In-Prep	In-Prep		In-Prep						
History	In-Prep		In-Prep	In-Prep								
Interlanguages and Cultures												
Computer Science	Signed	In-Prep		In-Prep	In-Prep		In-Prep					
Music	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Philosophy And Religious Studies	In-Prep	In-Prep	In-Prep	In-Prep	In-Prep							
Physics - Applied	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent			Signed					
Physics - Foundational	Signed	Sent	Sent	Sent			Signed					
Political Science	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Psychology	Sent	Sent		Sent	Sent		Sent					
Sociology	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent	Sent							
Theater, Film, and Media Studies	Signed											

While the pandemic has disrupted the completion of program-specific articulation agreements with our community college partners, some movement is starting to happen. We have signed an articulation agreement between the Environmental Studies program at the College and the Associate of Science in Environmental Studies program at the College of Southern Maryland (CSM). We have also been approached by CSM students interested in an articulation agreement for the College's new Neuroscience program once it is approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission. Activity on articulation agreements is increasing and we look forward to more articulation agreements coming to fruition as institutions become more accustomed to life during the pandemic, particularly for our new academic programs.

UPDATE ON NEW PROGRAMMING

As the Board is aware, Task Force 2 (TF2) recommended the addition of six new programs to the College; four of the programs are academic majors (Applied Data Science, Business Administration, Marine Science, and Neuroscience) and two are co-curricular programs (Track and Pep Band). Figure 2 provides the current status of the academic majors.

1	Faculty Development Phase	Program	Developed by Faculty	Recommended by CRC	Submitted to Faculty Senate	Recommended by Faculty
		Applied Data Science	X	Under revision	Spring 2021	Spring 2021
		Business Administration	X	Under revision	Spring 2021	Spring 2021
		Marine Science	X	X	X	X
		Neuroscience	X	X	X	X
2	Administrative Review Phase	Program	Recommended by Provost	Recommended by President	Presented to Board	Approved by Board
		Applied Data Science	Spring 2021	Spring 2021	May. 2021	May. 2021?
		Business Administration	Spring 2021	Spring 2021	May. 2021	May. 2021?
		Marine Science	X	X	Feb. 2021	Feb. 2021?
		Neuroscience	X	X	X	X
3	Maryland Approval Phase	Program	MHEC Proposal Developed	Submitted to MHEC	Approved by MHEC	Anticipated Start
		Applied Data Science	Summer 2021	Summer 2021	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
		Business Administration	Summer 2021	Summer 2021	Fall 2021	Fall 2022
		Marine Science	In process	Spring 2021	Spring 2021	Fall 2021
		Neuroscience	X	X	Jan. 2021	Fall 2021

Added to Course Catalog as Pending Approval

Figure 2: New Academic Program Status

The yellow highlighted cells indicate the accomplishments since the October Board meeting. As you can see, the Neuroscience proposal has been submitted to the Maryland Higher Education Commission. The Marine Science is before the Academic Affairs Committee today. The Applied Data Science and Business Administration programs are still under revision within the Curriculum Review Committee largely based on suggestions over breadth within the programs. We anticipate both proposals will receive endorsement by the faculty by the end of the Spring 2021 semester.

Progress on the Pep Band was interrupted by COVID-19 and work will not likely continue until the summer of 2021. Progress on adding Track as a sport has been substantial. To date, we have recruited and hired our first Director of Cross-Country and Track and Field, Reava Potter, who comes to us from Emmanuel College in Boston. Director Potter brings several years of coaching experience at the Division I, II and III levels, and is well versed in all phases of track and field knowledge. The track program has already seen a few athletes transfer into the institution, and more than a handful commits to the program for 2021-22. The team plans to attend a few meets in Spring 2021, in anticipation for the inaugural season in 21-22. Currently, Director of Athletics & Recreation, Crystal Gibson, is finalizing a request to the Atlantic East Conference (AEC) to join as an affiliate member of the conference for track and field next season.

PILOT WINTERIM TERM

This year, the College offered its inaugural winter session between Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. The new term, called *Winterim*, was offered entirely remotely to provide the widest access possible for our students. In total, 282 students registered for Winterim classes. Of these students, 36 registered for independent studies or other one-on-one instructional experiences and 246 registered in a regular credit-bearing course (87% of registrations). Winterim generated \$207,600 in tuition revenue against \$127,397

in expenses for a net positive budget impact of \$80,203. Ninety-six percent (96%) of the registered students successfully completed their coursework earning a grand total of 970 credit hours.

