January 21, 2011

Dear Professor Krissek:

I write on behalf of Associate Dean Valarie Williams, to formally request that the College of Arts and Sciences Committee on Curriculum and Instruction (CCI) review the following information regarding combination degree programs for tagged degrees in the Arts, and further that the CCI approve the below recommendations for continuing these combinations with changes as appropriate for semester conversion.

Historically, students have been permitted to combine the Bachelor of Fine Arts (in Art) degree with the Bachelor of Art Education degree, and the Bachelor of Music degree with the Bachelor of Music Education degree, without necessarily meeting the proviso of “no course overlap between the majors” that governs all other dual/multiple degree combinations in the Arts and Sciences. The reasoning behind the exception to that rule lies in the number of major hours for each of these tagged degrees, which is significantly higher than almost any other program in the Arts and Sciences.

In fact, “rules” for such tagged degree combinations were printed in the Arts and Sciences catalog/bulletin many years ago (when we still had such print materials). Presumably these rules were approved by the CCI and Arts and Sciences faculty Senate those many years ago. The most recent printed version of the catalog (2001-2002) contained the following language:

“Candidates for the combined program leading to the BFA and BAE must complete 251 hours.” (p. 42) “For combination program (BM and BME)……242 minimum.” (p. 66)

We would propose that the required number of quarter hours be converted to semester hours as follows, based on the 2/3 model: ***168 semester hours would be required for the BFA/BAE combination, and 162 semester hours would be required for the BM/BME combination.*** We further propose that overlap of courses across the two major programs continue to be permitted, with approval of the two major program advisors.

Thank you for your consideration of these combination programs.

Sincerely,

Dennis H. Thompson

Academic Counselor and Staff Assistant

College of Arts and Sciences