

**Council of Chairs Response to UCC 0152 10S: GPS Proposed Change in Business
Procedures when Students Change Program/Plan/Career Level**

1) From: Dryer, Stuart E
Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2010 1:20 PM
To: Selley, Olga G
Subject: RE: Proposed Policy

Elaine,

Our Associate Chair for graduate affairs and her staff have reviewed the proposed policy and we believe it is an improvement. We would like to make one suggestion: Our department offers more than one degree program, specifically MS and PhD degrees in Biology as well as in Biochemistry. Earth and Atmospheric sciences also offers more than one graduate degree and I suspect there may be others. On occasion we have students switching degree programs (from Biology to Biochemistry or vice versa) but staying within the same department and continuing with the same ultimate objective (PhD). We would prefer to not have to re-initiate an application in that case, especially since the department operates with a single graduate admission committee with representation from all three of our divisions.

So maybe the recommendation could be extended to allow a petition when switching degree objectives AND ALSO when switching degree programs in the same department. It seems that it would be consistent with the overall objectives of the proposal.

2) From: Goodson, Carole P
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 11:25 AM
To: Selley, Olga G
Subject: RE: Proposed Policy

I am writing in response to your inquiry regarding UCC 0152 10S regarding change of major petitions.

We concur that if a student changes major, the departing department should know of this change. However, they should not have the authority to disapprove the petition. Requiring a signature from the departing department on the petition only serves to increase processing time and potentially, student frustration.

Thus, we recommend that a copy of the petition be forwarded to the departing department after approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.