

August 8, 2010

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MEMO

To: Dr. Hollie Swanson

Chair, Senate Council

From: Dr. Mike Mullen

Associate Provost and

Chair, Undergraduate Council

Re: Multiple bachelors degree proposal

On Monday, August 2, I sent a proposal to the UG Council for advice and possible approval (attached). As of the time of writing this memo, 10 members of the UGC have responded back with affirmative votes on this proposal, and none have dissented. I therefore send it forward to Senate Council with a positive recommendation for inclusion in the Senate Rules.

C: Sharon Gill Sheila Brothers Jacquie Hager Dr. Davy Jones



#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the University Senate approve the following proposed change and implementation to Senate Rule 5.4.1.3

#### **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 Change:**

## 5.4.1.3 Second Additional Bachelor's Degrees

A student is eligible to qualify for a secondadditional Bachelor's degrees in a different majors. 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 otheranother degree, but the student must complete a minimum of at least 144 hours for both degreesat least 24 additional hours for each degree. 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]

Implementation: This rule is to take effect immediately. Under this new policy students currently enrolled at the University of Kentucky are eligible for approval for conferral of additional degrees beyond the second Bachelor's degree. Current students seeking conferral of a third Bachelor's degree for December 2010 must have applied for that conferral date not later than October 1, 2010.

JUSTIFICATION: In today's fast paced society, there are opportunities or needs for students to pursue additional degrees. Careers change, interests change, or life circumstances change, requiring or allowing someone to return to school for additional learning and potentially degrees. Our current rules do not permit a student to earn more than two Bachelor's degrees from UK. However, if someone has the interest and desire to return to school to pursue an alternate path, this should be allowed, and, we should welcome them back to our campus. There are increasing numbers of students who earn one or two bachelor's degrees, enter the workforce, and then realize that another undergraduate degree in a different major would be of benefit. With the changed language, students enrolled at UK will have the opportunity to earn as many undergraduate degrees in different majors as desired.