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February 2, 2017

Professor Meg Daly
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Revising and Restructuring the Globalization Studies Major and Globalization Studies Minor Programs

Dear Meg:

The SBS Panel on January 23, 2017 approved a proposal by International Studies to revise and restructure its Globalization Studies Major and Globalization Studies Minor programs.

Currently, Globalization Studies majors are required to take four foundational courses and six courses selected from three thematic groups. The selections are subject to the restrictions that the courses are evenly distributed across themes and between A&H and SBS. The proposal requires students to take the same foundational courses. However, the proposal requires taking courses from a “critical perspectives” pool formed by consolidating the themes groups. The proposal allows any four courses from the pool, thus eliminating both compositional restrictions. To satisfy the total credit hour requirement, the proposal then requires students to take two electives. The proposal provides both BA and BS options, while the current major is for BA only. The revised program conforms to the same curricular template of the other International Studies majors.

Globalization Studies minors currently take two required foundational courses and three electives. The selections of the electives are subject to the restriction that at least one course must come from A&H, and at least one from SBS. The proposal eliminates this restriction. Instead, the courses from A&H and SBS are consolidated into a “critical perspectives” pool, and students select any combination of three from the pool.

The enrollment in the Globalization programs is well below expectations. International Studies believes the rigid and complex program requirement is the main cause, and by streamlining the programs, it can raise the enrollment while maintaining rigor and dual character in A&H and SBS. The panel agreed with International Studies and voted to approve the proposal. Four voted in favor and one abstained.

The proposal was initially submitted on August 30, 2016. The panel first discussed it on September 7, 2016. The panel has worked with International Studies on the BA/BS options, program prerequisites, advising sheets and transition plan.

Sincerely,

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

Pok-sang Lam
Chair, ASCC SBS Panel