REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

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

The Liberal Education program does not include Wellness and Physical Activity requirements. Embedded within the Wellness/Physical Activity requirements was a stipulation that only one credit of physical activity and no more than four credits of activity coursework could count toward the minimum 120 credits necessary for graduation. The “Wellness Requirement” text (see below) will be removed from the 2016-2017 Undergraduate Catalog, thereby effectively removing the restrictions on how many physical activity courses a student could take and count toward the 120-credit requirement. Doing so would seem to be contrary to the original intent of the Catalog text to ensure that students were taking courses that contributed to a degree (while simultaneously being exposed to the benefits of physical activity). The Undergraduate Catalog also includes related activity/physical activity text in the “Activity Credit” section (see below). In an effort to honor the intent of the original Catalog text while simultaneously enabling our student performers to receive limited credit for courses designated as activity courses, we propose the following revision to the “Activity Credit” section published on pages 50-51 of the 2015-16 Undergraduate Catalog:

Activity Credit (band, chorus, drama, KINS 100 – 184 courses) Students may count toward graduation no more than four credits earned in any single activity course and no more than 12 credits resulting from any combination of activity courses.

Other Restricted Credits. For other University restrictions, see the following: Cooperative Education; Credit by Examination; Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Registration; Transfer of Credits. College or departmental restrictions may also be placed on Independent Study (399-499 courses), Directed Study (395-495), and other types of credits.

2015-16 Undergraduate Catalog pages 47: the entire block of text below—and the list of Wellness courses—is scheduled to be removed as part of the liberal education reform that eliminated the Wellness/Physical Activity requirements.

--------------------Current Catalog Text -----------------------------------------------

WELLNESS REQUIREMENT

All candidates for the baccalaureate degree must satisfactorily complete one semester credit in wellness theory courses and one semester credit in physical activity courses. The requirement is designed to provide students with a comprehensive exposure to wellness. Courses numbered Kins 101-184 may be used to satisfy the physical activity requirement. The courses which satisfy the wellness theory requirement are listed below. Kins 186 satisfies both the physical activity and wellness theory requirement.

The one required credit in physical activity courses is counted in the minimum total of 120 credits for graduation. Additional credits may be earned in physical activity courses but may not be counted toward the minimum total of 120 credits for graduation (see Kinesiology and Athletics for exceptions).

The Department of Kinesiology and Athletics provides adaptations in physical activity courses for students who have a medical excuse from a physician and approval of the Student Health Service. Students who have completed basic training/boot camp for the military will be awarded one credit of physical activity. Evidence should be provided through presentation of military identification, a transcript from the American Council on Education (ACE) Registry showing completion of the Basic Combat Training Course, or discharge papers (D. D.
Activity Credits

214) to the Registrar’s Office. The completion of four semesters of ROTC courses (MSL 101, MSL 102, MSL 201, and MSL 202) satisfies the physical activity university graduation requirement. [A list of Wellness courses is listed below this text in the Undergraduate Catalog.]

2015-16 Undergraduate Catalog pages 50-51: the text below is currently retained in the Undergraduate Catalog and needs updated for the 2016-2017 Catalog.

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Activity Credit (band, chorus, drama, etc.). Students may count toward graduation no more than four credits earned in any single activity course, and no more than 12 credits resulting from any combination of activity courses (excluding kinesiology activity courses). Students may count toward graduation no more than one credit of physical activity courses (see Wellness Requirement).

Other Restricted Credits. For other University restrictions, see the following: Cooperative Education; Credit by Examination; Wellness Requirement (physical activity courses); Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Registration; Transfer of Credits. College or departmental restrictions may also be placed on Independent Study (399-499 courses), Directed Study (395-495), and other types of credits.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Removing any limit on activity credits would not be received positively by members of the university or community. Marching Band can be repeated for up to 7 credits; Orchestra and choirs are repeatable up to 4 credits.
2. Departments identify whether a course is repeatable.
3. Allowing students to count up to 4 credits would encourage intercollegiate participation: athletes could count their intercollegiate participation toward graduation.
4. The Kinesiology Department might no longer offer the physical activity courses; however, transfer students will still come with activity credits.

Pros of Recommendation:

1. Shows support for the university’s goal of increasing awareness of healthy lifestyles;
2. Enables athletes and performers to earn credit for their performance, if the corresponding course is repeatable.
3. Aligns catalog text with changes related to the liberal education program.

Cons of Recommendation: None identified

Technology/Human Resource Impact: None

Committee Recommendation:

Change the “Activity Credit” and “Other Restricted Credits” text (pages 50-51 of the 2015-16 Undergraduate Catalog) to read as indicated in the full motion below.
MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The Academic Policies Committee,

by a vote of ___5___ for to ___0___ against on April 12, 2016,

recommends that the text under “Activity Credit” and “Other Restricted Credits” (pages 50 - 51 of the 2015-2016 Undergraduate Catalog) be changed to read as follows:

**Activity Credit** *(band, chorus, drama, KINS 100 – 184 courses)* Students may count toward graduation no more than four credits earned in any single activity course and no more than 12 credits resulting from any combination of activity courses.

**Other Restricted Credits.** For other University restrictions, see the following: Cooperative Education; Credit by Examination; Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory Registration; Transfer of Credits. College or departmental restrictions may also be placed on Independent Study (399-499 courses), Directed Study (395-495), and other types of credits.

Implementation Date: 2016-2017 Catalog

Signed: _______Jean A. Pratt_____
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office