To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

According to the current regulations of the Santa Cruz Division (SCR 10.4.4, see below), the number of courses required for a minor is tied to the number required for the corresponding major. There is great variation across programs in the number of courses required to fulfill a major. The current policy therefore implies correspondingly great variation across programs in minor requirements. Also, there are at least eight minors at UCSC having no corresponding majors at all. For these minors, current regulations are silent about minimal credit requirements.

CEP believes that the proper requirement for a minor is substantial work in the discipline. Coherent programs with 25 upper-division or graduate credits will satisfy the criterion of ‘substantial work.’ CEP will also consider exceptions to the 25 upper-division credit threshold based on justification that the proposed requirements constitute substantial work in the discipline.

With these changes, the regulations of the Santa Cruz Division regarding minors would resemble those of other UC campuses. Most other campuses require the equivalent of 4 or 5 upper-division courses as part of a minor. CEP favors five (25-credits), but will maintain the flexibility of fewer on a case-by-case basis.

Our review of existing minors show that some require fewer than 25 upper-division or graduate credits. As the deadlines for revisions have long passed, there will be no changes in next year’s (2004-05) catalog or requirements. If the proposed amendment to the regulation is approved, such programs will be asked next year to either revise the requirements or provide justification for an exception for the 2005-06 catalog.

CEP therefore proposes the following amendment to SCR 10.4.4:

**SC Regulation 10.4.4, Minor**

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<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
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<td><strong>10.4.4 Minor</strong></td>
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<td>A student may minor in a discipline by fulfilling the course requirements for the minor established by the sponsoring agency. Normally, the number and type of courses required for the minor will be in the same pattern as those required for a major except that the total number will be reduced by two.</td>
<td>A student may minor in a discipline by fulfilling the course requirements for the minor established by the sponsoring agency. Normally, the number and type of courses required for the minor will be in the same pattern as those required for a major except that the total number will be reduced by two. <strong>The minor will involve substantial work in the discipline, and require no fewer than 25 upper-division or graduate credits, unless an exception is granted by CEP.</strong> A minor may be offered in subjects not offered as a major, in which case the appropriate number of courses will be determined by the sponsoring agency and the Committee on Educational Policy.</td>
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Committee on Educational Policy

The completion of more than one minor is permissible. No course can be used to satisfy both an upper-division requirement for a major and a minor unless the Committee on Educational Policy has granted an exception. In cases of overlapping upper-division requirements, an appropriate upper-division course can be used as a substitute.

Appropriate number of courses will be determined by the sponsoring agency and the Committee on Educational Policy. The completion of more than one minor is permissible. No course can be used to satisfy both an upper-division requirement for both a major and a minor unless the Committee on Educational Policy has granted an exception. In cases of overlapping upper-division requirements, an appropriate upper-division course can be used as a substitute.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 26, 2004