

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

SUBJECT: New Undergraduate Degree Program by the Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval to offer a new Bachelor of Arts Degree in English with a Specialization in Linguistics, College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Michigan-Flint

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 2011

The College of Arts and Sciences, through the Department of English, at the University of Michigan-Flint proposes a new undergraduate degree program, "Bachelor of Arts Degree in English with a Specialization in Linguistics," effective February 1, 2011. This is in response to needs of our undergraduate students who wish to major in linguistics and from requests from our students for this major for over a decade. In addition to complementing our existing majors in English, within this major, topics explored will be global in nature and will be critical in internationalizing the curriculum to better position our students in a global context.

The proposed program will prepare students for careers that involve language and linguistic analysis including: testing agencies (like the Educational Testing Services), advertising (e.g. branding, product name development), English as a Second Language, lexicography, language documentation, editing, translation/interpretation, and the computer industry (e.g. search engine development). This program may also be of interest to students majoring in communication, psychology, Spanish, French, anthropology, philosophy, mathematics, and preparing students for graduate study in English as a Second Language, and linguistics.

The proposed major blends courses from literature and linguistics to study language from the perspective of the humanities and social sciences. The proposed curriculum includes 36 credit hours with the majority of the credits required in five areas: foundation for analyzing literature and language; language change in English; language and society, linguistics electives; and, literature electives.

The proposed BA in English with a Specialization in Linguistics has been thoroughly reviewed and supported by the University of Michigan-Flint College of Arts and Sciences faculty, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee for Budget and Strategic Planning, as well as the provost and chancellor. The program will be implemented upon approval from the Presidents Council of State Universities of Michigan, pending the Board of Regents approval.

The proposed degree program fully supports the educational mission of the University of Michigan-Flint. Pending approval of the proposal, the program will begin to admit students for the fall 2011 semester. The program will be included in the Department's comprehensive student outcomes assessment plan which has been approved by the University of Michigan-Flint Academic Assessment

Committee. We currently have sufficient faculty for initial implementation and space to initiate this program; however, as the program expands plans call for the hiring of one tenure-track faculty member to teach possibly in the area of Sociolinguistics.

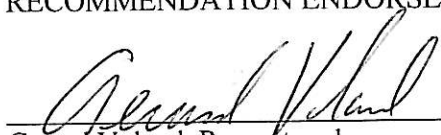
We therefore enthusiastically recommend and endorse the proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree in English with a Specialization in Linguistics, effective February 1, 2011.

RECOMMENDED BY:



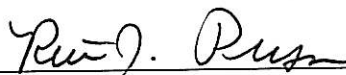
D. J. Trela, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Gerard Voland, Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

January 2011



Ruth J. Person, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint