

Graduate Council Meeting No. 575 February 9, 2026 via Zoom | Minutes

Council Members Present: Marta Gomez-Chiarri, Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely, Brett Still, Ami Vyas, Minsuk Shim, Ashlea Rundlett, Valerie Karno, Kathy Donohue, Joanna Burkhardt, Bailey Miller, Justin Watkins

Council Members Absent: Emilijia Djurdjevic, Araceli Bonifant, Denise Coppa, Stephen Licht, Nausad Miyan, Karolina Wojcik

Graduate School Present: Colleen Mouw, Stacy Carrasco, Corinne Kulesh, Cara Mitnick, Eric Beretta

I. Call to order

★ *The meeting was called to order at 2:07 pm by Chair Saint-Eloi Cadely.*

II. Approval of Minutes - [Meeting No. 574, December 1, 2025](#)

- ★ *Motion to approve the minutes for meeting no. 574*
- *Approved*

III. Announcements

- A. Graduate Faculty Summit - March 9, 2-4 pm - please register (Mouw)
1. Dr. Mouw announced that this is also the first day for the new Vice Provost and Dean. At the Summit, topics will include enrollment and yield data, student survey results, Graduate Mentoring Committee work, and professional development opportunities for students. There will also be an open Q&A and chance to share feedback. A formal agenda will be sent out soon with more information.
- B. Graduate School Fellowships/Scholarship Update (Mouw)
1. There was a strong response for Dean's Fellowship applications for both new and continuing students as well as the Tuition Scholarship. There were 19 new student applications, 24 for Dean's Fellow, and 17 for tuition. Applications are still being reviewed. Dr. Mouw clarified that for new students, there is a two-round process, with a 2nd deadline of March 1, which allows for all program admit windows. Students not selected in the first round still remain in the pool for consideration. Annual awards vary - typical annual awards are 4–5 new student fellowships, 4–5 continuing student fellowships, and 3–5 tuition scholarships, depending on budget and enrollment.
- C. Professional Development Updates (Mitnick)
1. Director Mitnick highlighted available student resources, including the Graduate Writing & Presenting Lab, professional development programs, academic support, badge programs, and the AI Lab. Faculty were encouraged to nominate students for TA positions and to promote participation in upcoming workshops and career-development events. Record participation was reported for the 3-Minute Thesis competition, with finals scheduled for March 26. The International Graduate Student Showcase will take place April 29, with abstracts due March 28. Additional upcoming sessions include citation management, job-offer negotiation, interview preparation, and conference abstract writing. The Graduate

Student Association will have its Graduate Student Conference on March 27–28, just after the 3-Minute competition, with paper submissions due March 1.

D. Admission Updates (Kulesh-Caisse)

1. Dr. Kulesh-Caisse shared that TOEFL has adopted a new 1–6 scoring scale (effective Jan. 21), and URI has updated its proficiency thresholds accordingly, with higher benchmarks for TA-eligible applicants. Fall 2026 applications are up nearly 25%, attributed to the new Slate system and reduced application fees, with offers and early acceptances also significantly higher than last year. URI maintains an exceptionally strong yield rate (~55%) compared to national averages (10–25%), while melt remains an area for ongoing monitoring. Program-level admissions and enrollment data are available upon request.

E. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty (*Mouw*)

David Ostwind, Outside Scholar, CELS

Conor McManus, Adjunct Faculty, CELS

Christine St. Laurent, Outside Scholar, INP

V. **New Business**

A. *Grad Manual Changes (Mouw)*

Section 4.60- Set timeframe for Reinstatement

The proposed change sets a time limit for student reinstatement after administrative withdrawal. This revision will establish a two-year window for reinstatement and require program reapplication beyond this period. *Approved*

Section 10.31- Reference to intellectual opportunity plan

Proposal to update section 10.30 by removing an outdated university manual reference and replacing it with a reference to section 4.8 of the graduate school manual. *Approved*

VI. **Graduate Curriculum (Kuali Agenda) (Mouw)**

COURSE CHANGES (*vote by college*)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

ART 504 | Data Visualization and Infographics Design, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change course credits

(4 crs.)Familiarizes students with the concepts and techniques required in creating and visualizing large and complex data, enabling students to design and present bodies of information. (Studio).

