

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Gordon Hill, Vice-Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: June 19, 2008

SUBJECT: **Arts & Science: New degree structure for Bachelor of Arts and Science**

DECISION REQUESTED:

That Council approve the Bachelor of Arts and Science as a new degree structure for programs in the College of Arts & Science.

PURPOSE:

The Bachelor of Arts and Science degree programs will be academic programs at the University of Saskatchewan.

SUMMARY:

Creating a new degree structure does not happen frequently at the University of Saskatchewan. In discussing the proposal from the College of Arts & Science to create a Bachelor of Arts and Science degree, the Academic Programs Committee considered whether Council should be asked to approve a degree structure without any programs yet being created within this structure, or whether we should wait until specific programs had been developed.

The Committee decided that it would ask Council to approve this structure, so that faculty in Arts and Science and in collaborating colleges can proceed to develop specific programs within a recognized degree structure.

It is the Committee's expectation that each specific BASC program proposal will contain the following information:

- specify a year-by-year path for students, including required higher-level courses
- describe learning outcomes for the program and the development of a learning community of students
- specify organizational and advising responsibilities for each program
- outline how the program will be marketed to attract high-quality students
- outline the employment or additional study opportunities the program would offer for students.

The BASC will be a four-year (120 credit unit) degree structure within which interdisciplinary programs will be proposed to combine natural sciences with arts (social sciences, humanities and/or fine arts). The degree structure sets out distribution requirements and major requirements in both the Arts subjects and the Natural Science subjects which will make up specific degree programs.

An example of a possible degree program which could be offered within this structure is a program in Health Studies which would combine study in the Natural Sciences subjects of biology and microbiology with study in the Arts subjects of sociology, history, psychology, and epidemiology. Other programs which could be brought forward under such a structure would range from forensic anthropology (biology, anthropology) to museum curatorial studies (art, chemistry).

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposal documentation