March 24, 2014

Gregory Fenves  
Executive Vice President and Provost  
The University of Texas at Austin  
MAI 201  
Campus Mail Code: G1000  

Dear Dr. Fenves:

Enclosed for your consideration and action is a proposal to make changes to the Pre-Health Professions Certificate in the College of Natural Sciences chapter of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2014-2016 (D 11415-11420).

The proposal was classified as being of general interest to more than one college or school, and was approved by the Faculty Council on a no-protest basis on March 20, 2014. The authority to grant final approval on these changes resides with UT System.

Please let me know if you have questions or if I can provide other information concerning this legislation.

Sincerely,

Dean P. Neikirk, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

DPN:dlr

Enclosure

xc:  
William Powers Jr., President  
Charles Roeckle, Deputy to the President

ec (letter only):  
Linda Hicke, dean, College of Natural Sciences  
Alison Danforth, manager, IMA  
Brenda Schumann, Associate Registrar  
David Laude, Sr. Vice Provost, via Kati Pelletier
DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS CERTIFICATE (D 10348-10355) IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES SECTION OF THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2014-2016

Dean Linda A. Hicke in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to the proposed Pre-Health Professions Certificate (D 10348-10355) in the College of Natural Sciences section of the Undergraduate Catalog, 2014-2016, college faculty and the dean approved the changes on February 13, 2014, and February 14, 2014, respectively. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation as being of general interest to more than one college or school (but not for submission to the General Faculty).

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the change on February 26, 2014, and forwarded the proposed changes to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with UT System.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by March 20, 2014.

Dean P. Neikirk, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Posted on the Faculty Council website (http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/) on March 6, 2014.
CHANGES TO THE PROPOSED PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS CERTIFICATE (D 10348-10355) IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES SECTION OF THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2014-2016

Type of Change Academic Change

1. IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IS YES, THE COLLEGE MUST CONSULT NEAL ARMSTRONG TO DETERMINE IF SACS-COC APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.
   • Is this a new degree program? No
   • Does the program offer courses that will be taught off campus? No
   • Will courses in this program be delivered electronically? No

2. EXPLAIN CHANGE TO DEGREE PROGRAM AND GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHANGE (include page numbers in the catalog where changes will be made):

1. Overall change: Alter structure of the certificate to create two tracks: one for science majors and one for non-science majors.
   Rationale: The certificate is being restructured according to early feedback from advisors and students, who found the flexibility and large amount of choice difficult to understand and to incorporate easily into their degree plans. The newly revised certificate ensures that students clearly understand what they must take to earn the certificate. In addition, the College of Natural Sciences (CNS) will manage advising for this certificate out of its main advising center, rather than the original plan housing it within the Health Professions Office. The college is looking at options to facilitate managing the certificate program, including automating the checking of requirements and dedicating advising personnel to the program.

   The new proposed structure seeks to manage enrollment and permit participation in CNS courses for students outside of CNS. The College of Natural Sciences must ensure certain courses are open and available to all majors. The new structure of this certificate ensures students outside CNS will be able to enroll in the science and math courses required for professional school preparation, provided adequate academic performance.

   The new proposed structure clarifies two degree tracks of students who might pursue this certificate: (1) students pursuing a degree in the College of Natural Sciences whose preparation for professional school should additionally include competencies in social science and psychology; (2) students outside the College of Natural Sciences who require access to basic science courses in CNS.

   A suggested course list is provided separately for these two tracks.

2. Add in statements regarding lack of admission for natural sciences majors and an admission requirement for non-science majors. Identify the courses and grades needed for admission into the certificate program. Identify the office, which will award the certificate. Identify when students should apply for the certificate.
   Rationale: Natural sciences majors are already taking the science courses as part of their degree plans. The degrees require completion of math and science coursework with minimum grades of C-. The grade requirement makes it more likely that the college will continue to have capacity to offer these seats to non-majors who are making good progress toward the healthcare professional program requirements. The anticipated participation of the certificate program is now too large to be supported by the Office of Health Professions. The dean’s office has a larger staff to handle the number of students who may participate in the certificate program.