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

BUS 501 | Mathematical Methods for Management, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Fundamental mathematical methods applied to the understanding and solution of managerial problems. Topics include the solution of systems of linear equations, differential calculus, and related areas. (Lec. 3/Online)
Pre: Not for MBA students or for anyone who has taken MBA500.

★ *Approved*

BUS 522 | Business Integration I, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change method of instruction, change modality

(3 crs.) Business Integration I covers fundamental statistics analysis commonly used in business and uses case studies and teamwork to help students integrate knowledge in various business functions. (Lec. 3/Online)

★ *Approved*

BUS 611 | Doctoral Research Seminar, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Provides a rigorous analysis of current research questions and research techniques used to address those questions in the business research. Recent developments and current issues addressed. (Seminar) Pre: enrollment in the Ph.D. program in business administration. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

★ *Approved*

LHR 546 (PSC543) | Negotiation and Alternative Dispute Resolution, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change course number/level, change modality, change qualifications

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (LHR) PSC543. Examination of the interpersonal dynamics of negotiations and conflict resolution processes, including interest-based or collaborative bargaining in a variety of contexts; e.g. state and municipal government, labor relations, community, environmental, divorce, racial, commercial. (Lec. 3/Online/Accelerated Online Program)

★ *Approved*

MBA 575 (BUS575) | Seminar in Management, Effective Summer 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change modality

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (MBA) BUS575. Class discussion of typical cases, original research work in the field of management with discussion of data collected and analyzed by individual students. (Seminar):May be repeated for a maximum of 9 credits.

★ *Approved*

MBA 576 (BUS576) | Advanced Topics In Management, Effective Summer 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change modality

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (MBA) BUS576. Integrated approach to problems in major areas of business management with emphasis on administrative and executive viewpoint. (Seminar/Online) May be repeated for a total of 9 credits

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDC 501 | Sociocultural Foundations of Multilingual Education, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.)This course includes an analysis of the social, political, historical, cultural, economic, and linguistic factors affecting educational access and quality of educational programming for multilingual learners. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: Senior or Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

EDC 507 | Translanguaging Pedagogy, Effective Summer 2026

Change course number, change in modality

(3 crs.) This course offers an introduction to the concept of translanguaging as a theoretical framework and pedagogical approach for understanding and leveraging bi/multilingual students' linguistic resources across diverse educational contexts. (Lec).

★ *Approved*

EDC 515 | Integrated Content and Language Instruction and Assessment, Effective Summer 2027

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) The focus of this course is on developing teachers' knowledge, skills, mindsets, and capacity to concurrently and effectively teach Multilingual Learners language, through content using the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol. (Lec/Online) Pre: Senior or Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

EDC 516 | Advanced Methods for Teaching Bi/Multilingual Learners, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Methods and materials for those who plan to teach ESL, bilingual, or dual language immersion. Students develop a unit plan demonstrating appropriate teaching and assessment strategies. (Lec/Online) Pre: senior or graduate standing or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

EDC 563 | Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Pedagogy, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) This course uses the Culturally and Historically Responsive Curriculum and Instruction framework to guide teacher candidates to center multilingual students' identities, skills, intellect, criticality, and joy in lesson and unit planning, implementation, and assessment. (Lec/Online) Pre: Senior or Graduate standing, or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

MPS 598 | Integrated and Applied Capstone, Effective Summer 2026

Change college

(3 crs.) In this course, students integrate knowledge and concepts acquired during two different certificate programs offered by URI Online through development of a project related to a problem of practice. During the project, students engage in the process of identifying, evaluating and developing a solution to address the problem and present it to a non-expert audience. (Accelerated Online Program) Pre: Admission is required to the Master of Professional Studies; completion of the requirements for two URI online graduate certificate programs; completion of MPS Applied Leadership and Ethics.

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

BIO 416 | Intertidal Ecology, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(4 crs.) The ecology of intertidal shores within New England, with a focus on common marine macroalgae. Includes field surveys, specimen identification, and an emphasis on research planning and hypothesis testing. (Lec. 3, Lab. 1) Pre: BIO260 or BIO360 or BIO262 or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

BIO 422 | Biology of Sharks and Their Relatives, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Survey of sharks, skates and rays including their classification, evolutionary history, physiology, ecology and interactions with humans. (Lec. 3) Pre: BIOBIO260 360 or BIO360, and junior standing, or permission of the instructor.

