

CT State Administration's Official Response to Senate's Recommendations for Changes to the Curricular Shared Governance Proposal

Based on the feedback from the Special Meeting of College Senate conducted October 3, 2025, CT State administration affirms all the recommendations of College Senate related to the changes in curricular shared governance for the remainder of academic year 2025-2026 and hereafter.

The college will implement Curriculum Discipline Groups (CDG) and Curriculum Discipline Councils (CDC) beginning in October of 2025. Each CDG will be eligible for a CDC (with one representative from each campus that offers the course or program in question).

The following provisions will be implemented to strengthen the curricular governance process at CT State:

1. Invest in Curriculum Fellows and utilize School Deans in the curricular review process.

- The college will continue to invest in Curriculum fellows (1 per school), who support curricular proposers. School deans will also assist proposers with proposal drafts.

2. Replace the SDC with CDG.

- All faculty members will be assigned to one or more CDGs and expected to participate in those CDGs on curriculum related work. School Deans and the Academic Affairs office will work together to make sure that the appropriate staff and faculty are invited to participate in the relevant CDGs.
- As soon as practical, those CDGs will either meet virtually or determine the following via discussion threads:
 - a. **Chair** – Each CDG will elect a Full Time Faculty member (except in exceptional cases where none exist) as chair of the CDG.
 - b. **CDCs**--Each CDG will vote whether to implement a CDC. Those disciplines that want a CDC will then set about finding 1 representative per campus (with voting held locally as needed).
 - c. **Appeal Process** – An appeal process will be established for CDG members to ask for structural changes – this could include disciplines moving between existing CDGs or creating new ones, as fits the needs of the faculty in those areas.
 - d. **Training** – Training will be held to make sure CDGs are aware of the expectations for them, including voting thresholds, meeting guidelines and deadlines, and what to do with proposals both when they arrive and after they're approved for advancement.

3. Membership of CDGs be defined as:

- Curriculum Discipline Group (CDG) membership is comprised of those teaching faculty who are subject matter experts/have expertise in their field.

Membership includes:

- a. all full-time faculty who teach in the discipline,
- b. all full-time staff who have teaching or program coordinator responsibilities in the discipline as part of their duties in their job description
- c. when there are no full-time faculty who teach in the discipline, adjunct faculty who are subject matter experts, who have expertise in their field and/or are participating in program coordination, will be members of the CDG.
- d. the School Dean is an ex officio, non-voting member.

4. Responsibilities and Oversight of the CDC

- When a CDG chooses to use a CDC, it will be responsible for workshopping all proposals with proposers and Curriculum Fellows, organizing, presenting to the CDG, incorporating and responding to feedback from the discipline members and the Campus Interdisciplinary Feedback and Academic Review (CIFAR) process, voting for advancement to the CIFAR step and the Curriculum Congress step, and reporting the status of proposal advancements to the entire CDG throughout the proposal process. Each CDC report must include a summary of concerns raised within the CDG, so that Curriculum Congress is informed of both majority and dissenting views.

5. Replace the Open Feedback Period with Campus Interdisciplinary Feedback and Academic Review (CIFAR).

- Campus Interdisciplinary Feedback and Administrative Review (CIFAR) will be a two-week period during which campus deans lead academic meetings with department chairs (DC), program coordinators (PC), and other campus stakeholders and communicate feedback to the CDG or CDC where the proposal originated.

6. Require CDG Response to CIFAR Feedback.

- Functioning similarly to the former SDCs, there would be an additional requirement that all substantive feedback from CIFAR review not incorporated into a final draft must be responded to and attached to the proposal documentation as it moves forward to Curriculum Congress.

7. Eliminate of the School Area Curriculum Committee (SACC)

- The SACC level of review would be eliminated and that work would now be done during the CIFAR review. Additionally, this provides additional time for Congress to review and communicate with proposers.

8. Add a requirement of Curriculum Congress Members to attend the CIFAR.

- Congress members would be required to participate in their campus CIFAR meetings in addition to their other previously established duties.