

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S. 71-14

MEMORANDUM

To Mr. H. M. Evans,
Secretary of Senate.

From D. H. Sullivan, Dean,
Faculty of Arts.

Subject Double Major Degree, Major/Minor
Degree & Joint Major Degree -
S.448.

Date December 21, 1970

At the December meeting of Senate, the ruling on paper S.448 re Double Major Degree, Major/Minor Degree, and Joint Major Degree was postponed until the January 11th meeting of Senate.

The Senate Agenda Committee may wish to include the following additional information when this item is considered at the January 11th meeting of Senate.

During the 70-71 Calendar preparation a year ago, the Curriculum Committee decided that some clarification on multiple degrees was necessary; however, the Calendar deadlines at that time did not allow sufficient time for the full discussion this matter required. During the past year, papers have been discussed in the Curriculum Committee and referred back to Departments for comments. The Curriculum Committee asked each Department to consider whether majors of other departments would be allowed to obtain a minor in their department, and if so, what their minor requirements would be. All statements from departments were taken into consideration in the drafting of revised regulations for the Bachelor of Arts degree which were presented to the Chairmen of Departments in the Dean's Advisory Committee during the summer semester, 1970. The Chairmen in turn referred the draft to their departments, and a submission, incorporating suggestions made by departments through their Chairmen in the D.A.C., was brought back to the Curriculum Committee for final modification. The Curriculum Committee's recommendations were approved by the Faculty by Referendum Ballot No. 21, on November 12, 1970.

A brief rationale for the recommended policies for I. Double Major Degrees, II. Major/Minor Degrees and III. Joint Major Degrees is given below:

I. Double Major Degrees

The Calendar entry that has appeared in the 70-71 & 69-70 Undergraduate Calendar reads as follows:

"It is possible for a student following the General Program to declare a double major - that is, to fulfill the major requirements for two different departments. Anyone interested in undertaking such a program should consult with an advisor in each department concerned."

The present policy on the granting of Double majors is outlined in the following excerpt from the closed session of Senate, January 6, 1969:

" . . . the Registrar indicated that a candidate cannot be given a degree with two majors. In those instances where a candidate has qualified for more than one major, the candidate is required to indicate the specific major he/she wishes entered on official documents. Arrangements are then made to place a special letter in the file of the candidate to the effect that he/she also qualified in another major; such letter is then available for release to the candidate or other appropriate persons as necessary."

This ruling has been disappointing to students who expected both majors would be entered on their transcript. The Curriculum Committee is bringing forward a recommendation that Double Majors be formalized and the two majors indicated on the student's permanent record..

At present, a student is considered to have *qualified* for two majors if he completes the major requirements in the respective departments; i.e. 30 hours numbered 300 and above in the upper levels in each of the major subjects as well as all lower level requirements for both major subjects and group requirements. The requirement of "at least 15 hours in courses outside the major subject area" is automatically satisfied in the upper levels when the student completes 30 hours in each of the two majors.

The policy statement outlined in Senate paper S.448 incorporates the qualifications stated above for the Double Major Degree.

"Students who satisfy the complete requirements of a second department will receive a Bachelor of Arts degree with a Double Major. A student is considered to have met the requirements for two majors if he completes 30 hours numbered 300 and above in the upper levels in each of the major subjects as well as all lower level requirements for both major subjects and the group requirements. (The requirement of 'at least 15 hours in courses outside the major subject area' is automatically satisfied in the upper levels when the student completes 30 hours in each of the two majors.) Each department in which the student is obtaining a Major will stipulate the requirements for that Major."

II. Major/Minor Degrees

In the Calendar entry for the Department of Economics and Commerce, commencing with the 1966-67 Calendar, it has been indicated that a student may select a minor. In the 66-67, 67-68, and 68-69 Calendars, D.E.C. suggests that "in conjunction with a major in economics and commerce, students may find it useful to select a minor in mathematics, geography, political science, sociology or history. . . . and in psychology." In their 70-71 Calendar entry, they include mathematics, geography, political science, sociology, history or biological sciences as possible selections for a minor and go on to give an example: "... a minor in Biological Sciences is required to take 24 semester hours of Biology, of which 15 must be 300 and 400 level courses..." and have listed specific Bio-Sciences courses a student should take. The Curriculum Committee, when they approved the D.E.C. 70-71 Calendar entry last year, agreed that if some individual departments wished to propose minor programs, a Faculty-wide policy on major/minor programs should be established and approved by Senate. The Economics and Commerce Department was asked to prepare a paper giving their rationale for minor requirements outlined in the 70-71 Calendar. This paper, which was referred to all departments in the Faculty of Arts in the initial discussions on this subject, is attached. Departments submitted statements defining the minor requirements they would prescribe for a major/minor degree; and these, along with the outline of the MINOR definition in the "Requirements for the B.Ed. Degree" were

taken into consideration at the time the policy of major/minor degree was formulated by the Faculty of Arts Curriculum Committee. This policy is outlined in Senate Paper S.448. It is as follows:

"Those students that fulfill a specified minimum but not the complete requirements for a second major will receive their degree with a Major in the declared department with a Minor in the second department. To fulfill the requirements for a Minor, the student must complete at least 24 hours, of which at least 15 must be numbered 300 and above, in the Minor subject area. The department in which the student is obtaining the Minor will stipulate the Minor field requirements."