★ *Approved*

BIO 440G | How Our Genes and the Environment Shape Our Lives, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Explore how deteriorating environments alter early human embryological development, increasing diseases and neurological disorders, altering entire societies. (Lec. 3) Pre: BIO201 or BIO220 or BIO272 or BIO352 (A1) (B2) (GC).

BIO 455 | Marine Ecology, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Investigation of the structure and dynamics of various marine ecosystems. Includes mineral cycling, energy flow, community and population organization, and behavioral ecology in selected marine environments. (Lec. 3) Pre: BIO260 or BIO360 or BIO262 or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

BIO 469 | Tropical Marine Invertebrates, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(5 crs.) Systematic survey of tropical invertebrates. Emphasis on examples from Bermuda's marine environment. Laboratory includes field collections, identification, and preparatory techniques for taxonomic studies. (Practicum, Lab. 8) Taught in Bermuda. Pre: BIO260 or BIO360 or BIO272, and junior standing, and permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

BIO 475 | Ecology of Coral Reefs in Bermuda, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(5 crs.) Structure and function of coral reef ecosystems with emphasis on the biology of corals. Laboratory sessions focus on field surveys and research techniques. (Practicum, Lab 8) Taught in Bermuda. Pre: BIO260 or BIO360, and BIO262, and junior standing; SCUBA certification required.

★ *Approved*

CPL 523 | Theory and History of Planning, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change in modality, change prerequisites, change method of instruction

(3 crs.) Explores the history and key theories of urban and regional planning. Students examine planning's evolution, its professional and ethical dimensions, and its impact on equity, applying historical and theoretical perspectives to contemporary challenges. (Seminar/Accelerated Online Program).

★ *Approved*

CPL 525 | Introduction To Planning Methods, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change method of instruction, change course credits

(3 crs.) Application of basic quantitative methods in planning: collection, analysis, and presentation of demographic, housing, and economic data. Introductory survey techniques. Introduction to computer applications in planning. (Lec/Accelerated Online Program).

★ *Approved*

GEO 562 (BIO562, BES562) | Biogeochemical Cycles, Effective Fall 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change method of instruction

(4 crs.) Cross-listed as (GEO) BIO562, BES562. Introduction to processes controlling water chemistry in low-temperature environments in the context of global biogeochemical cycles, including weathering, ion exchange, acid-base chemistry, redox, mineral equilibria, isotopes, and modeling. (Lec. 3, Lab 2) Pre: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

MAF 651 | Navigating Marine Affairs: Foundations of Graduate Study, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change method of instruction, change grading method

(3 crs.) Interdisciplinary course provides overview of current themes in marine affairs, faculty research, topics in industry and government and foundations for success in MAF graduate programs. Focuses on problems of marine resources development and management at the local, state, national and international policy levels. (Lec. 3) S/U only.

★ *Approved*

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

[TABLED] OCG 543 | Subduction Zones, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change course number/level

(3 crs.) Structure, petrology, and geochemistry of subduction zones, island arcs, and other magmatic arcs at convergent plate margins. Petrogenesis of andesites and related magmas. (Lec. 3) Pre: OCGOCG540 540 or permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

CMD 454 | Rehabilitative Audiology, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change in qualifications

(3 crs.) Examines rehabilitation theories and methods for children and adults with hearing loss. Topics include speech and language development of children with hearing loss, amplification (e.g. hearing aids, cochlear implants); speechreading; assistive listening devices; auditory training; and case management. (Lec 3) Pre: CMD361 and senior standing, or permission of the instructor.

★ *Approved*

CMD 494 | Autism Spectrum Disorders, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) The purpose of this course is to develop familiarity with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and effective communication instruction for children with ASD, issues related to diagnosis, etiologies, intervention theories, and effective instructional strategies for students with ASD will be discussed. (Lec. 3) Pre: Senior standing or CMD375, or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

CMD 565 | Pre-Practicum in Speech-Language Pathology, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change grading method

(1 cr.) Case study methodology to facilitate students' transition from coursework to clinic. Solve open-ended real world problems. Apply course knowledge to analyze issues and formulate workable solutions. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate students in MS-SLP program.

