

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.72-89

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES

Subject CHANGES IN THE GRADUATE PROGRAM
IN ECONOMICS & COMMERCE

Date JULY 18, 1972

MOTION: "That the changes to the Graduate Program in Economics & Commerce, as set forth in Paper S.72-89, be approved:

1. Economics 838-5 (Topics in Econometrics) and Economics 853-5 (Economic History of North America) to be starred indicating that these courses will normally be offered at least once a year.
2. Economics 831-5 (Mathematical Economics) and Economics 832-5 (Activity Analysis) to be dropped from the starred list presently in the calendar.
3. Drop the following courses from the calendar:
 - Economics 802-5 (Consumer Economics)
 - Economics 803-5 (Welfare Economics)
 - Economics 804-5 (Theory of the Firm)
 - Economics 864-5 (Agriculture in Economic Development)
 - Economics 893-5 (Antitrust Policy)

4. The following fields presently listed to be dropped from the areas in which qualifying examinations for the Ph.D. will be offered:

Mathematical Economics

Public Finance

5. That the course requirements for the M.A. degree are as follows:

- a) all M.A. candidates are required to take one of Economics 800-5 or 801-5; one of Economics 805-5, 806-5, or 810-5.

- b) demonstrate competence in Analytical Economics and Quantitative Methods."

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To..... Dr. J. Wheatley
Dean of Graduate Studies

From..... K. Okuda, Chairman 
Graduate Academic Program
Economics and Commerce

Subject..... Changes in the DEC Graduate Program

Date..... July 14th, 1972

Per your request, the following changes in the current description and content of the Graduate Program for the Department of Economics and Commerce is proposed:

1. *Economics 838-5 [Topics in Econometrics] and Economics 853-5 [Economic History of North America] to be starred indicating that these courses will normally be offered at least once a year.*
2. *Economics 831-5 [Mathematical Economics] and Economics 832-5 [Activity Analysis] to be dropped from the starred list presently in the calendar.*
3. *Drop the following courses from the calendar:*
 - Economics 802-5 [Consumer Economics]*
 - Economics 803-5 [Welfare Economics]*
 - Economics 804-5 [Theory of the Firm]*
 - Economics 864-5 [Agriculture in Economic Development]*
 - Economics 893-5 [Antitrust Policy]*
4. *The following fields presently listed to be dropped from the areas in which qualifying examinations for the Ph.D., will be offered:*
 - Mathematical Economics*
 - Public Finance*
5. *That the course requirements for the M.A. degree are as follows:*
 - (a) *all M.A. candidates are required to take one of Economics 800-5 or 801-5; one of Economics 805-5, 806-5, or 810-5.*
 - (b) *demonstrate competence in Analytical Economics and Quantitative Methods.*

TO: Dr. J. Wheatley, Dean of Graduate Studies
FROM: K. Okuda, Chairman, Graduate Academic Program, Economics and Commerce
SUBJECT: Changes in the DEC Graduate Program
DATE: July 14th, 1972

Page 2

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED CHANGES:

[NOTE: The arguments are given under the same numbering system as the changes proposed.]

1. In terms of student interest, the availability of faculty, and the fields in which Ph.D. examinations will be offered, these two courses, Economics 838-5 and 853-5, should be offered regularly. This will be noted in the calendar by starring these courses to indicate that they will be normally offered at least once a year.
2. It is proposed to drop the two courses, Economics 831-5 and 832-5, from the starred list since these courses are not required for any of the areas in which field examinations will be given. The courses will be offered as student interest and faculty availability permit.
3. The courses listed in this item, Economics 802-5, 803-5, 804-5, 864-5, and 893-5, have rarely, if ever, been offered. The purpose of this recommendation is to remove from the list of calendar offerings courses which are unlikely to be offered in the future and in which the Department does not have any special teaching competence. Should special circumstances and student interest dictate, some of the areas covered by the courses which are to be dropped will be offered.
4. The fields should be dropped since the Department does not have the faculty resources to cover these two fields adequately.
5. The proposed change permits a greater degree of flexibility in scheduling the programs of M.A. candidates in Economics. Present requirement reads that students are required to take Economics 800-5 and 805-5 in addition to demonstrating competence in Analytical Economics and Quantitative Methods. This has occasionally created difficulty, in terms of the students being able to take both of the required courses during their normal period of study towards the M.A. degree, since the courses are usually offered only once a year. At the same time, some students have been exempted from one or both of the required courses since they have previously taken comparable work elsewhere. By expanding the "choice" of required courses, students will be able to:
 - (a) meet their requirements during a normal three semester sequence regardless of when they start their work at Simon Fraser, and
 - (b) will be required to take some Theory work at Simon Fraser since Economics 801-5 and 806-5 are more advanced courses than the two presently required.