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December 7, 2015

Professor Meg Daly
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval of Revision to the Communication PhD Program

Dear Meg:

The SBS Panel on November 16, 2015 approved a proposal by Communication to revise its PhD program.

The proposal makes three changes to the program. First, students are required to take two one-credit courses, Introduction to Graduate Studies (COMM 6500) and Directed Research (COMM 7998), in the first semester. Second, the number of required credits of graduate level electives is reduced from 54 to 51. Third, Qualitative Research Methods (COMM 6763), a three-unit course, will be an elective instead of a core required course. Overall, the minimum number of graduate credits to complete the program is reduced from 85 to 81.

The proposal is motivated by two program needs: to provide initial guidance to new students effectively and efficiently, and to make it feasible for all students to complete the program requirements in four years. The panel agrees that those are important needs and the proposed changes are appropriate. The panel voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

The proposal was initially submitted on October 14, 2015. The panel first discussed the proposal on October 19, 2015. The proposal has been revised to account for the comments from that meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pok-sang Lam'.

Pok-sang Lam
Chair, ASCC SBS Panel