★ *Approved*

HDF 421 | Death, Dying, and Bereavement, Effective Fall 2026

Change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Exploration of human death, dying and bereavement. Focus on biomedical, psychological, social and multicultural dimensions. Implications for social policy. (Lec. 3) Pre: HDF202 or permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

NEW COURSES (vote by college)

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

PSC 591 | Research Design in Public Administration and Policy, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Identify and diagnose real-world public policy or management problems, apply analytical and methodological tools, and design research proposals that generate practical solutions for public service-related challenges. (Lec/Accelerated Online Course) Pre: PSC501, PSC502, and PSC504. Or by permission of graduate director.

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

BUS 401 | Global Topics in Business: Career Accelerator, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Combines asynchronous lessons, client simulations, industry tools, and synchronous lab sessions where students collaborate with supervisors and peers from different countries to plan and execute business projects. (Online) Pre: Permission of instructor. S/U only. May be taken up to 2 times.

★ *Approved*

[TABLED] BUS 580X | Special Topics in Sports Management, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Provides an in-depth exploration of emerging and timely issues in the sports industry through case studies, guest lectures, and applied research. Topics vary by semester to reflect current developments in the field. (Lec. 3/Online)

BUS 582 | Business of Global Sporting Events, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) This course explores the strategic and systematic processes behind the business aspects of global sporting events, integrating principles of project management, risk management, sustainability, leadership, and experience innovation. (Lec. 3/Online)

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDC 533 | Second Language Acquisition and Assessment, Effective Spring 2027

(3 crs.) In this course we will explore the theories, research, and practice of second language acquisition (SLA) and will critically examine assessment for/of language learners. (Lec. 3/Online)

★ *Approved*

EDC 538 | Integrating Technology in Adult Learning Environments, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Integrating Technology in Adult Learning Environments prepares graduate students to design, facilitate, and evaluate technology-enhanced learning experiences for adult learners in a variety of contexts. Building on prior study of adult learning theory, this course emphasizes the critical and purposeful integration of digital tools within online, hybrid, and technology-supported settings. Students will explore frameworks such as Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK), Universal Design for Learning (UDL), and the Community of Inquiry model while applying adult learning principles to digital contexts. Through hands-on experimentation, critical analysis, and reflective practice, participants will create accessible, inclusive, and engaging instructional designs tailored to diverse adult learning environments. (Online) Pre: EDC584, or permission of instructor

★ *Approved*

EDC 596 | The Clinical Teacher, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Prepares health professions educators to design, facilitate, and evaluate clinical learning, including simulation, using evidence-based teaching methods and theories of experiential and adult learning. (Online)
Pre: Graduate standing and permission of instructor

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

NEW 444 | Air Pollution Engineering, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Occurrence, transport, fate, and mitigation of point sources of air pollution. Development and application of indoor air quality models. (Lec. 3) Pre: CVE374 or by permission of instructor.

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

PLS 525X | Advanced Hydroponics, Effective Fall 2026

(4 crs.) Explore advanced hydroponics through real challenges. Build skills in monitoring, troubleshooting, and improving water, nutrients, climate, and lighting for high-performing crops. Create a production plan. (Lec. 2; Lab 3) Pre: graduate standing

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Computer Science - MS, Effective Fall 2026

Updating the admission requirements for the Computer Science MS program with the goal of updating it to meet the changing needs of the field

Admission Requirements: Bachelor's degree in computer science or a closely related field. Applicants with a bachelor's degree in an unrelated field will be considered provided they have completed course work covering the material in CSC 212, CSC411 or CSC412, 440 and MTH 141 plus one MTH course at the 200 level or above or STA course at the 400 level or above. Students may be admitted who have completed only a part of the above course work but they will be required to complete the deficiencies before taking more advanced classes.