The following analysis is limited to the 246 students taking regular credit-bearing courses as these courses mirror in-semester experiences most accurately. *Table 1* presents four equity comparisons between the students enrolled in Winterim and the overall Fall 2020 student body.

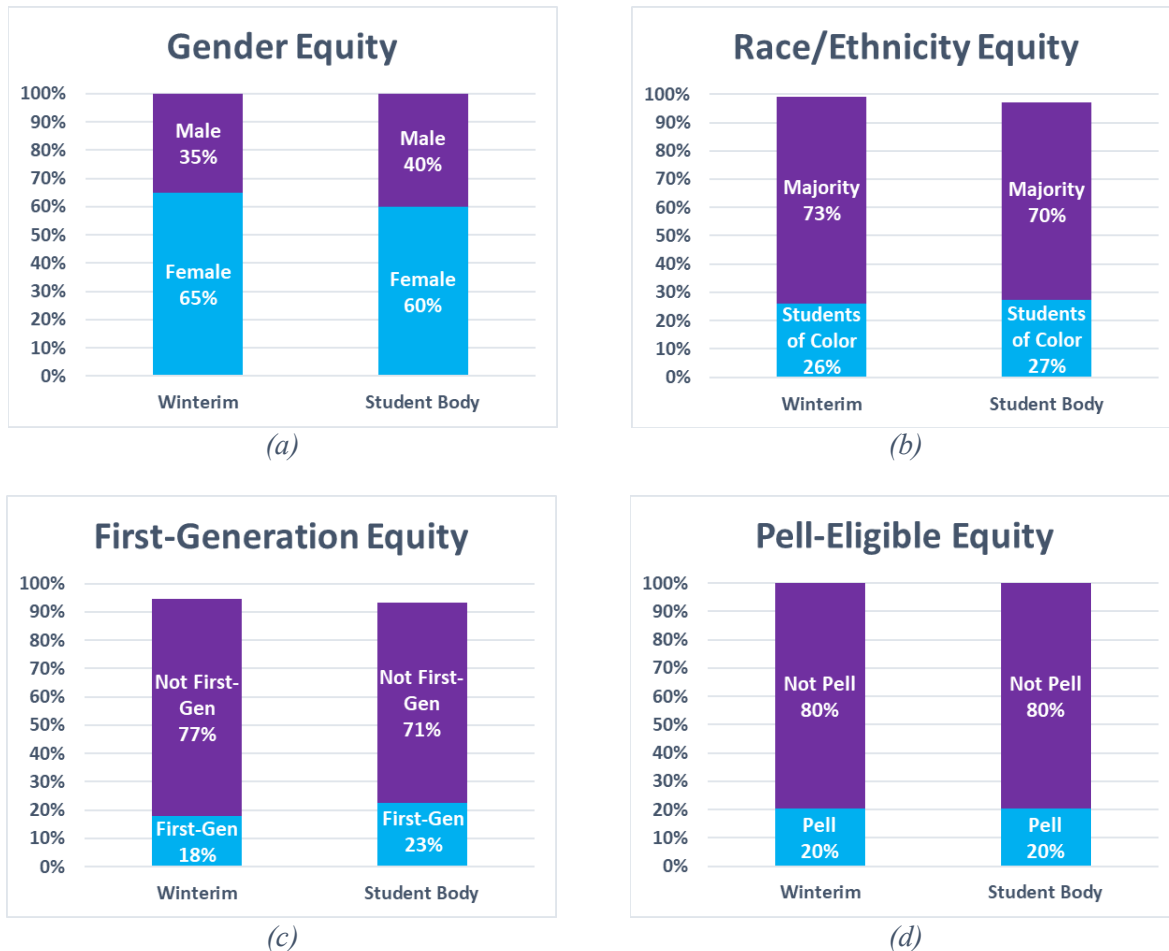


Table 1: Equity Considerations

Overall, historically underserved students were well represented in the Winterim enrollment with the exception of first-generation students. *Table 1(c)* shows that while first-generation students account for 23% of the College's overall enrollment, they only accounted for 18% of Winterim enrollment. This may point to the need for better education on the positive financial impact of earning Winterim credits.

