

Education Committee Annual Report 2016-2017

The committee met nine times this year, including its annual joint meeting with the Information Technology and Libraries committees.

New programs

Much of the work of the committee involves reviews of new program proposals. Once a proposal has passed its reviews by the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Programs and by the Council of Deans, it is forwarded to the Education Committee, where it is assigned to a subcommittee. In the absence of unanswered questions or controversial issues, the subcommittee usually completes its work in time for the next monthly committee meeting, where the proposal is discussed and, if approved, forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee and Senate plenary for final approval.

If the subcommittee requires more time to resolve questions, it submits its questions to the contact person for the program proposal or meets with other contacts to resolve remaining issues. In such instances a subcommittee review may take two or three months.

The following programs were reviewed and approved in the past year (Senate approval dates in parentheses):

- M.S. in Human Capital Management – SPS (9/21/16)
- M.S. in Accounting and Fundamental Analysis – Business School (Originally approved but never launched; re-reviewed and approved 10/21/16)
- M.S. in Sustainability Science – SPS (11/18/16)
- Dual M.D./M.S. in Biomedical Engineering – P&S-SEAS (11/18/16)
- M.S. in Wealth Management – SPS (pending 4/28/2017)
- Executive LL.M. in Global Business Law – Law School (pending 4/28/2017)
- M.S. in Business Analytics – SEAS in collaboration with Business School (pending 4/28/2017)

New programs not requiring full Senate approval:

- Joint program of Jewish Theological Seminary and MSPH (existing credentials no credit exchange) approved by Education Committee 11/4/16
- CPA (online) in Narrative Medicine – SPS- approved by Education Committee 4/7/2017

Five-year reviews

The five-year reviews are conducted by a standing subcommittee of the Education Committee. During the summer and fall of 2016 the subcommittee consisted of James Applegate, Philip Genty, and student senator Sarah Katz. Senator Charles Basch joined the subcommittee in November 2016. The following programs were successful and running as planned, with virtually 100-percent graduation rates.

- M.A. in History and Literature (GSAS)
- Dual Master's degrees (M.I.A./M.P.A.) from SIPA and Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) from the Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Tokyo
- Three-Year J.D./M.B.A. Degree
- Certificate in Advanced Studies in Dental Public Health (Dental Medicine)

The committee asked the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Programs to send out the questionnaires for the five-year reviews earlier in the academic year with an earlier deadline for their return, which is intended to streamline the review process. In addition, in the past the reviews have been conducted five years after Senate approval of the new program. The committee decided to change this to five years after the new program had been launched. This change will lead to the collection of better data over a longer period of time.

Programs scheduled for five-year reviews in 2017

- Advanced Certificate in Psychoanalytic Studies (GSAS)
- Dual Master of International Affairs (M.I.A.) from Columbia and Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.) from the London School of Economics
- The scheduled five-year review of 25 statutory certificates (MSPH) has been postponed at the school's request because the school is currently being reviewed for reaccreditation. Provost Begg has advised the school to do one report covering all 25 certificates.

New departments

The committee received two proposals for the establishment of new Departments in the College of Physicians and Surgeons:

- Department of Emergency Medicine. Approved by the Education Committee on 9/9/16. Full approval by the senate on 11/18/16 when a supermajority of votes was cast.
- Department of Medical Humanities and Ethics (under review)

Guests of the Education Committee

The following guests were invited to meetings of the Education Committee:

Dr. Anne Taylor (Vice Dean, Academic Affairs, College of Physicians and Surgeons; Senior Vice President for Faculty Affairs and Career Development at the Columbia University Medical Center). On September 9, 2016, Dr. Taylor reviewed for the committee the arguments for supporting the establishment of a Department of Emergency Medicine. The proposal had been reviewed by a subcommittee during the Summer.

Dr. Anne Taylor and Dr. Rita Charon (Professor of Medicine at the Columbia University Medical Center and prospective Chair of the Department) visited the committee on April 7, 2017, to explain the reasons for the establishment of a new Department of Medical Humanities and Ethics.

Maneesha Aggarwal (Executive Director, Academic IT Solutions) and Sandesh Tuladhar (Director, Online Learning) on January 20, 2017, presented Canvas, the new learning management system and successor of Sakai in CourseWorks.

