



Strand Hall 3100
8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC
Canada V5A 1S6

TEL 778.782.6854
FAX 778.782.5876

Sarah_dench@sfu.ca
www.sfu.ca/vpacademic

MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Dr. Jon Driver
FROM Sarah Dench
RE: Undergraduate Designated Breadth Requirements

DATE January 20, 2011
PAGES 1/1



From discussion at the January 10, 2011 meeting of Senate, a question arose as to whether or not Engineering Science had received approval for the exemption of a Breadth-Humanities course requirement, as requested in the proposal for the Mechatronics Engineering-Business Administration. The request for a B-Hum course exemption was reviewed carefully as part of the discussion at SCUS, and SCUS approved the exemption as part of the motion to approve and recommend the program to SCUP and Senate.

The reasons for the exemption in this program were two-fold;

1. The double degree between Mechatronics and Business Administration as proposed is inherently interdisciplinary. With regard to the designated Breadth requirements, Senate has previously taken the approach that joint and double majors and second degrees have inherent breadth and as such warrant special consideration (Senate previously approved these amendments). The exemption request in the proposed double degree was consistent with that principle.
2. When Senate originally approved the WQB requirements there was recognition at Senate that some programs may need to request specific breadth exemptions due to particularly tight or heavy program demands, in order to ensure the requirements in such programs are not onerous for students. Engineering Science has previously requested and received other B course exemptions for program streams on this basis (approved by SCUS and Senate), and the request made in conjunction with the double degree was consistent with these previous approvals.

Overall, the designated Breadth requirements for undergraduate degree programs have not been changed or eliminated, and the exemption granted to the Mechatronics-Business Administration double degree was consistent with precedents, and complies with Senate policy.