

Item A

Proposal:

In response to recommendation #5 of the SACs Reaffirmation/Substantive Change Committee Report (April 15-18, 2002), the Senate Council proposes the following definition of Major be added to The Glossary, Section IX, University Senate Rules:

Major:

A major is a primary area of study defined by a set of course and/or credit hour requirements within specified disciplines. Within degree programs, majors may be further defined by requirements in an area of emphasis (also known as an "option").

Background:

Recommendation 5, SACs Report: The Committee recommends that the institution establish a definition of a major or area of concentration and publish such definition in appropriate bulletins or catalogs (page 21).

Reaffirmation Committee Concerns: Academic regulations are published in the University Bulletin and on the web in the University Senate Rules. Members of the Committee were unsuccessful in locating the institutional definition of the major or area of concentration in either location. During the interview process, the appropriate administrators were unable to provide a definition of these terms.

Action Taken: The Office of the Registrar conducted a review of definitions of *major* as presented in the bulletins of the University's benchmark institutions. Using the benchmark examples, the Registrar developed a definition of major which was amended by the Senate Council and is recommended to the Senate for adoption.

Implementation: Immediate