Susan McGregor (Assistant Professor of Journalism; Assistant Director, Tow Center for Digital Journalism; and Senator) On February 10, 2017, McGregor discussed GitHub, a cloud service for collaboration. It was originally used by programmers collaborating on coding but is now used in many fields of scholarship. It permits users to share and revise documents with a feature similar to Word's track changes, and writers as well as coders use it. GitHub operates as a free platform with all information on it publicly available, but individuals can buy access to private archives for \$8.00 a month. Purchasing an enterprise license gives users access to more tools and features. If Columbia were to own a site license, it could be used for scholars' archiving and indexing and could be kept behind a UNI login portal with better data protection. As a free service it is already popular here: there are already some 5,000 Columbia accounts on it.

Academic Calendar

During the academic year 2015-2016 the co-chairs held several meetings with Registrar Barry Kane, Vice Provost Melissa Begg, and SAC representatives on the possibility of declaring the day before Thanksgiving an academic holiday. The proposal was then sent for review to several groups of stakeholders for their input, guidance, and collaboration. The calendar change was intended to go into effect in the fall of 2017.

A resolution was presented to the plenary on November 18, 2016. During the discussion it became clear that Barnard College had not been included in the earlier discussions and reviews. A vote was postponed until the Barnard College faculty had a chance to review the proposal. The resolution went back to the Senate and was approved on December 15, 2016, with the understanding that those academic units that have traditionally opted out of the academic calendar would do so as well with regard to this newly established academic holiday.

On April 21, the committee had its joint annual meeting with the Libraries and IT committees, with a focus on the future of education. The agenda of this meetings is appended.

Acknowledgments

We wish to recognize the efforts of Vice Provost for Academic Programs Melissa Begg and her colleague Associate Provost Jim Glover, who continue the tradition of a strong collaboration between the Provost's Office and the Senate Education Committee in the implementation of their respective tasks.

The committee also wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Trustee Emerita Anna Longobardo, Trustee observer, for her continued interest and sage advice to the committee.

J. H. Applegate
L. Moss-Salentijn
Co-chairs

Education Committee 2016-2017

Ten.	James Applegate	Co-Chair	A&S/NS	sen
Ten.	Charles Basch		TC	sen
Ten.	Hope Leichter		TC	nonsen
Ten.	W. Ian Lipkin		SPH	sen
Ten.	Letty Moss-Salentijn	Co-Chair	CDM	sen
Ten.	Samuel C. Silverstein		P&S	sen
Ten.	Frank Lichtenberg		BUS	sen
Nonten.	Mary Byrne		NURS	sen
Nonten.	Philip Genty		LAW	sen
Nonten.	Joseph Ulichny		A&S/NS	sen
Stu.	Ramond Curtis		GS	sen
Stu.	Sarah Katz		BAR	sen
Stu.	Joshua Schenk		CC	sen
Stu.	Hanzhi Zhao		SEAS	sen
Libraries	James T. Crocamo		Libraries	sen
Admin.	Peter Awn		Adm	sen
Admin.	Melissa Begg		Adm	nonsen
Alum.	Tao Tan		Alum.	nonsen

University Senate

Proposed: April 21, 2017

Adopted:

**ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF THE EDUCATION,
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND LIBRARIES COMMITTEES**

**April 21, 2017, 10:30 a.m.-noon
523 Butler Library**

AGENDA

1. A vision for the future of education -- Soulaymane Kachani, Vice Provost and Professor of IEOR, SEAS
2. Supporting teaching and learning at Columbia -- Suzanna Klaf, Interim Director of Faculty Programs and Services in the Center for Teaching and Learning
3. High performance computing (HPC): The educational tier -- Gaspare LoDuca, Vice President for Information Technology, and Maneesha Aggarwal, Executive Director for Academic IT Solutions
4. Gradescope: A tool for improving productivity of the grading process by automating recurrent tasks -- Itsik Pe'er, Professor of Computer Science
5. Codio: A web-based development environment that facilitates assessment, plagiarism detection, and auto-grading and may be integrated into Canvas -- Adam Cannon, Senior Lecturer in Machine Learning
6. Digital data searches: Training courses for students -- Art Langer, Senior Lecturer in Technology Management, School of Professional Studies