



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO
MISSISSAUGA

Memorandum To: Members of Erindale College Council
From: Prof. Nicholas Woolridge, Chair, Academic Affairs Committee
Date: December 15, 2010
Regarding: Major Curriculum Changes for 2011-12

The Academic Affairs Committee approved the following two program additions and one program deletion at its meeting on December 1, 2010. These two program additions and one program deletion comprise the major curricular changes for the 2011-12 academic year, which are to be submitted for Erindale College Council approval.

I would like to propose the following motion:

Be it resolved,

THAT

Erindale College Council approve curriculum changes for the 2011-12 academic year, as detailed in the proposals below.

Added Programs:

- 1. Computer Science Minor ERMIN1688 will be offered, starting in academic year 2011-2012.**

This new minor is envisioned to be of interest to CTEP students. It will offer them the option to earn a second teachable in computer science. CTEP students must take a major in math, chemistry or French, and the equivalent of a minor in education, leaving them the option of completing a specialist (rather than a major) or to pick up a second minor. The proposed minor in computer science will provide most of the coursework necessary for CTEP students to be eligible to teach tenth grade computer science courses.

Rationale: Currently new teachers must have taken four credits of computer science to be qualified to teach the tenth grade computer science course, so a minor in computer science would provide most of the coursework necessary.

- 2. Interactive Digital Media - Specialist ERSPE2172 will be offered, starting in the academic year 2011-2012.**

The external Institute of Communications and Culture Review Committee (2008-9) recommended, in response to a burgeoning demand for students, to create a program that encompasses specialized knowledge and training in the creation, interpretation and implementation of all types of digital media.

Interactive Digital Media (IDM) is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program, the curriculum for which provides students with a foundation in the generation, diffusion, and critical analysis of the social impact of new and emerging technologies. The IDM program is a fully integrated undergraduate program run jointly with the Faculty of Information (commonly known as the iSchool) at the University of Toronto. The program will be administered by UTM and faculty teaching in the program will be drawn from the Faculty of Information and faculty associated with the Institute of Communication, Culture and Information Technology.

Rationale: Given the synergies between the teaching and research strengths of the Faculty of Information and the existing CCIT programs, we believe that a joint undergraduate program will leverage these complementary strengths. The new joint program will provide a comprehensive and well-structured specialist program, which has been of particular interest to our students. From the standpoint of the Faculty of Information, the new specialist program allows the Faculty to utilize its research and teaching strengths at the undergraduate level. The program will also provide a unique set of opportunities for undergraduates to gain knowledge and expertise encompassing digital technologies and the multifaceted interactions among these technologies, people, institutions and society.

Deleted Program:

- 1. Science Education (Science) ERMIN0307 will no longer be offered, starting in academic year 2011-2012.**

The Science Education Minor program was designed back in 2001-2002 by a now-retired professor within the department. The aim of the program was to provide courses designed to teach background skills necessary for a career in education for the sciences, including formal science teaching, journalism and outreach. During the first five years, there was heavy emphasis on marketing the Science Education Minor and, as such, enrolments in science education courses steadily increased. Following the retirement of the creator of the Science Education program and with the institution of the Concurrent Teacher Education Program (CTEP), enrolments in the Science Education Minor and science education courses decreased.

Rationale: Given the lack of viable student interest in the Science Education Minor and the development of CTEP, which to some extent fills a similar need, it is no longer sustainable to operate this program and as such we are asking for the discontinuation of the Science Education Minor (ERMIN0307). There are presently 15 active students registered in ERMIN0307 all of whom will be grandparented into the program following its discontinuation.