

**COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES
STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

Date: 23 March 2009

To: Karen Cook, Chair
XLI Senate of the Academic Council

From: Philip Lavori, Chair, Committee on Graduate Studies

Re: Recommendation for Approval of Coterminal Master of Arts Degree Program in the Interdisciplinary Program in Public Policy

The Committee on Graduate Studies met with Public Policy Director Bruce Owen, Deputy Director Greg Rosston, and Program Administrator Niki Calastas on 4 February 2009 to review the proposed coterminal Master's Degree Program in Public Policy. The coterminal MA will be a year of specialization, with a narrow selection of courses that will include a practicum, giving the students the skills and resources they need to be effective in the public service arena. Students who are majoring in Public Policy will be able to begin the master's courses immediately. Non-Public Policy undergraduates can also apply for the program, but they will need to take the Public Policy core courses instead of a specialization and practicum.

There is potentially a large demand for this degree, but the Interdisciplinary Program has funding for a maximum of six students per year in the near future, and will cap the enrollment at 40 if the IDP's ability to support this load can be achieved. The program will probably also attract undergraduates who are currently applying to the Management Science & Engineering coterminal degree program (which is not policy-oriented), and perhaps one or two from Economics, which does not offer a coterminal program. Public Policy has done a lot of work with their Energy and Environment track to avoid overlap with co-terminal programs in the Schools of Engineering and Earth Sciences.

The Committee on Graduate Studies therefore recommends approval for the institution of the coterminal Master of Arts Degree Program in the Interdisciplinary Program in Public Policy, with authority to nominate candidates for that degree, effective September 1, 2009 for a period of six years, through August 31, 2015, which will bring the degree program into synchronization with the renewal period recommended for the undergraduate division of the Interdisciplinary Program by the Committee for the Review of Undergraduate Majors (SenD#6187).

**COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE STUDIES
RECOMMENDATION FOR
COTERMINAL MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE PROGRAM
IN THE INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM IN PUBLIC POLICY**

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- II. Letter to C-GS from Humanities & Sciences Dean Richard Saller and Senior Associate Dean Susan Stephens, dated 20 January 2009.
- III. Description of the Public Policy coterminal MA degree program.
- IV. C-RUM memo to the Faculty Senate (SenD#6187); cover memo and Table of Contents only, as full content of this document is being distributed separately to the Faculty Senate.