REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

During the academic year 2008-2009 the University agreed to a pilot offering of the ROTC program. Prior to the fall of 2009 students interested in joining the program had to commute to UW-Stout to complete the coursework. The program at UWEC is housed in the Department of Management and Marketing, and courses use the MGMT prefix. The program at Eau Claire has proved to be attractive, enrolling 34 students, which is almost the number that would be expected in a university of our size.

However, the MGMT prefix and course number, MGMT 494, are problems. First, the MGMT prefix makes it appear that a student must be a COB major, whereas the ROTC program is open to all students. Second, the upper level course number is a problem, causing a registration hurdle for freshmen and sophomores.

Therefore, to give students the opportunity to enroll in all 18 credits of the ROTC program and to distinguish the ROTC program from other COB programs, a new prefix, MSL, or Military Science and Leadership, is being proposed.

The ROTC program will continue to be housed in the Center for Leadership, a part of the Department of Management and Marketing. This organization has been approved by the College of Business. The faculty of the College of Business also approved the new prefix.

As the attached documents show, enrollment in the ROTC program offers students considerable benefits. The offering of the program by UWEC means that the tuition for MSL courses will remain at UWEC.

Points Discussed by Committee:

UWEC is the last UW institution to offer the ROTC program. Without it, students would need to continue to commute to other UW System schools.

During its pilot year, the program has proven to be attractive to students.

In addition to the MSL courses, students must also enroll in one military history course; possible courses are shown in the attachment.

Pros of Recommendation:

The ROTC program offers students opportunities for careers and graduate study after graduation as well as financial support while earning the Bachelor’s degree.

The program may help attract diverse students to UWEC.
Cons of Recommendation:

An objection was raised to the ROTC program because of the military’s “don't ask, don't tell” policy and the lack of an established peace studies program at UWEC.

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

Approval of this program will require staff time to add the new prefix to the database, *University Catalogue*, and other documents.

Committee Recommendation:

The Academic Policies Committee recommends approval of the proposed MSL prefix.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee:

by a vote of ___9___ for to ___0___ against on __February 23, 2010__ (Date)

Recommends that

The University Senate approve the establishment of the MSL prefix

Implementation Date: upon approval

Signed:  Barbara Lozar

Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office