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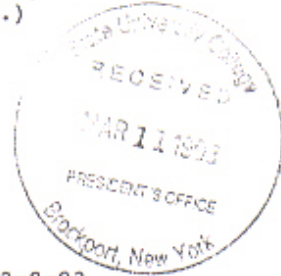
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Routing #10 92-93 1992 Resolution #8
1992-1993

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering
FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on 3-1-93
(Date)
RE: X I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
For your information
SUBJECT: Revision in MS in Recreation & Leisure



Signed William Astory Date Sent 3-8-93
(For the Senate)

TO: The Faculty Senate
FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering
RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution
a. Accepted. Effective Date fall 93
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate
on _____
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the
attached explanation

II, III.
a. Received and acknowledged
b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: SEE ATTACHED LIST - COVER PAGE
ONLY

Distribution Date 3/17/93 Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)

Proposal for Major Revision in M.S. Degree in REL--A Third Way to Complete the 33 Credit Degree Program

Submitted by the Program in Recreation and Leisure Studies

February 12, 1993

Overview

The Master of Science degree in REL is officially just about 13 months old. Our first anniversary provided a logical time to do a formative review of the graduate program. As a result of that review, we respectfully request the Faculty Senate's approval to fine tune our graduate curriculum to be more in line with our peer programs and institutions and, of course, to ultimately better serve our student body. The entire program has four full-time faculty and seven adjuncts, with 131 undergraduate students and 16 graduate students. Of the total 33 credits to complete the degree, 9 to 12 credits of guided graduate electives are taken from a variety of departments.

The revision that we propose is to offer a third means of completing the master's degree. The two already existing ways to complete the 33 credit M.S. are: (1) 27 credits of courses plus 6 credits of project and (2) 27 credits of courses plus 6 credits of thesis. The third way that is proposed remains a total of 33 credits of course work only with a culminating experience nested in REL 715: Seminar: Research Design. That experience is the writing and presentation of a prospectus. (Please see attached course syllabus).

1. Comparison of Existing and Revised Program

Existing Program

Recreation & Leisure Studies
Graduate Core: 21 cr. total

MTH 541 Statistical Methods I or = 3 cr.
REL 600 Phil Anal of Leisure 3 cr.
REL 602 Soc/Psy of Leis Behav 3 cr.
REL 715 Seminar: Res Design 3 cr.
REL 796 Grad Internship 3 cr.

OR

Guided Grad Elective (if meet prev. professional experience criteria)
REL 797 Research Project 6 cr.
OR
REL 798 Thesis 6 cr.

Therapeutic Rec Area of Concentration
6 cr. total
REL 612 Assess/Eval TR Serv 3 cr.
REL 613 Admin TR Services 3 cr.

Rec & Leis Serv Mgt Area of Concentration
6 cr. total
REL 605 Probs Admin Leis Orgs 3 cr.
REL 610 Adv Prog Design & Eval 3 cr.

Proposed Program w/added choice

Recreation & Leisure Studies
Graduate Core: 21 cr. total

MTH 541 Statistical Methods I or = 3 cr.
REL 600 Phil Anal of Leisure 3 cr.
REL 602 Soc/Psy of Leis Behav 3 cr.
REL 715 Seminar: Res Design 3 cr.
REL 796 Grad Internship 3 cr.

OR

Guided Grad Elective (if meet prev. professional experience criteria)
Additional Graduate Course in REL 3 cr.
Additional Graduate Course in REL 3 cr.
(the 3rd means to completing degree)

Therapeutic Rec Area of Concentration
6 cr. total
REL 612 Assess/Eval TR Serv 3 cr.
REL 613 Admin TR Services 3 cr.

Rec & Leis Serv Mgt Area of Concentration
6 cr. total
REL 605 Probs Admin Leis Orgs 3 cr.
REL 610 Adv Prog Design & Eval 3 cr.

OR

AND

Guided Graduate Electives
6 cr. total

Guided Graduate Electives
6 cr. total

Two additional graduate courses of relevance to either the core or the chosen area of concentration selected with the approval of the academic advisor.

