

INTERIM SIDE LETTER
Article 31.E - Curriculum Committee

The parties agree to establish two Interim Curriculum Committees (Northeast Interim Curriculum Committee for the Bloomsburg-Lock Haven-Mansfield consolidation and Western Interim Curriculum Committee for the California-Clarion-Edinboro consolidation) that will review and make recommendations on items that require curricular action in the same manner as identified in Article 31, Section E. of the 2019-2023 collective bargaining agreement. This side letter is intended to apply only to curricular decisions related to the current consolidations involving these six Universities, and shall not create a precedent for any other types of decision related to these consolidations, nor to any future consolidation, merger, or reorganization of any sort involving other Universities within the State System.

1. Composition

As soon as practicable following determination of the program array to be offered at each of the new consolidated universities, each region's (Northeast and Western) Interim Curriculum Committee shall be established in the following manner:

- a. The size and distribution of FACULTY on each Interim Curriculum Committee shall be determined by the following six representatives: the three university-wide curriculum committee chairs (or another representative selected by secret-ballot vote of the FACULTY members of the university-wide curriculum committee) for the three existing Universities in each region, as well as one additional member of each university-wide curriculum committee, selected by vote of the FACULTY members of each existing curriculum committee. These six representatives shall select the FACULTY to be asked to serve on the Interim Curriculum Committee, in accordance with subsections b. and c. of this Section.
- b. All FACULTY selected to serve on an Interim Curriculum Committee must be current members of the three existing university-wide curriculum committees. Service on the Interim Curriculum Committee is voluntary. In the event that insufficient volunteers can be obtained from the existing university-wide curriculum committees, a process will be developed at Local Meet and Discuss for the existing University for selection of additional volunteers to serve on the Interim Curriculum Committee.
- c. An equal number of FACULTY shall be appointed from each of the three existing university-wide curriculum committees in each region. To the greatest extent possible, the FACULTY selected should reflect broad representation from disciplines within the program array to be offered at

the consolidated university, as well as representation from both undergraduate and graduate programs.

d. FACULTY serving on the Interim Curriculum Committee shall select a chair of the Interim Curriculum Committee by secret ballot vote.

e. FACULTY shall receive a three-credit workload for their service on the Interim Curriculum Committee in the Fall 2021 semester, Spring 2022 semester, and 2022 summer term. The work of each Interim Curriculum Committee shall cease at the conclusion of the Summer 2022 term, except as provided in Paragraph 5 below.

f. Each Interim Curriculum Committee may include one (1) administrator from each university, (for a total of three (3) for each Interim Curriculum Committee) if designated by the respective Integration Lead President. The voting authority of such officials shall be determined by majority vote of the Interim Curriculum Committee.

2. Process and Procedure

a. All committees, working groups, sub-groups and sub-sub-groups formerly constituted by the State System as part of the consolidation planning process shall be considered solely advisory.

b. As soon as practicable, each region's Interim Curriculum Committee shall meet to develop interim processes and procedures for recommending curricular action (including but not limited to guidelines on program review, program and course initiation, class size, and similar recommendations). These processes and procedures may be adapted from existing processes and procedures from one of the three existing Universities, or may be independently developed to suit the organizational structure of the consolidated university. Until such time as the academic organization structure at the department level is determined, the Interim Curriculum Committees shall consider all FACULTY in a disciplinary field, as defined by the Interim Curriculum Committees, within the respective region, as a proxy for an academic department in the interim curricular process. The Interim Curriculum Committee will consult with newly elected department chairpersons in the spring 2022 semester.

c. The processes and procedures developed by each Interim Curriculum Committee shall be approved at Local Meet and Discuss. Local Meet and Discuss for purposes of this subsection will be comprised of individuals from the Local Meet and Discuss teams from the three existing Universities, as identified by APSCUF and the State System, respectively. The parties' respective teams shall ensure equal

representation from each of the three existing Universities in the region. If the Local Meet and Discuss team is not able to agree on an existing process and procedure, the Interim Curriculum Committee will develop a new Interim Process and Procedure to be approved by this Local Meet and Discuss. Approved processes and procedures will be reviewed by State Meet and Discuss to insure compliance with this provision.

d. In cases where there are concerns regarding appropriate implementation of the processes and procedures, any Chapter President(s) from the existing Universities in the region may bring this concern to the region's Integration Lead President for resolution. If the concern is unresolved, the issue may then be directed to the State APSCUF President and the Chancellor.

3. Recommendations from the Interim Curriculum Committees


a. Recommendations from the Interim Curriculum Committees will be sent to the respective Integration Lead President/designee. The Integration Lead President/designee will respond within 30 days from receipt of the Interim Curriculum Committee's recommendation. The Integration Lead President/designee's disapproval of an Interim Curriculum Committee's recommendation will be accompanied by a written explanation to the Interim Curriculum Committee chair of the reasons for Integration Lead President's/designee's disapproval.

b. The decision of an Integration Lead President to reject the recommendation(s) of an Interim Curriculum Committee shall be final and not subject to challenge through the grievance procedure; provided, however, that a grievance contesting the Integration Lead President's failure to provide a written explanation may be filed directly at Step 3 of the grievance procedure under Article 5.

4. The parties shall remain mindful of the obligation to ensure the establishment of "teach out" plans for students enrolled at the existing Universities prior to the consolidation.

5. The Interim Curriculum Committees will be dissolved at the conclusion of the Summer 2022 term, unless the State System and APSCUF agree to extend the work of the Interim Curriculum Committees, including the terms and conditions of any such extension.

6. Nothing in this side letter shall diminish or otherwise impact the role of the university-wide curriculum committees at the existing Universities, nor set any precedent for future curriculum committees.



For STATE SYSTEM 10/19/21
Date



For APSCUF 10/21/21
Date