★ *Approved*

Computer and Statistical Science - PhD, Effective Fall 2026

Updating the admission requirements for the Computer Science PHD program

Admission Requirements: Admission to this program requires a Bachelors degree in Computer Science, Statistics, Biostatistics, Mathematics, Engineering, or a closely related field. A Master's degree is encouraged but not required. Common requirements include course work covering the material in the following courses:

MTH 141 – Calculus 1

MTH 142 – Calculus 2

MTH 215 – Introduction to Linear Algebra

One course in Mathematics or Statistics for which calculus is a prerequisite

GRE is not required. In addition, international applicants will need to report their TOEFL scores. Waivers can be granted at the discretion of the graduate director.

Specific Prerequisites for Computer Science Concentration

In addition to the general requirements applicants with a bachelors degree in an unrelated field will be considered provided they have completed course work covering the material in:

CSC 212 Data Structures and Abstractions

CSC 411 Computer Organization OR CSC 412 Operating System and Networks

CSC 440 Design and Analysis of Algorithms

Specific Prerequisites for Statistics Concentration

In addition to the general requirements, following courses or their equivalents (will need approval of the graduate program chair) may be required to be admitted to our program if a student lacks a strong quantitative background. However, these requirements may be waived based on prior experience in industry or research.

MTH 243 – Calculus for Functions of Several Variables

STA 409 – Statistical Methods in Research I

STA 412 – Statistical Methods in Research II

MTH 451 – Intro Probability and Statistics

MTH 452 - Mathematical Statistics

★ *Approved*

★ *1 Opposed*

ABM - Cyber Security, Effective Fall 2026

We are expanding our ABM/PSM program, which was originally only for Computer Science majors, to allow for other majors.

Students in any major are eligible to apply for an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's Degree (ABM/PSM) program to earn a Professional Science Master's Degree in Cyber Security.

PSM in five years (4 years in any undergraduate major followed by one year in URI's PSM graduate program)

Prior to application, students must receive a B or better in the following courses: CSC 200 or CSC 201 or CSC 211, or CSC 212; and CSF 202; and CSF 432,. Equivalent courses may be substituted at the discretion of the department.

To apply for the program, students must have earned a minimum of 75 credits and have a 3.0 GPA.

Meeting with a Cybersecurity program advisor is strongly recommended before applying.

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Masters of Professional Studies - MPS, Effective Fall 2026

With the new budget model, it is no longer feasible for the Graduate School to be the home for graduate programs. The College of Education has agreed to take on this program.

The program allows flexibility for students to design their own interdisciplinary master's degree program. The Master of Professional Studies requires the completion of two certificate programs offered through URI Online and two additional courses: Integrated and Applied Capstone (MPS 598) and a relevant graduate-level course (at least three credits).

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

Coastal Resilience - Graduate Certificate, Effective Fall 2026

Changes: Reduction in overall credits from 15 to 12, to better align with other certificate programs. Change in modality from in-person to hybrid. Updated the list of potential courses that can be included to complete the Certificate. Updated the list of affiliated faculty

The Coastal Resilience Graduate Certificate Program provides students and professionals with advanced training needed to find professional employment in the field of coastal resilience. Upon completion of the Coastal Resilience Graduate Certificate Program, students will be able to: (1) apply knowledge in a variety of disciplines and have practical skills to address real-world problems in coastal resilience; and (2) find employment in agencies and businesses involved in research, scholarly, and problem-solving endeavors in the field of coastal resilience. In particular, the curriculum will provide students with academic and practice-based skills, knowledge and expertise to (1) explain threats to and impacts of natural hazards and disasters on natural and built environments and human communities; (2) describe human responses at a variety of scales (e.g., individual; international) to natural hazards and disasters; (3) apply theoretical concepts in coastal resilience to real-world and hypothetical scenarios; and (4) critically evaluate policies, programs, and plans for addressing the effects of coastal hazards and disasters.

