UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Request for New Program

Originating unit requesting program: 

New Program title: 

Economics

Minor in International Economics

I. By university policy all programs must have a Program Assessment Plan approved by the Director of Assessment. Please include a copy of the assessment plan for this program or a letter from the Director of Assessment verifying that the assessment plan has been approved.

Guidelines for preparation of a Program Assessment Plan are available from the Office of Assessment or at www.assessment.tcu.edu.

II. Need and comparisons:
Demonstrate the need for the program (surveys, professional data, area programs or lack thereof, student inquiries, programs at other universities).

In 2000, we proposed (and had accepted) a major in international economics. We argued then that, "World economies are becoming increasingly interrelated and understanding those relationships requires much more than adding a variable or two to the models that economists teach in their non-international courses." We further suggested that "our faculty specialties and interests are such that we are particularly well placed to begin offering such a curriculum," concluding with, "Combined with TCU's strong commitment to international education and the obvious pace of globalization, we feel that the B.S. in International Economics is, if anything, overdue." That program has been a great success, attracting quality students and prompting us to add two faculty to teach in internationally-related areas. The idea behind the current proposal is to allow non-majors a chance to broaden their education by taking advantage of some of these same courses. There are surprisingly few such programs in the country (though I could not find similar statistics for the minor, StateUniversity.com lists TCU as one of only 29 colleges offering an international economics major--we are number nine in total students participating). Not only does the changing world economy suggest that such a minor would be appropriate, but it is consistent with the University's mission.

III. Resources:

A. Explain how the unit will provide faculty support for this offering and any other impact this program will have on other current departmental listings, (e.g. change in teaching assignment, part-time faculty).

No changes or new resources are required.

B. How will faculty support for this offering impact offerings for other units?

It will not.

C. Will additional resources be required?

(If yes, provide the appropriate information requested below).

YES X NO

Space:

Equipment:

Library:
IV. Proposal items:

A. Catalog copy for new program as it would appear in the Undergraduate Studies Bulletin.
   The minor in international economics requires 18 semester hours in economics to include at
   least three hours chosen from ECON 30223 and 30233 and at least nine hours chosen from any
   class that would count as International Economics under the breadth requirements of the
   Bachelor of Arts in Economics. A minimum of 12 advanced hours (30000-level or above) is
   required. Not available to economics majors.

B. New course proposals (see Undergraduate Council's form for new courses).
   None

C. Changes in existing courses, if any.
   None

V. Letters of support from any affected units or programs:
   None

VI. Effective date for proposed program (semester, year):
   Spring 2010

[Signature]

Approval signature of chairperson of originating unit