

5-4-1998

# Proposal to Restructure the Existing Brockport Career Exploration Course

The College at Brockport, College Senate

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# FACULTY SENATE

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# Resolution #11 1997-98

S.U.N.Y.  
COLLEGE AT BROCKPORT  
RECEIVED

MAY 21 1998

FACULTY SENATE  
BROCKPORT, NY 14420

TO: Dr. Paul Yu, College President

FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on: **May 4, 1998**

RE:  I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)  
 II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)  
 III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)  
For your information

SUBJ: ***Proposal to Restructure the Existing Brockport Career Exploration Course***

Signed: *Anne H. Parsons* Date Sent: 5/6/98  
(Anne H. Parsons, Faculty Senate President)



TO: The Faculty Senate

FROM: Dr. Paul Yu, College President

RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution  
a. Accepted Effective Date: 5/1/98 *immediately*  
b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on 5/1/98  
c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III.

- a. Received and acknowledged  
b. Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRIBUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

Distribution Date: 5/12/98 Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Paul Yu*  
(President of the College)

Resolution Disk:9798-11.RES:ayk

## **Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**

### **Proposal to Restructure the Existing Brockport Career Exploration Course**

#### **History and Background:**

Dr. Peter Marchant established The Brockport Cooperative Education Program (BCEP) in the 1970s as an English course. In the 1980s the course was transferred to the Office of Career Services under the direction of Dr. George Toth. During this period, the course was expanded to approximately 10 courses in predominantly liberal arts departments and renamed the Brockport Career Exploration Course. During the 1990s with the help of then Dean of the School of Professions, Dr. Mike Harter, the program was established as a separate department with course listings for every academic department. The present structure has allowed for a greater variety of majors to participate. Further, the new structure allows for multiple faculty members from the various departments to sponsor students.

In addition, the Office of Career Services offers nine other experiential programs that include the Fourth Credit Option (one credit course) and Cooperative Education (credit is granted through academic departments or the Brockport Career Exploration Course). To streamline paperwork, maximize staff time and simplify the marketing message, we are proposing to eliminate the existing programs of the Fourth Credit Option and Cooperative Education and expand the scope of the Brockport Career Exploration Course to make it variable credit (1-6 credits).

#### **2. Rationale for Changes:**

Given the demand for the Brockport Career Exploration Course (50 students per semester) and the lack of staff and resources to support the Fourth Credit Option and Cooperative Education, approval of this proposal will reduce administrative and clerical time and make the concept of experiential learning more meaningful to students. At Brockport, Cooperative Education occupies 15% of the Senior Associate for Career Services time while service-learning (fourth credit option) is allocated 10% of his time. The Brockport Career Exploration Course occupies 25% of the Senior Associate's time.

#### **3. Evidence of demand for proposed revisions**

Demand for the BCEC from students and faculty is far greater than the other experiential programs (Co-op, Student Literacy Corps, Albany Internship Programs, Fourth Credit Option) combined. Since the expansion of the BCEC to all academic departments in 1993 over 50 full-time faculty (out of 300) have participated and over 500 students have enrolled in the program. In comparison, since its inception in 1995, approximately 50 students have participated in the Fourth Credit Option while Cooperative Education has less than 10 students a semester. It should be noted that most co-op students enroll in the Brockport Career Exploration Course for credit.

Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee  
April 17, 1998

### Old Program

#### Brockport Career Exploration Course

- 125 hours of work
- faculty sponsor
- 3 credit hours (occasionally 6 credits, 3 BCEC and 3 independent study)
- 3 workshops
- reflective journals
- separate application process
- mostly unpaid experiences
- pass / fail
- does not count towards major or minor

#### Fourth Credit Option

- 40 hours of work
- faculty sponsor
- 1 credit hour
- must be linked to an academic course
- one workshop / meeting
- separate application process
- unpaid experiences only

#### Cooperative Education

- hours linked to credit (most co-ops are enrolled in the Brockport Career Exploration Course for 3 credits – occasionally 6 credits through academic departments)
- requires faculty approval
- separate application process
- paid experiences only

### New Program

#### Revised Brockport Career Exploration Course

- hours of work linked to credit (minimum: 40 hours of work – 1 credit, 125 – 3 credits, 250 – 6 credits)
- faculty sponsor
- variable credit 1-6 credits
- # of workshops contingent upon credit (3 credits, 3 workshops)
- all students would keep a journal
- one application process
- paid and unpaid experiences
- emphasis is on experience (paid, unpaid) in all sectors public, non-profit, for-profit)
- pass / fail
- does not count towards major or minor
- 12 credits maximum total credit <sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> College policy allows a maximum of 18 experiential credits in programs such as academic internships, student teaching, Washington Semester Program, Albany Internship Programs.

**4. Description of new courses, including program entrance and exit requirements.**

The course would fundamentally stay the same, with the exception of the variable credit component linked to the number of hours worked. As noted above, a student wishing to work 40 hours would receive 1 credit, while the student working 250 hours would receive 6 credits. Entrance requirements would continue to be:

- A. Second semester sophomore or above
- B. Good academic standing
- C. Approval by and support of a faculty sponsor

Exit requirements would continue to be:

- A. Completion and documentation of hour requirement
- B. Attendance at required workshops
- C. Completion of any assignments from faculty sponsor

**5. Staffing / budget items**

- A. This proposal will free up existing administrative and clerical time spent administering the separate experiential programs. No new staff or resources are requested.

**6. Facilities and non-teaching staff needed to implement the program:**

- A. Registration and Records – We have addressed these changes with Mr. Peter Dowe , Assistant Registrar to assess the impact on their area. He has indicated that no additional resources or burden would be incurred by the implementation of a variable credit experiential education program. The only modification needed would be to change the existing registration form to reflect the variable credit.