Program Requirements:

One course (3 credits) from the following Social Science & Policy courses: MAF475, MAF521, MAF570, MAF582

One course (3 credits) from the following Natural Science/Engineering courses: MAF511, GEO577, OCG440, OCG451, OCE408, OCG512 (OCE512), OCG493, OCG516, OCG540, OCG601

Three (3) credits of practicum courses (internship, field work, directed study, or special problems) advised by a URI faculty member in the following subject codes: NRS, MAF, CVE, OCE, GEO, EVS, OCG

Three (3) credits of free electives from the courses listed above, or from the following: (Engineered Systems courses) OCE412, OCE510, OCE514, CVE477 (CVE577), (Community Systems courses) CPL410, CPL434, CPL450, CPL483, CPL485, CPL538, CPL539, (Marine Affairs courses) MAF461, MAF465, MAF475, MAF511, MAF582, MAF521, MAF484, MAF545, MAF531, MAF564, MAF577, (Natural Systems courses) BES551, NRS501, NRS555, NRS585, CPL549, OCG451, OCG480 (OCG580), OCG512, OCG501, OCG561, OCG506, OCG517, OCG540, OCG533, OCG521, (Business and Management Systems courses) FIN435, MGT443, MBA539 (OCG539), MBA540, BUS515, MBA524, (other courses) LAR444 (LAR445), EEC432, EEC440, EEC535, HPR411, CVE323, OCG508, GEO491

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Dietetic Internship Program, Effective Summer 2026

The proposal is to close this specialization. Students who were in this specialization have been taught out. All current and future students pursuing the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) requirements are and will be enrolled in the Future Education Model specialization.

Admission to this specialization is suspended.

This program is designed for students who want to become Registered Dietitians by including an accredited Dietetic Internship (DI) program with the M.S. degree requirements. The DI has a specialization area in applied nutrition science. The DI is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606, 312.899.0040, ext. 5400, website: eatright.org.

Admission requirements: students wishing to complete URI's Combined Master of Science Dietetic Internship (MSDI) must have an earned bachelor's degree with completion of the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) requirements including the following courses: nutrition, general chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, anatomy or biology, human physiology, and statistics. In addition, students must have completed an advanced nutrition course with biochemistry as a prerequisite. Applicants must submit an ACEND verification form or declaration of intent form signed by their DPD director. Enrollment is expected to be limited to twelve students. Program information and application deadlines can be obtained at uri.edu/nfs/.

Program requirements (34 credits): NFS 504, NFS 505; NFS 506, 553, and 554; two credits of NFS 511 or NFS 512; one credit apiece of NFS 507, 508, 581, 583, 584, and three credits of 591; three credits in a 400- or 500- level statistics course; six credits in Global Health and Applied Nutrition to be determined in consultation with the major professor. In addition to the program requirements for other M.S. students, MSDI students must complete a minimum of 1,200 hours of supervised practice experience in health care and community facilities. Students must satisfactorily complete the experiential rotations as well as M.S. degree requirements including completion of a culminating experience tailored to their interests including a significant paper with a literature review, identification of an area of need, development, implementation and evaluation of an intervention in order to receive an ACEND Verification Statement qualifying them to take the Dietetic Registration Examination as well as to apply for licensure to practice dietetics in Rhode Island.

★ *Approved*

Speech-Language Pathology - MS, Effective Fall 2026

Three changes are proposed: 1) CMD 493G will be an elective rather than a required course. CMD 493G is a requirement for our undergraduate program but not most other undergraduate programs, so graduate students from URI have it and those from elsewhere do not.

This creates inequities in the number of required courses, and reduces elective slots for those who need to take CMD 493G. 2) The directed essay, which is currently an accepted substitute for the comprehensive exam, is not mentioned in the program description. We now include it. 3) Admission requirements have been updated to match current practice: GREs are not required; reference to spring admission is removed, since we no longer have a spring cohort; three letters or recommendation are now required. The revised text matches our website: <https://web.uri.edu/cmd/academics/m-s-program/admission/>.

Master of Science

Program requirements (54 credits): Required courses consist of the following: CMD 504, 550, 560, 561, 564, 565, 569, 570, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, and 592; electives are chosen from: CMD 492, 493G, 494, 563, 571, 580, 594, and 598. Non-thesis option: required courses as noted above; and either written comprehensive examination or directed essay. Thesis option: required courses as noted above; and 6 credits of CMD 599 (thesis).

Admission requirements: Students who are interested in applying to the graduate program in speech-language pathology, and who have not taken the undergraduate requirements, may wish to enroll as post-baccalaureate (non-matriculating) students to fulfill or begin to fulfill these requirements. The undergraduate requirements—courses needed prior to taking graduate courses—include CMD 272, 273, 276, 375, 377, and 465. Completion of these courses does not, however, assure admission into the graduate program, nor is completion of all the requirements essential for application to the program. Any required undergraduate courses not completed prior to graduate admission will be added to the graduate program. GREs are not required. Strong consideration will be given to the cumulative GPA. In addition, performance within a communicative disorders major or prerequisite courses will be viewed as a particularly important criterion for admission.

