

*A Resolution Supporting The Course Information Matrix (CIM)*

Presented on the 1st of April 2021

Sponsors: Marcella Eid, Riya Chhabra

**WHEREAS**, Students face significant problems due to the lack of information they have access to prior to registering for courses;<sup>1</sup> **AND**

**WHEREAS**, The only information students have available to them at the time of registration is the short single-sentence course description provided on the course registration page;<sup>2</sup> **AND**

**WHEREAS**, As a result of this lack of pre-registration course information, students are unaware of the workload and rigor demanded of the courses they register for; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, This causes students to overload their schedules by taking courses with conflicting exam dates and overlapping due dates for papers, projects, and assignments; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, Such schedule overloading can potentially lead to reduced course pass rates along with early student burnout and disengagement; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, This lack of pre-registration course information aids in the distortion of demand for courses, as students drop courses after receiving a syllabus that does not fit their current life circumstances, resulting in the prevention of other students from registering for the courses they need to take in order to stay on track for graduation; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, In an effort to address the course information gap at Wayne State University, the Wayne State University Student Senate has been working with Nathan Chavez and Joshua Armes from C&IT to develop the Course Information Matrix; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, The Course Information Matrix is a voluntary based archive of course materials from previous courses that students can access prior to course registration to gain an overview of what a desired course has previously entailed. The Course Information Matrix is an opt-in model that allows faculty to choose exactly what materials they wish to share, if any; faculty can share course description, course summary, grade weighting, modules list, and syllabus; as content is displayed as it exists through Canvas and C&IT does not store copies of course materials; **AND**

---

<sup>1</sup> *A resolution supporting the Proposal for a Policy on the Provision of Syllabi and Course Information to Students in Time for Registration passed by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Faculty Council.*

<sup>2</sup> *A Proposal for Course Information Accessibility by the Wayne State University Student Senate.*

**WHEREAS,** The Course Information Matrix was presented and supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) Faculty Council, Council of Deans, and will be presented to the Academic Senate’s Policy Committee in the coming weeks; **AND**

**WHEREAS,** The Course Information Matrix is ready for faculty and student use.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Wayne State University Student Senate wholeheartedly endorses the Course Information Matrix and commends Nathan Chavez and Joshua Armes from C&IT, the CLAS Faculty Council, Council of Deans, and the Office of the Registrar for their support on this student success initiative; **AND**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Wayne State University Student Senate calls on the University to implement the Course Information Matrix and calls upon the University to consider its expansion across the other schools and colleges within the University.

**AND FINALLY BE IT ORDERED,** that the Wayne State University Student Senate will circulate this resolution to all relevant outlets, including the University President, the University Provost, the members of the Board of Governors, the President of the Wayne State University Academic Senate, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Chair of the CLAS Faculty Council, and *The South End* student newspaper.

**X** Riya Chhabra  
*Riya Chhabra*  
President

**X** Marcella Eid  
*Marcella Eid*  
Vice President