
MLIS Committee Meeting, September, 2025

Monday, 9/15/2025, 11am- 12pm

Zoom: <https://umd.zoom.us/j/6902544635?omn=99090822584>

Attendees:

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Agenda

Land Acknowledgement

Every community owes its existence and strength to the generations before them, around the world, who contributed their hopes, dreams, and energy into making the history that led to this moment. Some were brought here against their will, some were drawn to migrate from their homes in hope of a better life, and some have lived on this land for more generations than can be counted. Truth and acknowledgment are critical in building mutual respect and connections across all barriers of heritage and difference.

In the MLIS Program, we believe it is important to create dialogue to honor those that have been historically and systemically disenfranchised. So, we acknowledge the truth that is often buried: We are on the ancestral lands of the Piscataway People, who were among the first in the Western Hemisphere. We are on indigenous land that was stolen from the Piscataway People by European colonists. We pay respects to Piscataway elders and ancestors. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, migration, and settlement that bring us together here today.

****The land acknowledgment we use was organized by Ghonva Ghauri from MICA and approved by Piscataway elders. If you'd like to use the land acknowledgement below for your own office/school/group, please feel free, but we ask that you not change any of the words aside from the office/unit name, as this was the exact language that was approved by Piscataway Tribe elders.**

If you are not on campus, you can visit <https://native-land.ca/> to see what ancestral lands you are currently on.



Introductions and Committee Charge [Vedat Diker, on behalf of Interim-Dean Doug Oard], 11- 11:10am

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Upcoming Application Deadlines, Process, and Current Enrollment [Joe Sherren], 11:10- 11:20am

- Fall Application Deadline: September 19, 2025
- Spring Application Deadline: January 6, 2026 (MLIS, HiLS, Combined Bachelor's/Master's)
- The MLIS/HiLS programs are still %50 of the college.
- New students are about %30 of enrollment in our program, we also had 14 students total start over the summer.

Special Topics Course Proposals and Individual Dual-Degree Programs [Jeff Waters], 11:20- 11:40am

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Other Business [Ryan will intro, then Anyone], 11:40am- 12pm

- Process for evaluating the success of 1-credit (and maybe special topics) courses (Abbie Basile)
- Process for requesting the updating of learning outcomes/course titles in courses taught (J.R. Baron)

Notes

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Other Business [Anyone], 11:40am- 12pm

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Action Items

1. Special Topics course reviews, what is the process to assess the Special Topics courses run in the past academic year? How can we put together a process to report out on that as a success or something that requires new thoughts (Abbie Basile)
- 2.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- 1.
- 2.

Appendices

1. 2025-2026 Academic Year Committee Membership

Committee	Name	Membership	Email
MLIS Committee	Abbie Basile	Ex-Officio	ajbasile@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Amelia Gibson	Faculty Co-chair	ameliag@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Belane Ayelework	Student member	bayele23@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Bridgette Commanda	Ex-Officio	comandab@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Jason Baron	Faculty Affiliate Member	jrbaron@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Jeff Waters	Ex-officio	jwaters4@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Jessica Grimmer	Faculty Affiliate Member	jgrimmer@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Jieun Yeon	Faculty Affiliate Member	jyeon756@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Joe Sherren	Non-voting member	jsherren@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Neil Dhingra	Member	ndhingra@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Paul T. Jaeger	Faculty Affiliate Member	pjaeger@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Renee Hill	Faculty Affiliate Member	rfhill@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Richard Marciano	Faculty Affiliate Member	marciano@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Ryan O'Grady	Faculty Co-chair	rogrady1@umd.edu
MLIS Committee	Vedat Diker	Ex-officio	vdiker@umd.edu

Full-Time Faculty Affiliates for MLIS Masters Program

Amelia Gibson Co-Director

Ryan O'Grady Co-Director


Jason Baron

Jessica Grimmer

Renee Hill

Paul Jaeger

Richard Marciano



Mega Subramaniam (On leave)
Jieun Yeon
Victoria Van Hying (No Service AY25- 26)