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3-28-2022

### UNH FACULTY SENATE Motion # XXVI – M17 Lift restrictions for online delivery (synchronous and asynchronous) of Inquiry

Faculty Senate

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**UNH FACULTY SENATE**  
**Motion # XXVI – M17**

**Lift restrictions for online delivery (synchronous and asynchronous) of Inquiry**

1. **Motion presenter:** Charles Vannette, on behalf of the Academic Programs Committee
2. **Dates of Faculty Senate Discussion:** 2/28/2022, 3/7/2022 and 3/28/2022
3. **Rationale:** The Covid pandemic has familiarized UNH faculty with synchronous and asynchronous course modalities in all disciplines, including Inquiry courses. Many faculty, departments, and programs see value in these modalities in the future and have expressed a desire to lift restrictions on online delivery moving forward. Per Senate regulations, however, INQ-444 and INQ-Lab courses must return to a face-to-face delivery starting in Fall 2022.

After an extensive review of UNH courses and of available pedagogical materials, the Discovery Committee feels that online delivery of D-Labs has a place within the UNH curriculum. Likewise, the Honors director sees a need for online delivery within the Honors curriculum. Instructional scaffolding exists for these courses, and an online modality can assist UNH with outreach to underserved communities. Furthermore, it helps to prepare UNH for future pivots to online delivery, should the need arise. There is sound intellectual grounding for these delivery methods. The APC recognizes our faculty's ability to teach successful D-Lab and Honors courses, and extends this recognition to the efficacy of INQ-444 and INQ-Lab courses.

Members of the Academic Program Committee add that synchronous and asynchronous delivery of courses will allow certain UNH programs to grow and expand, and it can increase our ability to market to students outside of New England. The current restriction on online delivery of certain required courses (D-Labs, Honors, INQ-444, INQ-Labs) is an obstacle to programs which would like to create fully online degrees at the undergraduate level.

The Academic Program Committee recommends that all Inquiry designated courses which are reconfigured for non face-to-face delivery are done so in consultation with the Center for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CEITL), that they follow best-practices for their particular discipline, and that they undergo a recertification process through the Discovery Committee. The recertification process for online Writing Intensive courses provides a model.

The Academic Program Committee also recommends clear terminology at UNH regarding online delivery, which differentiates between synchronous and asynchronous delivery models.

4. **Motion:** The Faculty Senate moves to lift moratoria regarding online delivery of all Inquiry attribute courses. Inquiry attribute courses designed for online delivery (synchronous or asynchronous) should be designed in consultation with CEITL, must follow best-practices for their particular discipline, and must undergo a certification

**process through the Discovery Committee, which will evaluate them on their pedagogical merit as Inquiry courses, as well as on their ability to be successfully delivered as a synchronous or asynchronous online course.**

- 5. Senate Action:** The motion was put to a vote on 3/07/2022. The motion passed with 53 in favor; 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

**Senate chair's signature:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Hooley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Forwarded to the following on 4/12/2022:

President James Dean

Wayne Jones, Provost

Kate Ziemer, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

All deans and associate deans

All department chairs