August 3, 2012

PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AIMÉE DORR

Re: Proposed Changes to the Compendium: Undergraduate Program Discontinuances

Dear Aimée:

I am transmitting the Academic Council’s recommendation that the Compendium be revised to clarify the discontinuance procedures for undergraduate programs with unique titles or those that are the last of their kind in the UC system. The proposal was generated by the University Committees on Education Policy and Planning and Budget, and the Coordinating Council for Graduate Affairs (CCGA), and approved by the Academic Council at its meeting of July 25, 2012.

I request that you bring this recommendation to the Academic Planning Council and hope that you will join with Council in supporting the proposed changes.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Anderson

Encl (1)

Cc: President Yudof
Academic Council
Executive Director Winnacker
Dear Bob,

Several months ago Council instructed UCEP, CCGA and UCPB to create an ad-hoc joint committee to revise a confusing point in the Compendium related to programs that are the last ones of their kind. The committees nominated their chairs for the ad-hoc committee. We discussed the issue over Email, and agreed on the proposal presented below.

The relevant sections in the Compendium¹ are:

- Section II.C describes the procedure for discontinuing a unique undergraduate degree titles; what “unique” means is clarified in the second paragraph of section II.A.²

- Section IV.A describes the discontinuance procedures. This is one of the places where the document is unclear: it mentions special treatment when the program is the last of its kind, though it is somewhat unclear to what this refers. It appears the intention is to deal with program with unique titles (this is because in section II.A. there are detailed instructions for the discontinuance of such degrees -- see page 20 of the document).

The proposed changes aim at clarifying the discontinuance procedures for programs with unique titles (a very rare occurrence) and those that are "the last one of their kind" (a rare occurrence). To this end we recommend:

1. In section II.A second paragraph:
   
   Footnote 3 should refer to section II.C (not section IV)

2. In section IV.A, replace

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² The list of degree titles can be found in [http://www.ucop.edu/planning/documents/so_110_1.pdf](http://www.ucop.edu/planning/documents/so_110_1.pdf).

Presumably any academic unit can petition the Regents to create a new degree title.
There are two exceptions to this rule: if a program proposed for discontinuance is the last one of its kind in the UC system (see II.C. Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs with Unique Titles) or if the Divisional Senate is not appropriately involved in campus review of the proposed action. In either of these cases, system level review may be required.

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There are three exceptions to this rule: if a program proposed for discontinuance is the last one of its kind in the UC system, if the program awards a degree title that is the last one of its kind (see II.C. Undergraduate and Graduate Degree Programs with Unique Titles), or if the Divisional Senate is not appropriately involved in campus review of the proposed action. In either of these cases, system level review may be required.

3. Add the definition of "last program of its kind" as a footnote in section IV.A:

   A program is understood to be the last one of its kind if its program of studies is not substantially reproduced by any other program, or within any academic unit in the UC system.

Sincerely,

Jose Wudka, Chair
UCEP