Materials needed to apply to the Master's program:

TwoThree letters of recommendation: two from persons who can discuss your past academic work and your potential to succeed at graduate-level work; a third from an individual who can comment on your interpersonal skills, like a former employer. The completed application package must be received by January 15 for fall admission.

★ *Approved*

NEW CERTIFICATES OR SPECIALIZATIONS *(vote by program)*

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Management - ABM

URI's Master of Science in Management (MSM) allows students to develop professional skills to become a more effective and innovative leader who can then make data-informed decisions and have strategic expertise in business integration. The program is designed for professional growth, building business knowledge and skills, insights, confidence, and interpersonal skills that can be used immediately to differentiate our graduates on the job market and in their careers. The program will continue to help professionals and aspiring professionals upskill and prepare for advanced organizational leadership positions.

ACCELERATED BACHELOR'S TO MASTER'S DEGREE (MSM ABM)

ABM Admission requirements

Students are eligible to apply to the ABM program through the URI Graduate School admission system after they have completed 75 credits in their undergraduate program and will be notified of the admission decision before the end of that semester. Students will be enrolled in the ABM after they complete 90 credits. Student status will officially be moved from undergraduate to graduate enrollment after completion of 120 credits and conferring of their undergraduate degree.

Students admitted into the MSM ABM program will have the opportunity for time and cost savings due to the option to apply three undergraduate courses toward the MSM ABM. Applicants with undergraduate majors in any field will be considered for admission.

Three courses from the following list are eligible to be double counted toward the student's undergraduate degree as well as the MSM degree:

BAI455 Business Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Applications
BAI458 Fashion Retail Analytics
BAI476 Machine Learning for Business Intelligence
FIN412 Introduction to Financial Data Analytics
FIN431 Financial Technologies
FIN434 FinTech Law
INE449 Entrepreneurship
MGT446 Special Topics in Management
MGT441 Leadership
MGT459 Small Business Management
MGT461 Management Data Analysis and Communication
MKT467 Customer Analytics
MKT475 Digital Marketing
SCA 415 Project Management
SCA 462 Supply Chain Network Modeling & Optimization
SCA 463 Global Warehousing and Distribution
SCA 464 Supplier Relationship Management
BUS501 Mathematical Models for Management
BUS506 Operations and Project Management
BUS507 Critical Business Skills
BUS509 Law and Ethics
BUS518 Financial Fundamentals for Innovation

Prerequisite Courses & Grade Requirements:
Prior to admittance to the MSM ABM program.

Only students accepted into the MSM ABM program will be able to double count credits toward both the bachelor's and master's degrees.

Only credits earned at URI may be counted toward the MSM ABM.

Successful applicants will have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA and an interview with the director. Applicants must submit:

a statement of purpose, two letters of recommendation from faculty.

★ *Approved*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

TESOL/BDL - ABM

The Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages/Bilingual Dual Language Immersion (TESOL/BDL) ABM Program is designed for College of Education students to earn both a bachelor's degree and MA in TESOL/BDL in five years. Students in this program will earn an initial teaching certification in any content area (e.g., Elementary Education, Secondary Education) during their undergraduate experience. In their fifth year, they will earn an English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and/or Bilingual Dual Language (BDL) certification as part of their MA program.

Courses approved for double counting: EDC563, LIN420, EDC526

Specialization Requirements

All of the following (15 credits): EDC501, EDC506, EDC515, EDC516, EDC519

6 credits of 500-level electives in or related to the field of Education. EDC527 is a required elective for all grades and secondary education students.

