February 12, 2016

Vice Provost Randy Smith

Academic Programs

Dear Randy:

 Recently, I met with Steve Fink to review the minor in Disability Studies, which I direct. I have not made any changes since taking over as Director of Disability Studies two years ago, and I don’t think changes were made by my predecessor, beyond switching to the semester system. The minor has grown and is now the 3rd largest minor on campus, so it’s time to clarify inconsistencies and correct errors. Toward that end, with the help of Bernadette Vankeerbergen, we have corrected typos and inaccuracies in credit hours, course titles and course numbers. I propose the following changes:

         Remove the prescription that only 3 credit hrs can be taken from the student’s chosen major area. This information is confusing to students. We indicate separately that 12 hours of the minor must not overlap with the major.

         Align the minor with the university rule that at least 6 credit hours need to be at the 3000 level or above (instead of the current requirement that 9 credits should be at the 3000 level or above).

         Remove the 2 required courses from the list of electives (since they cannot be taken twice).

         Remove all graduate courses from the minor with the exception of Health Services Management and Policy 7640, Law 7500, and Law 7509. We have a few ambitious students who are prepared to take these law and policy courses, all of which require approval of the instructor and an approved petition to the Graduate School. We retain them on the minor list to encourage our strongest students to consider them.

         Addition of English 4410 as an elective course.

         Removal of withdrawn courses: Teaching and Learning 6551 and Educational Studies: Special Education 5678.

         Cleaning up of some typos, inaccuracies etc (e.g., credit hours, titles, numbers).

Sincerely,



Amy Shuman, Professor

Department of English

Director of Disability Studies

Recipient of OSU Distinguished Research, Teaching and Service Awards