Minnesota State University, Mankato

Curriculum Proposal

Please type or select the requested information. Print completed forms, add appropriate paper attachments, and route through MSU's curricular process for recommendations and decisions.

College: Science, Engineering and Technology  Undergraduate
Department: Physics and Astronomy  Graduate
Program: Astronomy BA  CIP # 40.020100

Type of Change: PROGRAM PROPOSALS
Proposed: Program Closure

Title Current: 
Title Proposed: 
24-Char. Abbrev: 

Proposal # 147
Effective Date of Change: 05-05
Course Designator and Number: Number of Credits: 

Include a course or program description for the Bulletin (30-40 words maximum for courses, 100 words for programs):

Rationale or Justification for change:
No students are known to have been enrolled in this program for the past 5 years. The last student to earn this degree graduated on 7 May 1999.

***For General Education or Cultural Diversity Courses Only***

General Education Course:

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<th>GE Category #</th>
<th>GE Category Name (Maximum of 3 Categories)</th>
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1 For Writing Intensive Courses, attach a description of the kind and quantity of writing.
1 For Upper Division Courses, include a description of the respects in which it is broad and general rather than narrow and specific, and so suitable as GE.

Attach paper copies of the following:

a. Syllabus or course outline.

b. Course's student learning outcomes associated with each GE competency or CD designation.

c. List of strategies to be used to assess students' achievement of each GE competency or CD designation.

Cultural Diversity Course:

(Please check one.)

- Core (At least 75% devoted to topics of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, class, and disabilities as they occur in United States Society.)

- Related (At least 25% devoted to topics related to African American, Asian, Hispanic, and Native American inhabitants of the United States.)

***For New Courses***

- Course is an elective.
- Course is required for program.
- Pre- or Co-requisites:
- Other courses are being changed or eliminated. (Explain.)
- Course content or title is similar to courses in other departments. (Attach copy of letter of agreement with other program(s) contacted. Indicate the nature of the discussions and/or resolution of differences or potential conflicts.)

Attach paper copies of the following:

a. Syllabus or course outline.

b. Course's student learning outcomes.

c. A list of resources required to offer and support this course.

d. A description of how teaching this course will affect department staffing.

e. If 400/500 level course, an explanation of added expectations of graduate students.

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***For Program Proposals***

Attach paper copies of the following:

a. Student learning outcomes for the program.  \( \text{NA} \)

b. Minutes from department and college curriculum meetings in which action was taken on this proposal.

c. Program Assessment Plan. Forms are available on the Academic Affairs Web site:  \( \text{NA} \)
   http://www.mnsu.edu/academic/forms/PRA_SampSLGAssessPlan.doc

d. A list of program requirements for New programs, or a list of Current and Proposed program requirements for Redesigned programs.  \( \text{NA} \)

e. A list of resources required to offer and support this program.  \( \text{NA} \)

f. A description of how offering this program will affect department staffing.  \( \text{NA} \)

g. A list of additional library holdings required for this program.  \( \text{NA} \)

Please include rationale for any proposed changes in number of program credits.

***For Programs Requiring MnSCU Approval***

If any of the following changes are proposed, please fill out and attach MnSCU Program Approval Forms, which are available on the Academic Affairs Web site:
   http://www.mnsu.edu/academic/forms/currformsprocesses.htm

1. Creation of an entirely new program.

2. Redesign of existing programs, which takes any of the following forms:
   - Addition or deletion of a program option. Options are part of program design in which 30-50% of the courses are required as part of a common core for all students, and which offers curriculum alternatives greater than 30% of the total number of credits in the major. Options are appropriate to baccalaureate or masters programs.
   - Addition or deletion of a program emphasis. Emphasizes are part of program design in which more than 50% of the courses are required as part of a common core for all students, and which offers curriculum alternatives with a minimum of nine credits. Emphasizes are appropriate to associate and baccalaureate programs.
   - Change in program name.
   - Change in program CIP #.
   - Change in TOTAL program credits.
   - Change in degree award. For example, changing a B.A. to B.S.
   - Creation of a new degree award in a related academic area. Examples include creation of a certificate program from an existing degree program, or a new degree program from an existing degree program (e.g., Art History BA from Art BA.)