III. Joint Major and Joint Honors Degrees.

The specified requirements for a Joint Honors Degree have appeared in the general requirements for the B.A. Degree in the 68-69, 69-70, 70-71 Calendars, and prior to that a general statement on Joint Honors programs appeared in the 67-68 Calendar. In 1967, the philosophy behind the Joint Honors degree was stated in some detail and approved by the Faculty and Senate. At the same time, the Joint Major degree in Ec/Com was approved as requiring "at least 25 credits in economics.... and at least 26 credits in commerce...." and these requirements have appeared in all Calendars since.

The Curriculum Committee, in studying the matter of multiple degrees, decided that a Faculty policy on Joint Degrees should be included in the Calendar under the general requirements for the B.A. Degree.

The Curriculum Committee agreed that a reasonable minimum requirement for a Joint Major Degree would be at least 45 hours numbered 300 and above, of which at least 22 would be in each discipline. This would be compatible with the requirement of 45 hours numbered 300 and above

for the general B.A. degree, and the 22 hours in each would be roughly half the required number of hours for each discipline. It is pointed out that these numbers represent the minimum requirements laid down for the Faculty of Arts, and if the individual departments wish to specify more hours (e.g. D.E.C.), these would be clearly spelled out in the respective sections of the Calendar.

The policy on Joint Majors as recommended by the Curriculum Committee and approved by the Faculty of Arts is stated as follows:

"Some departments in the University may offer special Joint-Major or Joint Honors* programs. Such programs would allow qualified students to undertake the study of the inter-relationship of two disciplines; e.g. Honors Economics and Honors History. Students interested should consult with the departments concerned to have their individual program approved.

The minimum semester hours for the Joint-Major degree shall be 45 hours in courses numbered 300 and above (at least 22 in each discipline) of the 60 hours to be taken in the upper levels by students in the General Program."

*The Joint-Honors degree requirements are as outlined in the current Calendar.

D. H. Sullivan /ms.

D. H. Sullivan, Dean,
Faculty of Arts.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Department of Economics and Commerce

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Faculty of Arts From: W. Wedley
Curriculum Committee Economics & Commerce

Subject: Major/Minor Requirements Date: November 26, 1969

The Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Curriculum Committee has requested that you consider whether majors of other departments would be allowed to obtain a minor in your department. If the idea of a minor from your department is acceptable, what would be your requirements? The Department of Economics and Commerce and the Department of Biological Sciences have already evolved two joint prototype programs. Details regarding these two programs are included below, as a guide for your discussions.

Program A. B.A. Economics/Commerce with a minor in Biology.

Program B. B.Sc. Biological Sciences with a minor in Economics/Commerce.

The proposals were submitted for the 1970-71 calendar in the following forms:

Program A: Change paragraph 2, page 73, first sentence to conclude "sociology, history, or biological sciences.", and add the following:

"For example, a minor in Biological-Sciences is required to take 24 semester hours of Biology, of which 15 must be 300 or 400 level courses. Courses which might prove of particular interest to the Economics/Commerce major include the following:

Bio. Sc. 003, 204, 300, 303, 317, 400, 404, 407, 408, and 435.

Students desiring such a major/minor program should contact both of the Departments involved."

Program B: Page 209: After "Biochemistry" paragraph insert new section as follows:

"Biology with Economics/Commerce"

Those Biology Majors or Honors students who wish to emphasize Economics or Commerce in their electives are recommended the following program:

Required in B.Sc. Biology Program:

80 semester hours in Sciences courses

6 semester hours in Humanities

24 hours of Economics/Commerce of which the following might prove of particular interest to the Biologist (at least 15 hours must be upper level courses):

Economics: 101, 200, 205, 236, 301, 305, 335, 363, 390, 455, 465, 495.

Commerce: 203, 303, 335, 337, 343, 370, 393, 397, 436, 443, 488, 373.

10 semester hours of electives
120 hours total

Students desiring such a program should contact both the Department of Biological Sciences and the Department of Economics and Commerce.

These programs encompass the following principles:

- a. A minimum of structure is imposed upon the student "minor" courses. The sole stipulation is that he must take at least 24 hours, of which at least 15 must be upper level, from the minor field. It is contemplated that, where appropriate and by the permission of the instructor, prerequisites for upper level courses might be dropped.
- b. The student in a joint program is required to take the same courses in his major as he would were he not in a joint program.

EXCERPT FROM

DEC UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF NOV. 26, 1969

-
6. The following general policies were adopted with regard to our proposed major/minor programs:
 - a. The department in which the student is obtaining a minor will stipulate the minor field requirements.
 - b. We will offer no reduction in our major field requirements to students carrying a minor field.
 - c. The DEC minor field requirements will be 24 credit hours in DEC courses, at least 15 of which must be upper level credits.
 - d. If at least 18 of the required 24 credits for the minor are in Economics, the minor shall be called an Economics minor; if at least 18 are in Commerce, a Commerce minor; and if neither of these cases holds, the minor shall be referred to as an Economics and Commerce minor.