TO: Council on Academic Affairs

FROM: Gary Kuhnhenn, Interim Assoc. VP for Enrollment Management

DATE: August 11, 2008

RE: Subsequent Degrees, Request for Clarification

The catalog policy language regarding Subsequent Degrees (section Subsequent Degrees, pg. 49 of the Undergraduate Catalog) is currently being interpreted by the University community in two distinct ways. This is resulting in inconsistent application of the policy. Enrollment Management therefore requests a clarification of this policy from the CAA and an endorsement of an editorial revision of the catalog text to reflect the clarification. The language in question notes, “A subsequent baccalaureate degree requires at least 32 approved hours beyond those required for the earlier degree.” (Italics added for emphasis.)

Clarifications Requested:

I. Subsequent Degree Requirements

The two differing interpretations of the current catalog language are as follows. It is requested that the CAA endorse one interpretation for university wide application.

Interpretation A: Hours earned prior to the awarding of the first baccalaureate degree may be counted toward the 160 hour minimum required to earn a subsequent baccalaureate degree.

Interpretation B: The 32 hours required for a subsequent baccalaureate degree must be earned after the first baccalaureate degree is awarded; regardless of the number of hours earned at the time the first degree.

II. General Study Degree as Subsequent Baccalaureate

It is additionally requested that the CAA clarify the policy regarding the use of General Studies Degrees as a subsequent baccalaureate degree.

Can a General Studies degree be earned as a subsequent baccalaureate degree?

Historical note: Original CAA paperwork creating the General Studies Degree stated that it could not be a subsequent degree. This proposal was withdrawn; the final approving paperwork did not address the issue. The question remains unresolved and confusion results.