3. Relocation of an existing program. This is a proposal to move an existing program from one site to be exclusively offered at another site, and requires closing the program offered at the original site. For example, a program offered both on-campus and through extended campus is to be offered only at the extended campus site.

4. Replication of an existing program. This is a proposal to offer an existing program at a new site, which may be an existing MnSCU-approved site, or another campus of the same institution. Replicated programs are offered at both the original site and the new location.

5. Suspension or reinstatement of a program. This proposal suspends admission of students into an existing program, and is good for three years. Reinstatement proposals request the reopening of student admissions into a given program.

6. Closure of a program. This proposal requests closure of an existing program and its from an institution's official inventory of academic programs. Unless a department seeks to re-open a suspended program, it should be closed within three years of suspension.

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# Curriculum Proposal

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<td>Sr. Vice President / Vice Pres. Academic Affairs</td>
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Comments:

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PROGRAM CLOSURE APPLICATION

The Program Closure Application should be submitted at least ninety (90) days before the closure is implemented. Closure decisions may also be initiated by the Board of Trustees.

The Program Closure Application should be completed for any program closure request. The Board of Trustees has also asked that institutions provide the following supporting materials: the reason for the program closure, a five-year history of program enrollments, and how students currently enrolled in the program who wish to complete their award will be accommodated. In addition, please identify similar programs in the region.

Submit one electronic copy of the completed application via e-mail, and one paper copy via fax or mail to the following address:

Academic Program Review Unit
Colleges: JoAnn Simser, 651-297-2285, joann.simser@so.mnscu.edu
State Universities: Mitchell Rubinstein, 651-296-5793, mitchell.rubinstein@so.mnscu.edu
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
500 World Trade Center 30 E. Seventh Street
Saint Paul, MN 55101
FAX: (651) 296-3214

MnSCU Board Policy - 3.13 ACADEMIC PROGRAM CLOSURE POLICY

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
CLOSURE
PROGRAM APPLICATION

RELATED POLICY or STATUTE: MS 1996, Ch. 368, Sec. 33; MS 1995, Ch. 248, Article 11, Sec. 10; and MS 1996, Ch. 398, Sec. 38; Board Policy 3.13

[This form is designed for electronic use. You should have some familiarity with the Word table-making function.]

SECTION I: DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT PROGRAM

| Institution: Minnesota State University, Mankato | Number of annual graduates: 0 in 5 years |
| 8-Digit CIP # | Program Name | Award Location | Credit Length | Location/s |
| 40.020100 | Astronomy BA | MSU,M | 128 | MSU,M |
Affiliated educational institution that offers one or more credits in this program: None
Is this award jointly offered: Yes No (NOT APPLICABLE)

SECTION II: CLOSURE INFORMATION

Effective closure date(s): 1 August 2005

Rationale for Closure (provide rationale for the program closure by describing the following as appropriate-program need, program quality, student enrollment trends, placement of graduates, urgent financial circumstances, relationship to mission, or other factors influencing the recommendation of closure):

The last student to earn this degree graduated on 7 May 1999. No students are known to have been enrolled in the program for the past five years.

Number of Enrollees (previous 5 years): No known student has declared for this degree in the past 5 years. (The last student to earn the degree graduated on 7 May 1999.)

Describe plans to assist currently enrolled students in completing their awards: No additional departmental resources would be required to assist any currently enrolled students in completing their awards.

Describe the impact of this program closure on current faculty and staff serving the program: No impact.

