January 4, 2013

Prof. Chris Ray, Chair
Undergraduate Educational Policies Committee

Dear Chris,

The School of Science proposes the following changes to the current Health Science Major:

1. The name be changed from “Health Science” to “Allied Health Science.”

2. The mathematics requirement be changed from 2 semesters of calculus (Math 27, and Math 28 or 38) to 1 semester of calculus (Math 27), and either a second semester of calculus (Math 28 or Math 38) or one semester of statistics (Math 4).

The name change is being proposed to more clearly delineate preparation for the health professions (medical school, dental school, and veterinarian school) from preparation for the allied health professions (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy, and physicians assistant). The “Allied Health Sciences” major is designed to prepare students for the latter, while students preparing for medical school, etc. should pursue a traditional undergraduate major, such as biology, physics, or philosophy. The new name makes the distinction clear.

The change in the mathematics requirement is needed to match the requirements of graduate programs in the allied health professions. The first semester of calculus is still required since it is a prerequisite for the physics courses Allied Health Science majors must take. However, for many students a statistics course is a requirement for admission into the graduate allied health professions program to which they wish to apply: for example physical therapy programs at USC, the University of Washington and Samuel Merritt University require the successful completion of a statistics course for admission. Thus, it is often a better choice for Allied Health Science majors to take statistics (Math 4) for their second course in mathematics.

I am including new catalog language that reflects the name change and the new mathematics requirements. I have provided a catalog entry that also corrects an unapproved description of the upper division requirements that are currently described in the catalog. The current catalog entry lists specific upper division biology, kinesiology, and psychology courses. The specific list was never approved by the appropriate governance committees, but was put into the catalog by a past Director of Health Sciences without the appropriate approvals. The number and discipline-type of courses is not any different; just the specification of courses has been removed.
This proposal is a product of a discussion with members of the Biology and Chemistry Departments, who teach the majority of the courses Allied Health Science majors take. The “Health Science” major was originally designed and proposed by members of the Biology Department. The School of Science Department Chairs and Program Directors, who unanimously approved the changes, have discussed these proposed changes. I also endorse the changes.

Sincerely,

Roy Wensley, Dean
School of Science

New Catalog Language for the Allied Health Profession Major

Allied Health Science

The School of Science offers an interdisciplinary major in allied health science. This program provides a solid foundation in natural science and human biology. The Allied Health Science major is appropriate for students who intend to pursue graduate programs in physical therapy, occupational therapy, optometry, physician assistant, and public health, as well as other health careers requiring a science background. The student must meet with the Pre-Health Advisor on admission to the College to design a course of study that will meet his/her individual needs and interests.

Pre-Health Advisor

Outcomes

When students have completed the allied health science major, they will be able to:

- Pursue graduate study in physical, occupational therapy, physician assistant, optometry, public health, chiropractic medicine, speech pathology and audiology, post-baccalaureate nursing programs, nutrition and other health professions programs.

- Enter careers in the health professions that require post-graduate certificate studies, such as radiology technician, medical assistant, dental hygienist, and science laboratory research assistant.

Major Requirements

The Allied Health Science major comprises 18 lower- and upper-division courses, many with corresponding laboratories, as detailed below. In order to officially declare an Allied Health Science major, a student must have completed Chemistry 8 and 9 with a C- or better, have
completed (with a C- or better) or be enrolled in Chemistry 10 and 11, and obtain approval of the Pre-Health Advisor. In order to finish an Allied Health Science major within four years, students should complete Chemistry 10 and 11 prior to the beginning of their sophomore year.

**Lower Division**
Chemistry 8 & 9 (laboratory); Chemistry 10 & 11 (laboratory); Mathematics 27; Mathematics 28, 38, or 4; Biology 1 & 1L (laboratory); Biology 2 & 2L (laboratory); Biology 15 & 16 (laboratory); Biology 25 & 26 (laboratory) Physics 10 & 10L (laboratory); Physics 20 & 20L (laboratory); Psychology 1.

**Upper Division**
In addition, a minimum of seven upper-division courses is to be taken from biology, psychology, kinesiology (at least two from each of these departments) and chemistry. The selection of upper-division courses for this major must be chosen in consultation with the Pre-Health Advisor. *Note that additional lower-division courses may be required as prerequisites for some upper-division course choices.*

**Courses**
Description of courses can be found in corresponding catalog of descriptions of these programs: Biology, Chemistry, Kinesiology, Mathematics, Physics, and Psychology.