REPORT OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Report #F2009–1; November 2009

In this report Academic Standards Committee (ASC) brings to Senate its evaluation and recommendation on the following proposals:

- Changes to admission requirements for the *Direct Entry Program* in *Early Childhood Education.*
- Curriculum changes in the *Hospitality and Tourism Management* program.
- Curriculum re-organization in the *Journalism* program.

Further documentation on the items addressed in this and all other ASC reports is available for review through the Secretary of Senate.

1. Early Childhood Education: Direct Entry Program, Admission Requirements

The *School of Early Childhood Education* (ECE) offers a direct entry program which admits graduates of the Ontario CAAT ECE programs. The current admission requirements to the Direct Entry program include an Ontario CAAT diploma in ECE with at least a 'B' average and completion of 3 single-term (or equivalent) liberal studies courses at a university with minimum 'B–' grades prior to admission. Applicants must also submit a letter of recommendation from the coordinator or a faculty member in the ECE department of a community college. In most cases, where the applicant has lost contact with the faculty of their college, a letter of recommendation from the applicant's current/former employer may be submitted if the employment is in an ECE-related field.

The *School* has observed that the level of academic achievement in the college ECE program is a sufficient indicator of applicants' potential success in the Ryerson ECE program. Furthermore, the recommendation letters typically attest to the applicants' work experiences with young children. Because the applicants are all graduates of college ECE programs in which they undertake four field education courses, this information is largely redundant. Therefore, the *School* proposes to remove the requirement that applicants to the Direct Entry program submit a letter of recommendation.

Recommendation

Having satisfied itself of the academic merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

> *That Senate approve the proposed revisions to admission requirements for the Direct Entry program in Early Childhood Education.*

2. Hospitality and Tourism Management: Curriculum Changes

The current curriculum of the *Hospitality and Tourism Management* (HTM) program includes a total of seven professional electives that students take in the final two years of the program. In Year 3, students choose two professional electives from a short list[1] and two other professional electives from Professional Electives Table I[2]. The "Required Group 1" table includes 6 professional elective courses and the Professional Electives Table I includes a total of 14 courses. In the final year of the program, students choose three additional professional electives from Professional Electives Table I.

The *School of Hospitality and Tourism Management* proposes to streamline its offering of professional electives by combining Professional Electives Table I and the "Required Group 1" table. Appendix 1 presents the proposed curriculum structure. The proposed curriculum aims to enhance students' access to professional elective courses.

Recommendation

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

> *That Senate approve the proposed curriculum changes in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program.*

3. Journalism: Curriculum Re-Organization

The *School of Journalism* introduced its "new" curriculum in Fall 2007, which is in its third year of implementation. The "new" curriculum was predicated in part on offering students more choices in academic specialization. The "new" curriculum has presented logistical challenges in the offering of professional electives. The proposed curriculum re-organization, which addresses these challenges, includes the following:

- moving a required professional course from 4th to 3rd year;
- re-organizing professional elective tables and re-sequencing the semesters when students would be able to choose their professional electives;
- moving liberal studies courses from the last three years of the program to the first three years.

The proposed revisions do not otherwise alter the curriculum structure or its content. Appendix 2 presents the revised curriculum structure.

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[1] Required Group 1, pp. 572–573, Ryerson Full-Time Undergraduate Calendar, 2009/2010.
[2] Professional Electives Table I, p. 574, Ryerson Full-Time Undergraduate Calendar, 2009/2010.

Recommendation

Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends:

> *That Senate approve the proposed curriculum re-organization in the Journalism program.*

Respectfully submitted by

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for the 2009/2010 Academic Standards Committee

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Appendix 1: Hospitality and Tourism Management: Revised Curriculum

5th Semester

    REQUIRED:

        HTA 602   Financial Management for Hosp/Tourism
        HTD 500   Concepts, Design and Feasibility

    LIBERAL STUDIES: One course from Table B.

    PROFESSIONAL: Two courses from Table I.

    PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED: One course from Table II.

6th Semester

    REQUIRED:

        HTH 501   Advanced Service Management Systems
        HTI 404   Hospitality Information Systems

    LIBERAL STUDIES: One course from Table B.

    PROFESSIONAL: Two courses from Table I.

    PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED: One course from Table II.

PROFESSIONAL TABLE I

    A total of seven courses are required.

