



Faculty Senate
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

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To: Provost and Vice Chancellor Elisha Baker,
University of Alaska Anchorage

Fr: Kimberly Swiantek,
UAA Governance Office

Re: Concentrations within Majors

On May 2nd, 2014 the Faculty Senate approved the following motion brought forward by the Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Boards:

Motion: The UAB and GAB recommend that the Faculty Senate adopt the concentrations within majors proposal put forward by the Registrar's Office.

Please see the attached document for more information.

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Provost

Approved Disapproved

Comments:

DocuSigned by:
Elisha "Bear" Baker

June 23, 2014

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Elisha Baker, Provost and Vice Chancellor

Date

Chancellor

Approved Disapproved

Comments:

DocuSigned by:
Tom Case

July 22, 2014

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Tom Case, Chancellor

November 5, 2013

To: Faculty Senate Executive Board

From: Lora Volden, University Registrar

Re: Concentrations within majors

Special Note: Although there are multiple terms (concentration, options, tracks, emphasis, etc.) utilized by departments in the UAA Catalog, for the purposes of this memo I will be referring to these focus areas of study as concentrations.

Issue

A number of departments have indicated an interest in having concentrations noted on student transcripts. After exploring the issue, I have found that there is a great deal of inconsistency in UAA's current practice. Moreover, UAA has no written policy regarding minimal requirements necessary for notating a concentration on a student transcript, and after more than two years of research I am unable to find any national norm regarding notation of concentrations on a student transcript.

Proposal

After thoroughly reviewing the current catalog, I am proposing the following and seek your approval to move forward.

1. Departments will continue to be given the freedom to choose the term (concentration, option, track, emphasis, etc.) that best matches the intent of their degree and there will be no minimum requirement necessary to outline these in the catalog.
2. For baccalaureate degrees, students who complete a minimum of 15 unique credits in a concentrated area will have this notated on their official transcript. In the event that there are common courses between concentrations of a major there must be 15 credits above and beyond those shared.
3. For graduate degrees, students who complete a minimum of 9 unique credits in a concentrated area will have this notated on their official transcript. Again these credits must be unique and course numbering not shared amongst other concentrations.
4. Concentrations will not be noted on the transcript for Associate degrees, certificates (including graduate certificates), occupational endorsement certificates, and minors.

*Please note: The national norm for diplomas is to list the degree only. At UAA, the degree and, when appropriate, the major will be noted, e.g. BA, English.