Figure 3 presents a breakdown of the progression status of Winterim students and the impact of the Winterim session. Figure 3 only includes students who matriculated at the College as first-time full-time students; transfer student progression is harder to define given they matriculate at the College with varying class standings.

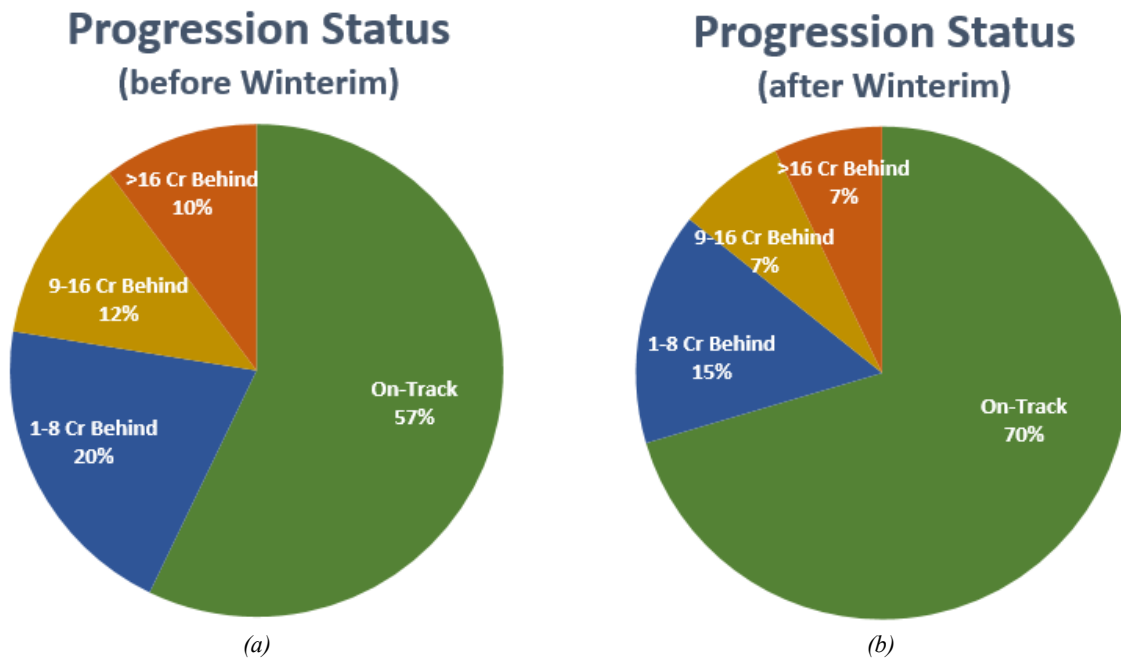


Figure 3: Progression Status of Winterim and the Impact of Winterim

Figure 3(a) illustrates that 43% of the students who enrolled in Winterim were behind, by various credits, on-time graduation at the beginning of the session. After Winterim, as shown in Figure 3(b), only 29% of the students enrolled were still behind on-time graduation. Winterim clearly helped students with improved progression toward on-time graduation. Winterim is planned again for next academic year.



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**OPEN SESSION
REPORT SUMMARY**

Date of Meeting: February 5, 2021

Date of Next Meeting: TBD

Committee Chair: Peter Bruns

Committee Members: Board Chair Lex Birney, Paula Collins, President Tuajuanda Jordan, Larry Leak '76, William Seale

Staff Member: Michael Wick

Faculty Members: Elizabeth Nutt Williams, Lindsay Jamieson

Dashboard Metrics: N/A

Executive Summary:

Discussion Items

Faculty Senate Report

Dean of Faculty Report

Information Items

Minutes of October 16, 2020

Action Item(s) related to specific strategic plan goals as appropriate:

III.A. Recommendation to Approve a Major in Marine Science



**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2021**

**OPEN SESSION
AGENDA**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
 - A.** Faculty Senate Report
 - B.** Dean of Faculty Report
- III. ACTION ITEM**
 - A.** Recommendation to Approve a Major in Marine Science
- IV. INFORMATION ITEM**
 - A.** Meeting Minutes of October 16, 2020

The committee expects to close a portion of this meeting.

**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
ACTION ITEM 2021-20**

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE A MAJOR IN MARINE SCIENCE

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Academic Affairs Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the curriculum proposal for a Major in Marine Science.

