



STANFORD

SCHOOL OF
HUMANITIES AND SCIENCES

January 20, 2009

To: Committee on Graduate Studies

From: Richard Saller, Dean, School of Humanities and Sciences
Susan Stephens, Senior Associate Dean for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies

Subject: Proposal for a Coterminal Masters degree in Public Policy

The undergraduate program in Public Policy recently underwent review by the Senate Committee for the Review of the Undergraduate Major (C-RUM), and was recommended for five-year renewal. This is a strong and well-managed program.

As the C-GS is aware, a one-year MA in Public Policy and a two-year Masters in Public Policy (MPP) was authorized by the Academic Senate. These programs will undergo review next year.

At this time we are recommending that Public Policy be authorized to offer a co-terminal Master of Arts degree. The program as described in the attached documents will have two tracks: one for students already completing a BA in Public Policy, and a second for students completing undergraduate degrees at Stanford in other subjects, but who wish to prepare themselves for careers for which Public Policy can be an asset.

We are forwarding this proposal at this time to uncouple it from the review of the MA/MPP joint programs, and to link its review cycle with that of the undergraduate major. We believe this is an excellent opportunity for Stanford undergraduates. If the program is kept small it will not require additional funding.