3. Remove the requirement of three to six hours of public health. In the science major track, incorporate the public health oriented courses in requirement #1 to the Healthcare Policy theme under requirement #2c.
   Rationale: Natural sciences is concerned that there will be insufficient capacity in the public health courses. By incorporating the courses under the Healthcare Policy theme, the college hopes to remove enrollment pressures from the individual courses while still allowing students who take the classes to count them toward the certificate requirements.

4. Change title of healthcare theme from Cultural Competency to Cultural Awareness.
3. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE
   a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes
      If yes, then how? As with the previous draft of this certificate, this proposal requires students in CNS to pursue a variety of courses in other colleges, as described below.
   b. Will students in other degree programs be impacted (are the proposed changes to courses commonly taken by students in other colleges)? Yes
      If yes, then how? The proposed changes manage enrollment in the basic science courses required for professional school preparation. Students outside of CNS will be required to meet new prerequisites for access to these courses.
   c. Will students from your college take courses in other colleges? Yes.
      However, there will be fewer seats taken in courses from other colleges than would have been taken in the previous certificate structure.

If 3 a, b, or c was answered with yes:
   How many students do you expect to be impacted? This certificate will define and permit access to CNS courses for more than 1000 non-CNS majors wishing to take CNS courses for pre-medical education. It will serve potentially 500 CNS students hoping to take non-CNS courses for pre-professional education. It may curtail enrollment in CNS courses by non-CNS students because they fail to meet the academic criteria to enter the certificate. Based on past data, this could be 200 students per year. These CNS courses would not be crucial to non-CNS students’ degrees, but would impact their ability to pursue pre-professional education.

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:
   Person communicated with: Mark Bernstein, Associate Dean, Moody College of Communication
   Date of communication: February 5, 2014
   Response: No problems with the legislation.

   Person communicated with: Gayle Timmerman, Associate Dean, School of Nursing
   Date of communication: February 5, 2014
   Response: No problems with the legislation.

   Person communicated with: Richard Flores, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
   Date of communication: February 17, 2014
   Response: Overall, the certificate looks fine by me.

   Person communicated with: Richard Hogeda, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, College of Education
   Date of communication: February 17, 2014
   Response: The changes look fine to me and the College of Ed supports this new certificate.

   Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? No

   If yes, explain:

   If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:
   Person communicated with:
   Date of communication:
   Response:
e. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? No.
If yes, explain:

4. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS
College approval date: February 13, 2014
Dean approval date: February 14, 2014

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:
Pre-Health Professions Certificate

The Pre-Health Professions Certificate assists students in preparing for post-baccalaureate, healthcare professional programs.

Students are encouraged to work closely with the Health Professions Office to select healthcare themes relevant to their professional career goals. Some of the courses may contain prerequisites that are in addition to the coursework for the certificate.

Majors in the College of Natural Sciences must seek the Science Major Track. The composition of the science major track is one-half science coursework and one-half coursework from a theme related to healthcare. No admission to the track is required.

Majors outside of the College of Natural Sciences must seek the Non-Science Major Track. The composition of the non-science major track is science coursework necessary for admission to post-baccalaureate, healthcare professional programs. Non-science majors may apply to the certificate program upon completion of the following courses with grades of at least B+: Chemistry 301 and completion of one of the following: Statistics and Data Sciences 302, Mathematics 408K, 408C, or 408N. Upon admission, the ability to progress in the certificate is dependent on completion of the certificate courses with satisfactory grades. Non-science majors who complete the certificate may be eligible to enroll in select upper-division courses necessary for application to the health professions programs to which they are applying.

[No admission to the certificate is required.] Students must contact the Office of Health Professions; the Dean's Office in the College of Natural Sciences to request the certificate during the beginning of the semester in which they are completing the requirements. The certificate consists of a minimum of eighteen hours with grades of at least C-.

Science Major Track:

1. [Three to six hours of public-health coursework, chosen from the following: Geography 357, Public Health 317, and Sociology 308 (Topics: Global Inequities and Health), 319, 336D, 354K, 368D, and 369K.]
   b. Biology: Biology 311C, 311D, and 206L.
   d. Statistics: One of the following courses: Mathematics 316; and Statistics and Data Sciences 302, 304, 306, or 328M.

2. Complete a minimum of nine hours chosen from the following themes relevant to healthcare. [Six to twelve hours selected from one or two of the following themes relevant to healthcare. A minimum of six hours must be taken in each theme applied toward the certificate requirements. No more than nine hours in a single theme may be applied toward the certificate requirements.]
a. Cultural Awareness [Competency]:
   i. Anthropology 322M (Topic 5: Indians of Mexico and Guatemala).
   iii. African and African Diaspora Studies 301.
   vi. Middle Eastern Studies 301L.

b. Health and Anatomy:
   i. Classical Civilization 306M.
   ii. Educational Psychology 363 (Topic: Human Sexuality) or Health Education 366.
   iii. Health Education 335, 343, 352K, 370K, and 373.
   iv. Kinesiology 320, 324K, 325K, and 326K.
   v. Psychology 301, 308, 332C, 341K (Topic 4: Health Psychology), 346K, and 353K.

c. Healthcare Policy:
   i. Communication Studies 322E.
   ii. History 350R (Topic 18: Women in Sickness and Health)
   iii. Philosophy 325M.
   iv. Nursing 309 and 321.
   vii. Geography 357.

d. Human and Societal Development:
   i. Communication Studies 310K and 322E.
   ii. Educational Psychology 369K (Topic 10: Educational Neuroscience).
   iii. Human Development and Family Sciences 304, 313, 335, 342, 351, and 378K (Topic: Biobehavioral Health Processes Across the Family).
   iv. Nursing 310.
   v. Psychology 301, 308, 332C, 341K (Topic 4: Health Psychology), and 346K.
   vi. Sociology 302 and 330C.

e. Nutrition:
   i. Communication Studies 322E.
   ii. History 350R (Topic 5: American Cultural History of Alcohol and Drugs).
   iii. Nutrition 312, 218, 326, and 331.
   [3. To achieve the minimum of eighteen hours required for the certificate, up to eight hours may be selected from the courses listed below.]
   [c. Statistics: One of the following courses: Mathematics 316, Statistics and Data Analysis 302, 304, 306, or 328M.]

Non-Science Major Track:

1. Complete a minimum of eighteen hours from the following:
   a. Biology: Biology 311C, 311D, and 206L.
   b. Chemistry: Chemistry 302 and 204.
   c. Physics: Physics 302K, 102M, 302L, and 102N. The following physics sequences may substitute if they are already completed: Physics 317K, 117M, 317L, and 117N; 301, 101L, 316, and 116L; and 303K, 103M, 303L, and 103N.

1 Corrected March 17, 2014.
Students who successfully complete the Non-Science Major Track in requirement 1 will be eligible to enroll in the following courses according to the professional field they intend to enter. These additional courses are not required to earn the Pre-Health Professions Certificate.

Pre-dental preparation: Biochemistry 369; Biology 320, 325, 326M; Chemistry 320M, 320N, 220C.
Pre-medical preparation: Biochemistry 369; Biology 320, 325; Chemistry 320M, 320N, 220C.
Pre-occupational therapy preparation: Biology 325, 446L, 365S, 165U; Mathematics 316.
Pre-optometry preparation: Biochemistry 369; Biology 325, 326M, 226L, 446L, 365S, 165U; Chemistry 320M, 320N, 220C; Mathematics 316.
Pre-physical therapy preparation: Biology 325, 446L, 365S, 165U; Mathematics 316.
Pre-veterinary preparation: Biochemistry 369; Biology 325, 326R, 226L, 344; Statistics and Data Sciences 321 or 328M.