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5 Discontinuance of Academic Programs

6 This policy statement supersedes 95-01.

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10 Resident on May 19, 2011.

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12 The discontinuance of an academic program means that the sequence of instruction in that academic area will no

13 longer be offered in a form which will lead to a degree or a certificate. For purposes of this policy document, an academic

14 program is defined as a sequence of courses leading to a bachelor's, master's or professional degree, a formal degree

15 option, a minor, a certificate, or a credential. It does not refer to the department(s) or other administrative unit(s) that may

16 offer the courses involved. Portions of the curriculum may be retained if they are related to other programs.

17 Program discontinuance may be requested for a variety of reasons. Typically, programs are discontinued when they

18 no longer serve student or societal needs, or when the University cannot provide the resources to offer them. What is

19 important to the process is that the reasons for the proposed action be made explicit and that affected parties have an

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1.300. The request to discontinue an academic program shall be sent to the appropriate University Councils, omitting a program discontinuance study, when the initiating body presents evidence of one or more of the following conditions. Even for the situations described below, a program discontinuance study shall be carried out if requested by any three people (students, faculty members, or administrators).

- There is no evidence that any students have been enrolled in the program during the previous three years.
- There is so little student demand for the program that necessary courses have not been offered for the previous three years.
- The program is one of several alternate programs offered within the same academic unit, and one of the alternate programs better serves student needs.
- Faculty members needed to teach the courses for the program have retired or otherwise left University



155 university, the actual termination process should be phased over a reasonable period of time. The steps of the termination  
156 process and the schedule for its implementation shall be included in the official announcement of the intended  
157 discontinuation.  
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159 4.200 Safeguards for faculty and staff are contained within the appropriate memoranda of understanding between the  
160 Board of Trustees and the exclusive bargaining agents.  
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