RATIONALE:

Task Force 2 (TF2) recommended the development of a Marine Science major at the College following its proposal by faculty members in response to the "Community Challenge." Currently, there are no in-state marine science programs, which means that Maryland students can use the Academic Common Market to pursue marine science out of state at in-state tuition rates. Given its unique waterfront location, the College is well-suited to provide an in-state option for such students. This major will raise the profile of the College, and better meet the needs of Maryland students, nearly 1000 of whom have gone out of state to study marine science since 2008.



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**OPEN SESSION
MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: October 16, 2020

Status of Minutes: Approved October 29, 2020

Academic Affairs Committee Members Present: Committee Chair Peter Bruns, Board Chair Lex Birney, Paula Collins, President Tuajuanda Jordan, William Seale

Committee Members Absent: Larry Leak '76

Staff Member: Michael Wick

Others Present: Nicolas Abrams '99, Betsy Barreto, Anirban Basu, John Bell '95, Alice Bonner '03, Fatima Bouzid, Allison Boyle, Donny Bryan '73, Kelsey Bush, Carolyn Curry, Mike Dougherty, Peg Duchesne '77, Susan Dyer, Judith Fillius '79, Gail Harmon, Esq., David Hautanen, Sven Holmes, Glen Ives, Lindsay Jamieson, Doug Mayer '04, Shana Meyer, Joan Pickett, Dan Pindell, Paul Pusecker, Jenny Sivak, Danielle Troyan '92, Harry Weitzel, Ray Wernecke, Michael Wick, Libby Williams, Anna Yates, Derek Young

Executive Summary

Academic Affairs Committee Chair Peter Bruns called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

Faculty Senate Report

Faculty Senate President Libby Williams provided a brief update to her written report. The motion to move the Marine Science major proposal to the Faculty was approved by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty will vote on the proposal at the November 17th meeting. The Curriculum Review Committee had questions on the Data Science Major and expects a response this month. Dr. Williams noted that in addition to anxiety related to the COVID-19 pandemic, faculty have concerns about the budget, the pending results of Task Force 3, and racial injustice. Faculty and students are tired and experiencing angst during these stressful times. Board Chair Lex Birney was empathetic and commended Dr. Williams and the faculty for their dedication and resilience.

Dean of Faculty Report

Provost Wick provided a summary on the status of the four new academic programs, Applied Data Science, Business Administration, Marine Science, and Neuroscience and the two co-curricular programs, Track and Pep Band. Anticipated program start dates are Fall 2021 for Neuroscience and Marine Science; Fall 2022 for Applied Data Science and Business Administration. Pep Band is on hold due to Covid-19. Track and Field is moving along. Crystal Gibson has returned to the

College as Director of Athletics and Recreation; Reava Potter accepted the Director of Cross Country and Field and Track position. The College is exploring possible affiliate membership with the Atlantic East Conference (AEC), the Colonial States Athletic Conference (CSAC), and the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC). These are conferences which offer track.

Provost Wick outlined the targeted over/under percentages on the Performance Accountability Report and Student Learning Report. The College is working on improving the percentages, especially in faculty and staff of color. Faculty are on board with a fully remote *Winterim* term between Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. The new term begins on December 14, 2020 and ends on January 12, 2021. Currently 34 classes are being offered across 17 disciplines. The academic calendar for the Spring 2021 semester has been revised. Classes will begin as scheduled on January 19th and end one week early on May 4th. Spring break week has been eliminated and replaced with 3 “mental health days” (March 5th, April 2nd, and April 5th). Commencement is now scheduled for May 8th. The Committee inquired about the impact Covid-19 has had on our study abroad programs. Faculty led programs were cancelled but the hope is to resume programs in the future. The pandemic has also affected faculty and research, particularly tenure-track faculty standing for evaluation and promotion. The Provost’s office has implemented redress policies to support faculty who began their probationary period between Fall 2015 and Spring 2021.

Action Item:

- III.A. Recommendation to Approve a Major in Neuroscience
- III.B. Endorsement of 2020 Performance Accountability Report

Committee Action Taken/Action in Progress:

The proposed action items were approved by the Academic Affairs Committee at its meeting on October 16, 2020.

Recommendation to the Board:

The Academic Affairs Committee recommended approval of these action items by the Board of Trustees at its meeting on October 16, 2020.

The open session meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.