

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.71-4

MEMORANDUM

To..... Members of Senate

From..... Academic Planning Committee

Subject..... Definition of a Minor

Date..... December 22, 1970

RECOMMENDATION:

That Senate define a minor program in the following manner:

14-18 upper division credit hours in a subject area with the distribution of those upper division hours and the establishment of the number and nature of lower division requirements to be left to the discretion of program committees in the Division of General Studies, individual departments or Faculties.

BACKGROUND:

The Faculty of Education has received approval from Senate for the establishment of two alternative minor structures. If a student is in arts or science and desires a minor in education, he shall be required to take 15 upper division hours with a maximum of 9 pre-requisite lower division hours; a student in education will be required to take 14-18 upper division hours coupled with a maximum of 9 credit hours of lower division prerequisites. The Faculty of Arts has recommended a minor consisting of 24 credit hours at the upper division level. This recommendation has been deferred by Senate pending receipt of this paper from the Academic Planning Committee.

In and of themselves, these differences pose no problem. However, there has been some discussion of establishing a double minor degree in which a students' two minors would not necessarily have to be in the same faculty. Under these conditions, it appears desirable to

establish some minimum constraints so that there will be some degree of uniformity across faculties in the offering of a minor. Since the Faculty of Education has already had a minor approved by Senate, the requirements contained therein have been used as the basis for formulating the proposed University-wide requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Within the overall guidelines set out above, program committees in the Division of General Studies, individual departments or Faculties will be responsible for formulating the requirements for a minor in their particular discipline or subject area and forwarding their proposal through established channels to Senate for its approval.

The identification of those courses which constitute a subject area will be left to the discretion of individual departments.