Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

October 15, 2023

Dear Chair and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee:

On September 21, 2023, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee reviewed a request from the Department of Anthropology to approve their new undergraduate certificate in Wicked Science, to be implemented in Autumn 2024.

This interdisciplinary certificate is designed to help undergraduates tackle “wicked problems” of a global scale and includes issues such as climate change, cyber security, and food security. As the authors of the certificate describe, the goal of the program is to “train students across the university to become wicked scientists who are able to create an inclusive culture in transdisciplinary teams.” This certificate is similar to the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Wicked Science that was approved in Spring 2023. The certificate requires the completion of five courses and can be achieved within two to four semesters.

The SBS Subcommittee voted unanimously to approve this request, with no recommendations, and the proposal is now advanced to the ASCC with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,

Amy Nathanson  
Professor of Communication

Chair, ASCC Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee