Military Leadership Minor
College of Business Curriculum Committee Discussion: 2/8 – 2/13/2017
Vote: 9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent

Background: Students are currently earning topical minors in Military Leadership. The stated need for this minor is to provide students with a formal, transcripted title associated with completing existing coursework taught by existing faculty.

Points of Discussion:
- The program is a well-designed, 24-credit, interdisciplinary minor. The minor will help the 4-year graduation rate of students pursuing military leadership by structuring their coursework. This minor has support from C&J, Geog/Anth, Hist, and M&M. The leadership focus of this proposed minor aligns with both AAC&U liberal education learning outcomes, and the COB Learning Goals.
- The students take three hours of classroom, two hour of lab, and three hours of physical training a week for three credits a semester. In addition, students taking the MSL 300 level courses plan and execute our entire lab and physical training event. This requires them to complete an Operations Order, Concept of Operations Slide, and Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet. This takes the students at least three hours a week. The upper-division students mentor two or three students in the MSL 200 level classes. The MSL 400 students run the battalion level operation and produce Operations Orders and such for our events that we conduct with Stout and River Falls.
- The College of Business does not offer topical minors, although the ROTC program is housed in the Department of Management & Marketing. Students currently piece together a topical minor in Military Leadership through the College of Arts and Science by taking existing Military Science and Leadership (MSL) courses and selected other courses such as those proposed in the Military Leadership minor proposal. Two students are currently pursuing topical minors with the College of Arts and Sciences facilitated through Dr. Ducksworth. One has a Business Administration major while the other has an Integrated Strategic Communication major.
- The inclusion of GEOG 336 covering geospatial technology provides focus on the ability of leaders to understand and utilize technology.
- All students are required to take one of the military history courses (HIST 376, 377, or 384) taught by Dr. Selika Ducksworth Lawton, who is certified to teach ROTC courses. These courses are offered each spring. In the event a student is unable to take one of the spring offerings, then an approved independent study course (HIST 395) is available to ensure a timely graduation.
- Course availability should not be a problem. The breadth of courses facilitates student ability to complete the minor. Contributing departments are very supportive of having ROTC students in their classes and verified the smaller numbers of students would not likely cause an issue.
- Projected enrollment in the program is for 10 a year over the next two to three years (current enrollment is at five). CVTC students can attend the UWEC MSL 100 and MSL 200 courses, thereby increasing the likelihood that they transfer into UWEC vs another university.
- The C&J faculty support the waiver of the “Minimum junior standing” prerequisite for CJ 407. The M&M chair will evaluate the requests for waivers for prerequisites for MGMT 340 on a case-by-case basis, as is the process for any student from any program trying to get into MGMT 340.

Benefits:
1. Students would have a clearer understanding of program requirements, thereby decreasing confusion and time to graduation.
2. A formalized Military Leadership minor would reduce the time and workload required of faculty to create topical minors for students—an unpaid overload in most cases.
3. Students will be able to focus on 2 requirements (rather than 3), since their minor and ROTC requirements will be combined. Student attention is currently divided among three objectives: satisfying their major, satisfying their minor, and satisfying ROTC (MSL course) requirements. Providing this minor will give the students the opportunity to devote more time to each, thus increasing their performance in both.