2. Rationale for revisions

At the request of the REL faculty, paralleling the investigation done of undergraduate internships earlier in the semester, the REL Graduate Coordinator did a survey of both randomly selected and similar comparable master's degree in REL granting institutions and found the following:

<u>School</u>	<u>Means of Completing MS Degree in REL</u>
SUNY Cortland (purposefully selected school)	30 cr. including 6 cr. of thesis <u>or</u> 30 cr. of courses only w/a comprehensive exam
Indiana University	30 cr. with thesis <u>or</u> 35 cr. of courses only
San Fran. State Univ.	30 cr. with thesis <u>or</u> 33 cr. of courses only
San Jose. State Univ.	30 cr. (Plan A with thesis) <u>or</u> 30 cr. (Plan B courses only)
Univ. of Florida	30 cr. with thesis <u>or</u> 37 cr. of courses only
Univ. of Illinois	32 cr. including 8 hrs. of thesis <u>or</u> 32 cr. and a professional paper
Univ. of Wisc-LaCrosse	30-36 cr. (Option A Thesis), 30-36 cr. (Option B Seminar Paper), <u>or</u> 34-36 cr. (Option C Course work only)

As appropriate to all academic advising, the REL faculty would continue to inform our advisees about the means to completing the degree and indicate that if one does not choose to do a thesis or project and later decides to go on for a doctoral degree, that he or she would likely be required to do a thesis equivalency. Additionally, those selecting the proposed third choice of course work only, would be equally as carefully advised into selections that related to the advisee's specialized area of interest or to his or her professional advancement goals.

Further, considering that REL is known as a "writing intensive major," it was not surprising that when the faculty inspected all REL swing and graduate course syllabi, it was found that at least one major term paper or comparable writing project is required.

The proposed revision is in line with what other programs are doing within the range of 30-37 cr.--offering a non-thesis or non-project choice in completing the degree along with the thesis or project choices. Our current 33 cr., with the culminating experience of preparing and submitting a prospectus nested in the REL 715 Seminar: Research Design course does not result in any of the following:

- any negative impact on any other academic unit;
- any need for additional faculty resources;
- any additional tuition;
- any additional time to complete the degree; or
- less than/more than the original 33 credits.

By turning to the attached syllabus, one can see that the prospectus assignment in REL 715 is a significant written exercise. Those who choose to take the thesis or project route will be well along the way in conducting their study. Those who choose to complete their degree with two more REL

courses will also have written within the styles and conventions of recreation, leisure, and therapeutic recreation research, conceptualized a problem, reviewed the literature, and proposed a method.

3. Evidence of demand for any new focus or emphasis in the program

There is no new emphasis or focus in the program. What is requested in the proposed revision is a third means to completing the degree.

4. Potential clientele

The potential clientele for the proposed revision is expected to be the same as for the current program. The current clientele (N=16) includes 14 part-time students and 2 full-time students who are, according to their interviews, seeking the degree for more specialized knowledge in a particular area of recreation, leisure, or therapeutic recreation or seeking professional development/ advancement.

5. Description of new courses

No new courses are required by the proposed revision. Nineteen REL swing and graduate courses/topics/independent studies are already offered. (Please see attached listing of catalog descriptions of courses).

6. Staffing

Existing staff can accommodate the proposed revision.

7. Resources, facilities, and non-teaching staff needed to implement the program

Existing resources, facilities, and non-teaching staff can accommodate the proposed revision.

8. Letters of support from cooperating departments, agencies, institutions, etc.

Does not apply. No other departments, agencies, institutions, etc. are affected.

9. Competition the program has from other Rochester area colleges

There are no other Rochester area colleges that offer this degree program. SUNY Cortland is the only other public institution offering the M.S. in REL. Lehman College is a CUNY institution that offers the M.S. Ed. in Phys. Ed., Recreation & Dance.

Given the rationale for the third way to complete the M.S. degree in REL it is our hope that the Faculty Senate will act favorably regarding this adjustment. Thank you very much.

Respectfully submitted by,

Christine Z. Howe, Professor, Graduate Coordinator &
Acting Program Coordinator in REL

cc: REL Full-time Faculty