

**University of Kentucky Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee**

From: Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee (Joe Sottile (Chair), Janice Almasi, Todd Cheever, Christopher Feddock, Carl Lee, Alan Nadel, Glenn Telling, Zachary Fuqua)

To: Sheila Brothers, Office of the Senate Council

Date: March 16, 2010

The following proposal has been reviewed by the University Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee and was unanimously approved.

***Request for Change in Senate Rule 5.4.1.3 Second Bachelor's Degree to Additional Bachelor's Degrees***

Currently, there is no Senate Rule that addresses the issue of a student who wishes to obtain more than two Bachelor's Degrees. This proposal defines requirements for students wishing to obtain more than two Bachelor's degrees.

Attachment

## Proposal for Change in Senate Rule 5.4.1.2

### Current Rule: 5.4.1.3 Second Bachelor's Degrees

A student is eligible to qualify for a second bachelor's degree in a different major. The student must complete all university, college, and departmental requirements for both degrees. Courses taken towards fulfilling one degree may also count towards fulfilling parallel requirements in the other, but the student must complete a minimum of at least 144 hours for both degrees. The student may elect to receive the degrees simultaneously if college and departmental degree requirements can be met simultaneously. [US: 3/8/82; 4/10/89]

### Proposed Rule: 5.4.1.3 ~~Second-Additional~~ Bachelor's Degrees

A student is eligible to qualify for ~~a second-additional~~ bachelor's ~~degree-degrees~~ in a different major. The student must complete all university, college, and departmental requirements for ~~both-all~~ degrees. Courses taken towards fulfilling one degree may also count towards fulfilling parallel requirements in ~~the-other~~another degree, but the student must complete a minimum of at least 144 hours for ~~both-degrees~~ a second degree and a minimum of at least 24 additional hours for each degree thereafter. The student may elect to receive the degrees simultaneously if college and departmental degree requirements can be met simultaneously. [US: 3/8/82; 4/10/89]

### Rationale:

The following proposal was presented by the University Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee to the Senate on June 10, 2008 and received by the Senate on February 8, 2010.

#### “Third Bachelor Degrees

Currently, no language exists in the University Senate Rules that addresses whether or not a student can earn more than two bachelor's degrees at the University of Kentucky. (Requirements for a second bachelor's degree are explained in Senate Rule 5.4.1.3.) During the 2007/2008 academic year, the Senate Admissions and Academic Standards Committee requested, and received, a “Sense of the Senate” discussion on the subject of obtaining more than two bachelor's degrees. During the Sense of the Senate discussion, there was no opposition to the concept of a student obtaining more than two bachelor's degrees. As a result, the SA&ASC approves the idea of allowing a student to obtain more than one [two] bachelor's degree.”

The hours required for a second degree are 24 hours beyond the traditional 120 required for the first degree. Therefore, following this rationale, a third degree would require an additional 24 hours (168 total), a fourth degree would require an additional 24 hours (192 total), and so forth.

The state of the economy has forced many students to reconsider and pursue career changes. Their desire to return to their alma mater for an additional degree is currently restricted because we have no approval for and requirements for a degree beyond the second degree. In addition, as we recruit more academically prepared and academically successful students, they seek the challenge of and can be successful in pursuing more than two bachelor degrees.