


Memorandum

TO: Susan Ford
Interim Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

FROM: Yueh-Ting Lee 
Dean, Graduate School

SUBJECT: Resolution Acted on by the Graduate Council

Attached is the resolution that was voted on at the February 2, 2017 meeting of the Graduate Council:

The Resolution In Support of the Addition of an Accelerated Master's Degree Program in the Department of Economics in the college of Liberal Arts

Please contact me if you have questions or would like additional details.

YTL/skm

cc: Randy Dunn, President
Brad Colwell, Interim Chancellor
Tomas Velasco, Chair, Graduate Council
Ruth O'Rourke

Graduate Council Resolution in Support of the Addition of an Accelerated Master's Degree Program in the Department of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts

RATIONALE

Whereas, the College of Liberal Arts is proposing the addition of a graduate masters (MA/MS) accelerated entry program in Economics; and

Whereas, a master's degree in economics can help students pursue two career paths, for some, it can be used as a foundation to later pursue a doctorate, but for others, it is useful on its own and opens employment opportunities not available to those with only a bachelor's; and

Whereas, a master's degree in economics is becoming increasingly necessary but also increasingly worthwhile for our undergraduates who want to further pursue their doctorate or to gain employment after completing the master's; and

Whereas, The BA and MA/MS will not be awarded concurrently but each will be awarded once the student fulfills the requirements for that particular degree; and

Whereas, a maximum of 9 credit hours of any 400-level economics course taken as an undergraduate can also count towards the MA/MS degree; and

Whereas, it is anticipated that by marketing this program to our undergraduates and by making it easier for a student majoring in economics to obtain a masters that we can increase our master's enrollment by an average of four students each year; and

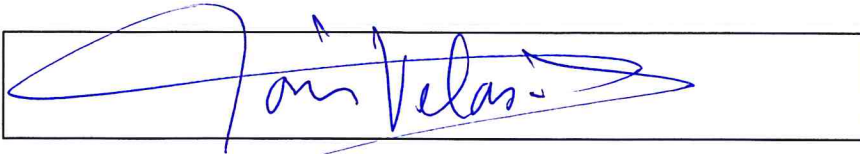
Whereas, their students will benefit because a master's degree typically takes one and a half years or two years to complete, with the accelerated program, students will obtain a master's degree just after one additional year following their undergraduate studies thereby saving time and cost; and

Whereas, the budgetary effects are minimal, no new courses or instructors are required, no new office staff is required and the only changes would be to update the Department of Economics website, update the catalog copy, update recruitment material, and make application forms for interested students to complete;

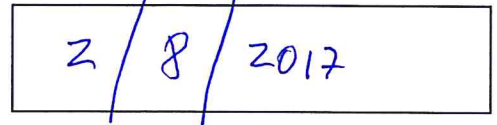
Therefore, be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the RME for the addition of an Accelerated Master's Degree Program in the Department of Economics in the College of Liberal Arts.

Date of Approval

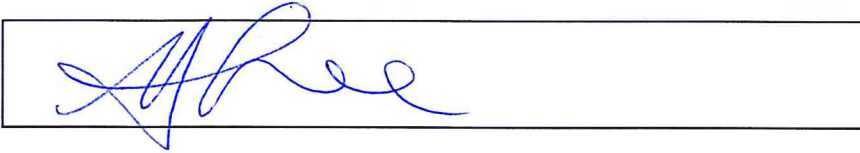
February 2, 2017



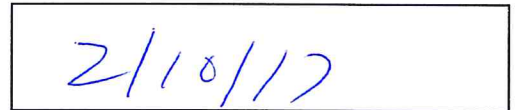
Chair, Graduate Council



Date



Dean, Graduate School



Date