List similar programs in the region: None exist in other MnSCU institutions. The only Astronomy BA program I could find for the state of Minnesota was at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

SECTION III: APPROVAL VERIFICATION

Application Author Mark A. Pickar

Title Professor and Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy

Campus Minnesota State University, Mankato

Phone and E-Mail 507-389-5741; mark.pickar@mnsu.edu

SECTION IV: APPENDICES/SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

✓ A. Institution Curriculum Committee Membership and Minutes showing recommendations (required)
B. Evidence of business/industry support (required for occupational programs, optional for others)
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Minutes of Department Meeting  
Tuesday 1/25/05


Lou Schwartzkopf is the Recording Secretary this semester.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, M. Pickar at 4:30 PM.

1) The Minutes of the meeting of 12/08/04 were approved with one small correction.

2) **Announcements by M. Pickar:**
   a) Welcome to Russ Palma
   b) A friend of Jack Flinner has asked the department to review a mathematical physics article written by a friend of his. Several faculty have volunteered to do this.
   c) There will be several open houses next week for newly admitted freshmen. M. Pickar will cover them.
   d) Susan Ward from the CSET office has requested volunteers for Rube Goldberg Day. January 31st is the deadline for volunteering.
   e) Volunteers to judge in the Junior/Senior High Regional Science Fair and the Elementary Regional Science Fair have been solicited. The deadlines to sign up are Friday, February 4th (Junior/Senior High) and Friday, March 18th (Elementary).
   f) R. Palma has been appointed a member of the Graduate Faculty.
   g) There is a new student, Safee Hashmi, in charge of the college webpages. University standards on webpages will be imposed by the end of the year.
   h) Dean Frey is requesting by Tuesday, February 1, proposals for Institutional Equipment. Proposals for Institutional remodeling will be done in the near future.

3) **Written Masters Comprehensive Examination.**
   Y. Xu presented the results of the Written Masters Comprehensive Examination. Y. Xu moved to pass Jeff Burkett, T. Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4) **Second request for library books.**
   H.-S. Wu announced that physics has $1640 in book money remaining for this academic year. P. Eskridge said that astronomy has $1415 remaining. Faculty should get book requests to their respective liaisons by Friday, February 11th.

5) **Revised B.T. in Physics degree.**
   T. Brown presented a document “Proposed Changes to Physics BST Program” to the department for its consideration. There was some discussion. M. Pickar moved to strike from the Physics section of the Undergraduate Bulletin the sentence: “Students may receive credit for only one course in each of the following pairs of courses: PHYS 211 and 221, 212 and 222”. Seconded by J. Pierce. The motion passed unanimously. M. Pickar moved to strike the phrase “…prior to enrollment in Physics 221 and 222.” from the first sentence of the Electives section of the Proposed Program (see attached document). P. Eskridge seconded. The motion passed unanimously. J. Pierce moved to approve the proposed physics BST program as amended. S. Kipp seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6) **B.A. degrees in physics and astronomy.**
   M. Pickar moved to eliminate the B.A. degree in physics. J. Pierce seconded. The motion passed unanimously. S. Kipp moved to eliminate the B.A. degree in astronomy. I. Kogoutiouk seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
7) **Program Review**

M. Pickar distributed a document that detailed the final steps the department needed to do to complete the Program Review process.

8) **Other:**

   a) H. Terletska, one of our graduate students, will give a poster presentation at the American Physical Society meeting in March. Her name is on three presentations to be given at this meeting. Y. Xu moved to pay $600 from the Physics Foundation Fund to support her travel to this meeting. L. Schwartzkopf seconded. The motion was passed, with objections from the Chair.

   b) L. Schwartzkopf asked if anyone was interested in taking Dean Moosavi, our seminar speaker next Thursday, February 3, to dinner at Maggie’s after his seminar. M. Pickar responded in the affirmative. L. Schwartzkopf will extend him an invitation. Other faculty are welcome to join us; let L. Schwartzkopf know by next Wednesday if you are coming, so that a reservation can be made.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Schwartzkopf