★ *Approved*

Multilingual Learner Education - Graduate Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in Multilingual Learner Education is a 12-credit graduate program designed for educators to meet Rhode Island's proficiency-level MLL Competencies. You will acquire the knowledge, skills and competencies necessary for teachers, leaders, and other school personnel to effectively work with MLLs and their families. After successful completion of the following four-course sequence, you will be eligible to earn the MLL Endorsement, issued by the Rhode Island Department of Education:

EDC 420/533- Second Language Acquisition and Assessment

EDC 501- Sociocultural Foundations of Multilingual Education

EDC 563- Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Pedagogy

EDC 515- Integrated Content and Language Instruction and Assessment

The course content and learning outcomes align with Rhode Island's five MLL Competencies: 1) Language and Literacy Learning; 2) Sociocultural Context; 3) High-Quality Instruction and Support for MLLs; 4) Assessment and Evaluation; 5) Collaboration and Leadership.

Our program is intentionally designed for preservice and inservice teachers who hold full teaching certifications in other content areas or concurrently enrolled in a certification program (e.g., Elementary Education, Secondary Education). The four-courses included in the Graduate Certificate are part of the M.A. in TESOL/BDL program. Educators are encouraged to continue beyond the Certificate to the full M.A.

★ *Approved*

NEW PROGRAMS *(vote by program)*

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

[TABLED] Applied Science Communication - MA

Program Description - The Master of Arts in Applied Science Communication provides a comprehensive foundation in the principles and practices of science communication, focusing on effectively conveying scientific knowledge to diverse audiences. This interdisciplinary program examines key topics such as message framing, perception, and persuasion; political ideologies and communicating with policymakers; disability studies and accessible design; health and/or environmental communication; and the ethics of public engagement with science.

The program emphasizes the social dimensions of science and the importance of fostering meaningful connections among scientists, communities, and the public to address issues of social justice and equity. Students develop skills in inclusive science communication, including storytelling methods, rhetorical techniques, and digital tools, enabling them to create accessible and engaging science communication materials. Coursework, projects, and internships provide opportunities to design and evaluate public engagement strategies that are inclusive and responsive to specific audiences.

Graduates of the MA in Applied Science Communication are prepared for a wide range of positions across diverse fields. These include roles in science communication and outreach for research institutions, museums, and nonprofit organizations; public information or media relations for government agencies, environmental organizations, or healthcare entities; and policy advising for advocacy groups and legislative offices. With an ability to craft inclusive, ethical, and audience-tailored strategies, students can address the communication challenges in fields such as climate change, biotechnology, and artificial intelligence, ensuring informed decision-making and engagement across industries.

Students in the MA in Applied Science Communication complete the Foundations of Science Communication Graduate Certificate and the Practices of Science Communication Certificate, in addition to one elective and the culminating portfolio course for a total 30 credits.

Required courses for the Master's consist of WRT534(NRS530), COM525(MAF525), WRT565, WRT533, NRS543, BES593, and COM585(WRT585) (21 credits).

Students also select 9 credits of elective courses from the following: COM460, COM455, COM523, BES521, NRS509, NRS542, HLT504, HLT505, HLT506, HLT508, BES533, SCM545, PHL553, COM522(MAF522), BES505(MAF505), NRS509, ART504

Students pursuing the MA in Applied Science Communication may but are not required to pursue a professional concentration in either Environment or Health. To complete a concentration, students complete 9 credits from among the following:

Environment: COM460, BES533, SCM545, NRS542, BES521, COM522(MAF522), ART504, NRS509, BES505(MAF505)

Health: COM523, HLT504, HLT505, HLT506, HLT508, WRT565, BES505(MAF505), BES523

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Health Professions Education - MA

Program Description - The Master of Arts in Health Professions Education prepares current and future educators in medicine and the health professions to design, deliver, and evaluate effective learning experiences. The program emphasizes evidence-based teaching, educational technology, leadership, and assessment to improve learning outcomes across academic, clinical, and professional settings. Courses are offered fully online in a blended format, alternating between synchronous and asynchronous sessions to support flexibility, collaboration, and community. Graduates are equipped to lead innovation in medical and health professions education and to advance inclusive, high-quality learning environments that strengthen healthcare education and practice.

Required Courses: EDC529, EDC575, EDC582, EDC584, EDC596

Electives (choose 5 of the following): EDC505, EDC538, EDC539, EDC557, EDC558, EDC559, EDC581, EDC583

Total credits: 30

★ *Approved*

VII. Adjournment

★ *Chair Saint-Eloi Cadely asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.*