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**MEMORANDUM**

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**ATTENTION** Senate **DATE** February 10, 2011  
**FROM** Jon Driver, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1  
**RE:** Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences: Suspension of Admission and Dissolution of Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Mathematics and Statistics (SCUP 11-05)

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At its January 26, 2011 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the proposal to suspend admission to the Bachelor of Arts Degree programs in Mathematics (major and honours) within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2011 and dissolve the programs effective Fall 2011.

SCUP reviewed and approved the proposal to suspend admission to the Bachelor of Arts Degree programs in Statistics (major and honours) within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2011 and dissolve the programs effective Fall 2011.

**Motion 1:**

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the suspension of admission to the Bachelor of Arts Degree programs in Mathematics (major, honours), and in Statistics (major, honours) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Summer 2011.

**Motion 2:**

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the dissolution of the Bachelor of Arts Degree programs in Mathematics (major, honours), and Statistics (major, honours) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, effective Fall 2011.

encl.

c: P. Budra

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**MEMORANDUM**

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| <b>ATTENTION</b> | Senate Committee on University Priorities  | <b>DATE</b>  | January 7, 2011 |
| <b>FROM</b>      | Bill Krane, Chair  | <b>PAGES</b> | 1/1             |
| <b>RE:</b>       | Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies<br>Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (SCUS 11-03(i)(ii)) |              |                 |



Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of January 6, 2011, gives rise to the following recommendations:

Motions:

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the suspension of admission to the Faculty of Arts and Social Science's Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics and Statistics effective Summer 2011.

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the dissolution of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science's Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics and Statistics effective Fall 2011.

**The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.**



FACULTY OF  
ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

MEMO

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TO: Bill Krane, Assoc. VP Academic

FROM John Craig, Dean FASS

RE Math and Stats

cc. Jo Hinchliffe, Sarah Dench

DATE November 30, 2010

We are recommending that admissions to the FASS BAs in Mathematics and Statistics be permanently suspended. These degree programs generate almost no student interest: in the past ten years six FASS students have graduated with Math majors and five with Stats majors.

There are other reasons for stopping admission into these programs: the few students who do take these programs seem to do so by accident; these students place an unusual burden on FASS advisors because the vast majority of their course work is in the Faculty of Science; finally, the two FASS BAs are virtually identical to their BSc counterparts.

For all of these reasons, please suspend admissions into these FASS degree programs as of the end of the spring term 2011. FASS faculty have been consulted and they see no reason to continue the program.

Many thanks. If you have any questions, please direct them to Paul Budra ([budra@sfu.ca](mailto:budra@sfu.ca)).

John Craig, Dean pro tem

# SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## Degree Program Dissolution Process

The Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Undergraduate Curriculum Committee has voted in favour of terminating the Math and Stats BAs and Honours degrees in FASS.

1. Program to be discontinued: The Faculty of Arts Mathematics Major and Honours programs; the Faculty of Arts Statistics Major and Honours programs.
2. Location: Burnaby
3. These programs are offered by FASS, though the vast majority of the courses are in the Faculty of Science
4. Anticipated final dissolution date: Summer, 2011
5. Reasons for discontinuance and dissolution of the program:
  - a. There is virtually no demand for these programs in FASS and the few students who have taken them in the past ten years seem to have entered them by accident
  - b. The presence of these programs, which are composed of course work almost entirely in another faculty, in FASS, is confusing both to students and FASS advisors
  - c. These programs are virtually identical to their BSc counterparts in Math and Stats.
6. Plan for phasing-out of program:
  - a. Students and prospective students are being told by FASS advisors that the Math and Stats degrees will only be offered through the Faculty of Science. There are presently two students in each of the Math and Stats BAs. They will be grandfathered through. Students intending to enter the program will be advised to move to the BSc or they will be grandfathered through in FASS
  - b. Department chairs and undergraduate chairs were consulted in January 2010. Because all the significant courses for these programs are in the Faculty of Science, there is no anticipated implications for FASS teaching and curriculum
  - c. As the teaching for these programs is done in the Faculty of Science, there will be no resource reallocation implications for FASS
  - d. The Departments of Math and Stats were consulted on Nov. 3, 2010 and earlier
  - e. In a meeting with members of the Departments of Math and Stats on Nov. 3, 2010, it was suggested that those programs mount their own BAs in their disciplines and housed in the Faculty of Science
  - f. Timeline of activities: Bill Krane received a memo earlier this month asking for admission into the program to be discontinued; we would like the program dissolved as of the summer of 2011
7. Please contact Paul Budra, Associate Dean, FASS, 778-782-4416, [budra@sfu.ca](mailto:budra@sfu.ca)