MEMORANDUM

DATE: 23 November 2015

FROM: Paul Kaldjian, Department Chair

CC: Ezra Zeitler, Chair, Department Curriculum Committee

TO: College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

RE: Name Change for Major: International Geography (Code 140-008)

The Department of Geography and Anthropology requests implementation of a geography program name change (see page 122 of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2015-2016) with the next possible Undergraduate Catalog.

From

COMPREHENSIVE MAJOR: GEOGRAPHY, Liberal Arts
International Geography (Code 140-008)

To

COMPREHENSIVE MAJOR: GEOGRAPHY, Liberal Arts
Transnational Geographies (Code 140-XXX)

Rationale

Within geography, anthropology, and other social sciences, there is a growing recognition that the conventional term international – with its perceived emphasis on the state and national spaces as containers – does not adequately capture the multiple scales, flows, linkages, identities and boundary-crossings (social, environmental, political, etc.) of the human experience in the context of global studies. The concept of transnationalism expands our understanding in recognition of 21st century globalization and the multiple ties and interactions linking people and institutions across traditional nation-state borders.

With this name change and associated changes in the major requirements, we respond to changes in disciplinary understanding and our students’ experiences and interests.

Excellence. Our measure, our motto, our goal.