

December 12, 2005

TO: Lane Crothers, Chair, Academic Senate

FROM: Gregory Ferrence, Chairman

University Curriculum Committee

RE: Proposal to Delete Minor in Disability Studies

Attached, for Academic Senate review, you will find a proposal to drop the Minor in Disability Studies from the *Undergraduate Catalog*. This proposal was approved by the University Curriculum Committee December 7, 2005.

The UCC agrees with the argument that the minor should be eliminated since there has been low enrollment and a lack of financial and faculty support by the five departments that generated the original proposal. The minor "never got off the ground." There are emails attached to the original proposal from chairs of Psychology, Health Sciences, Kinesiology and Recreation, Sociology and Jan Shane from the Provost's Office. They are all in agreement and we concur that the Minor of Disability Studies should be eliminated.

Sincerely,

GF/jr

Telephone: 309/438-3183  
Office of the University Registrar  
University Curriculum Committee Campus Box 2202  
109 Moulton Hall

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**NEW, REVISED, OR DELETED PROGRAM COVER SHEET  
2005-2006**

**University Curriculum Committee**

**Undergraduate Programs (Majors, Minors, Sequences)**

DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL :IDS (Special Education/Kinesiology & Recreation/Psychology)

DATE: September, 2005

A. **Proposed Action:** (more than one item may be checked if a revision).

New Major CIPS CODE \_\_\_\_\_ (obtain from Planning, Policy Studies and Info Systems)

New Minor CIPS CODE \_\_\_\_\_ (obtain from Planning, Policy Studies and Info Systems)

New Sequence

Change in requirements for major

Change in requirements for minor

Change in requirements for sequence

Other program revisions

More than 50% of courses in this program are distance education.

Program deletion

B. **Summary of proposed action** (see Part A), including title and exact *Undergraduate Catalog* copy for a new or altered program. (See *Catalog* and Program Checklist for format and examples.) Provide a summary of the revisions in addition to the exact current *Catalog* copy.

**This proposal calls for the deletion of the University-Wide Minor in Disability Studies. Coursework is offered by Special Education, Kinesiology and Recreation, and Psychology with electives from these departments as well as Health Sciences and Sociology.**

C. **Routing and action summary:**

1. _____ Department/School Curriculum Committee Chair	_____ Date Approved	4. _____ College Dean	_____ Date Approved
2. _____ Department Chair/School Director	_____ Date Approved	5. _____ Teacher Education Council Chair if appropriate (10 copies to the Dean of the College of Education)	_____ Date Approved
3. _____ College Committee Chair	_____ Date Approved	6. _____ University Curriculum Committee Chair (8 copies to UCC Secretary, Moulton 108A)	_____ Date Approved

Submit 8 copies of **NEW** Undergraduate proposals to University Curriculum Committee

Submit 8 copies of **REVISED** Undergraduate proposals to University Curriculum Committee

All new and deleted programs (majors, minors, sequences) are routed by the U.C.C. to the Academic Senate. **The Senate rules mandate electronic submission (in MS Word or HTML format) of all materials for website posting.**

3/05

**Proposal for Program Deletion**

**Institution:** Illinois State University

**Department:** Interdisciplinary Studies: University Wide Minor delivered collaboratively by Special Education, Kinesiology and Recreation, and Psychology

**Program Title:** Minor in Disability Studies

**CIPS:** 13.1001

**Anticipated Date:** Fall, 2007

**Rationale:**

When this minor was developed, it was anticipated that there would be a significant student interest in this area of study and sufficient resources to support offering the needed courses. Five departments generated the original proposal, including Health Sciences, Sociology, Psychology, Kinesiology and Recreation and Special Education and agreed that they had sufficient resources to support the minor. Two courses were developed specifically for the minor and were cross-listed by three of the sponsoring departments. These courses were KNR/PSY/SED 255 *Lifestyle Issues for People with Disabilities* and KNR/PSY/SED 256 *Disability and the Law*. These courses were to be requirements of the minor

along with SED 379 *Assistive Technology for Individuals with Disabilities* and 15 hours of directed electives from additional courses already offered by the five sponsoring departments.

The program has been in the undergraduate catalog since 1998-1999. The program has been undersubscribed, with insufficient student enrollment to support full sections of the new courses. As a result neither of the newly developed courses has been offered, nor do the sponsoring departments have resources available to do so. Other courses required or listed as electives are at capacity. All five original departments are in agreement that the minor is not supportable, both due to lack of student numbers and of faculty resources.

**Arrangements for program faculty and students:**

There are no faculty assignments to this minor or specifically to the new courses developed for it, therefore there will be no impact on faculty if the minor were to be eliminated.

There are currently eight (8) students listed as having minors in this program. Four of the students are first semester freshmen. None of the students have sought advisement regarding the program requirements nor have they been enrolled in courses leading to the completion of the minor, therefore their intent to complete the minor is unlikely. In addition, it appears that all students have comprehensive majors and therefore are not required to select and complete a minor. It appears that elimination of the minor would be timely, as no students would be inconvenienced in doing so at this time. Students will be notified immediately about the elimination of the minor and should an individual student find this a hardship the Department of Special Education will take responsibility of advising that student. Removal of this minor from the undergraduate catalog will assure that students are not misled in the future about the availability of courses.

**Anticipated impact on other campus programs:** None. Attached are copies of emails indicating support from each of the originating departments.

**Anticipated budgetary effect:** None