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MEMORANDUM

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ATTENTION	Senate	DATE	January 7, 2011
FROM	Bill Krane, Chair Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies	PAGES	1/1
RE:	Faculty of Applied Sciences (SCUS 11-01a)		

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

Motion:

That Senate approve the elimination of Direct Admission to the Bachelor of General Studies within the Faculty of Applied Sciences effective Spring 2012.



FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

MEMO

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<b>ATTENTION</b>	<b>Bill Krane, Chair SCUS</b>
<b>FROM</b>	Rob Cameron, Associate Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences
<b>RE</b>	Faculty of Applied Sciences Elimination of Direct Admission to BGSAP
<b>DATE</b>	December 14, 2010

The following motion is appended here for approval and recommendation to senate.

1. Motion - that the Faculty of Applied Sciences eliminate direct admission to the Bachelor of General Studies in Applied Sciences program for incoming students to the university.

Rationale:

The BGSAP degree, established prior to the faculty restructuring, was initially conceived as a means to provide a formal credential to students interested in combining courses and/or programs across the wide range of offerings available within the former faculty (REM, Kinesiology, Computing, Engineering, Communications, Tech One and SIAT). As the programs within the newly restructured faculty are much more closely aligned, the need for this type of program has now diminished.

In addition, the BGSAP program appears to be inconsistently understood by external applicants who tend to either equate it with a degree program in Computing Science or Engineering Science or to conceive of it as a general or undecided first year program that will lead into one of these two degrees. As this is not the case, we believe that eliminating this option from the PASBC application site will more clearly indicate the pathways available to new students and thereby help to ensure students are placed appropriately at the beginning of their first year.

While the faculty would like to maintain this program for students who are interested in a broader applied sciences education, we believe it is better kept as an option for students who have been at the university for some time and who have specific reasons for choosing this type of program (as a precursor to elementary teacher education, for example).

Eliminating the program from the PASBC application site would enable us to meet with students prior to internal transfer, assess their goals, advise them of the strengths and weaknesses of the program and ensure that they clearly understand the scope of the curriculum and their employment prospects post-graduation.

As applications are already open for the Fall 2011 intake, it is suggested that this change be implemented for the Spring 2012 application cycle.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Cameron". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.