Motion to Amend Proposed General Education Program

**Justification:** The current proposed general education program tries to work the CPE requirements into our general education system while preserving many of the courses we currently teach. On the whole the proposed program does a good job of maintaining the status quo, with one exception. By requiring only 6 hours of natural science and 6 hours of arts and humanities in the 33 hour general education core, it effectively eliminates the categories 15 (natural science) and 07 (humanities) of our current general education program. Thus, students are not required to take as many hours in these areas. There has been no pedagogical justification as to why we decided to reduce the number of natural science courses and arts and humanities courses in our general education program. In the proposed program students are still required to have 9 hours of social and behavioral sciences in the 33 hour core, which remains consistent with our current general education program.

Since requirements for the arts and humanities and the natural sciences would be reduced in the core, but social and behavioral sciences have not, we are suggesting that arts and humanities and natural science courses be emphasized in the Breadth of Knowledge Requirement by eliminating the option of taking yet another social science course. Note that this change does *not* increase the number of general education credit hours students would need to graduate.

We move that section A: *The Breadth of Knowledge Requirement in Block Six: The 15-hour Block*, be amended to read:

A. Breadth of Knowledge Requirement (6 hours).

The courses in this area of Block Six are designed to help students further develop a breadth of knowledge in two of the four three following areas: arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences, or quantitative skills. The learning objectives for each of the first three two areas are the same as those in Blocks Three, and Four, and Five of the General Education Core. Quantitative skills are defined to include courses from computing, mathematics, or statistics. The learning objectives for mathematics and statistics courses are the same as those for Block Two of the General Education Core. The learning objectives for computing are not yet defined, but acceptable courses will either provide literacy in the use of software packages or introduce students to computer programming.

Each student is required to take one three-hour course from two of the following areas: arts and humanities, social and behavioral sciences, natural sciences or quantitative skills. Students take courses from two areas that are not closely related to their major. Each department will identify the area most closely related to each major offered by the department, and the General Education Committee will review and approve those decisions. If a student’s major is determined to be more closely related to social and behavioral sciences than the above three areas, the student would be free to take courses from any of the three areas.