    HTF 505   Restaurants from Concept to Operations
    HTF 506   Food and Beverage Operations
    HTF 601   Beverage Management
    HTH 706 Advanced Hospitality Management
    HTI 746   Destination Management Systems
    HTL 503   Meeting and Convention Management
    HTL 507   Lodging Facilities Management
    HTL 701   The Value of Branding in Lodging
    HTL 801   Strategic Management in Hosp/Tourism
    HTM 604 Hospitality and Tourism Sales
    HTM 621 Advertising and Promotion
    HTR 900   Director's Special Project
    HTT 501   Introduction to Gaming Industry
    HTT 509   Issues/Policies in Hospitality/Tourism
    HTT 510   Sustainable Tourism Development
    HTT 605   Business Aspects of Incentive Travel
    HTT 607   Event Management
    HTT 622   International Marketing and Management

Appendix 2: Journalism: Revised Curriculum

Year 1

REQUIRED:
ENG 108   *The Nature of Narrative I*
ENG 208   *The Nature of Narrative II*
JRN 100 Information and Visual Resources for Journalists
JRN 120 The Culture of News
JRN 121 Introduction to Reporting
JRN 199 Grammar*
PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:
One course from Table III
LIBERAL STUDIES:
Two lower-level liberal studies courses from Table A

* This course is graded on a pass/fail basis.

Year 2

REQUIRED:
JRN 112 Introduction to Online Journalism
JRN 124 Elements of Feature Writing
JRN 125 Introduction to Television Journalism
PROFESSIONAL:
One course from Table II, Group-A,
One course from Table II, Group-B
PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:
One course from Table III
LIBERAL STUDIES:
Two upper-level liberal studies courses from Table B.

Year 3

REQUIRED:
JRN 123 Ethics and Law in the Practice of Journalism
PROFESSIONAL:
Select courses totaling 15 hours from Table I
One course from Table II, Group-C
PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:
One course from Table III
LIBERAL STUDIES:
Two upper-level liberal studies courses from Table B.

PROFESSIONAL:
Select courses totaling 6 hours from Table I and/or Table II
Three courses from Table IV
PROFESSIONALLY-RELATED:
One course from Table III

Table I: Professional Electives

Choose courses for a total of 15 hours.

JRN 201   Introduction to Photojournalism
JRN 202   Copy Editing
JRN 203   Page Design for Print
JRN 204   Infographics
JRN 302   Magazine Editing
JRN 303   Feature Reporting
JRN 304   Reporting for Newspapers
JRN 305   Online Reporting
JRN 306   Reporting for Radio
JRN 310   TV Production
JRN 314   Reporting for TV
JRN 315   Advanced Research Methods
JRN 316   The Freelance Career
JRN 317   Exactly So: The Challenge of Precision
JRN 318   Radio News
JRN 319   Special Topics
JRN 320   Journalism Laboratory

Table II: Professional Electives

Choose one course from Group-A, one course from Group-B and one course from Group-C.

Group-A:
JRN 400   Critical Issues
JRN 401   History of Journalism

Group-B:
JRN 402   Theory of Journalism and Mass Communication
JRN 403   Journalism and Ideas 3 2 & 4 121 & 199
JRN 404   Journalism's Best
JRN 405   Special Topics in Journalism Theory

Group-C:

JRN 412	Documentary Survey
JRN 500	Journalism and Arts
JRN 501	Sampling the Beats
JRN 502	Journalism and the World of Business
JRN 503	Critical and Opinion Writing
JRN 504	Fashion Journalism
JRN 505	Health and Science Journalism
JRN 506	International Journalism
JRN 507	Justice and the Courts
JRN 508	Literary Journalism
JRN 509	Journalism and the Political Arena
JRN 510	Reporting Religion
JRN 511	News They Can Use
JRN 512	Reporting Sports

Table IV: Professional Electives

Choose either (three courses from Group-A) OR ((one course from Group-A) plus (two courses from Group-B OR two from Group-C)).

Group-A:

JRN 800	TV Documentary
JRN 801	Radio Documentary
JRN 805	Senior Reporting
JRN 806	Advanced Feature Writing
JRN 807	Advanced Photojournalism

Group-B:

JRN 850	Internship
JRN 902	Television Masthead
JRN 903	Newspaper Masthead
JRN 905	Online Masthead

Group-C:

JRN 950	Magazine Masthead
JRN 808	Magazine Production

Table III: Professionally-Related Electives

There are no changes in the professionally-related electives table.