

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY SENATE  
WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee  
Minutes of 21 September 2020**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate WMU Essential Studies Course Review and Approval Committee was called to order at 10 a.m. on 21 September 2020, via Webex video conferencing by Decker Hains, Ex Officio.

**Roll Call**

**Members in Attendance:** Kathryn Wagner, Matilda McLean, Pablo Pastrana, Kirsty Eisenhart, Beth Ernst, Michele McGrady

**Members Absent:** Kathryn Thomsen, Gina Garza Kling, Carol Weideman, Kevin Wanner

**Ex Officio Member in Attendance:** Decker Hains

**Advisory Members in Attendance:** Colleen Stano, Nick Gauthier, Shannon Myers, Melinda Lockett, , Tammi Smith, Sharon VanDyken, Anthony Helms

**Advisory Member Absent:** Diana Blouin, Ashleigh Watson, James Cousins

**Quorum**

A quorum was present.

**Agenda**

It was moved by McGrady, seconded by Eisenhart, to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officer**

Hains called for nominations. The committee was unable to fill the slate of officers. Hains will consult the WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory Committee to identify individuals and a plan for committee leadership. Officer elections were postponed until the next meeting.

**Minutes**

It was moved by McGrady, seconded by Eisenhart, to approve the 9 March 2020 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Reports of Officers**

Hains reviewed the Council and Committee Virtual Meeting Protocols. He congratulated the committee on its work during the previous academic year in making recommendations on courses and being an integral part of the successful launch of WMU Essential Studies. Hains announced that the WMU Essential Studies launch celebration has been postponed until an in-person event can be scheduled. James Cousins has been appointed the WMU Essential Studies Interim Director and Nicolas Witschi has been appointed the WMU Curriculum Interim Manager by Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jennifer Bott.

**Reports of Subcommittees**

None.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

Hains noted that several committee members have resigned their seats on this committee and membership will be reviewed at a later date.

Hains reported that WMU Essential Studies Interim Director James Cousins will be reviewing the list of course proposals to be reviewed this semester. Courses seeking WMU Essential Studies review must be

approved by the college curriculum committees no later than 31 October. Hains indicated that the committee will be forming into new team structures, similar to how the committee conducted business last academic year, in order to begin reviewing courses after the 19 October 19 meeting, with a goal of having all courses reviewed prior to the end of the fall semester.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjournment**

Ex Officio Decker Hains adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

**Approval**

Submitted by Decker Hains, Ex Officio

Minutes approved this nineteenth day of October 2020.