Resolution #24

TO: President John E. Van de Wetering

FROM: The Faculty Senate Meeting on: May 6, 1996

RE: I. Formal Resolution (Act of Determination)
   II. Recommendation (Urging the fitness of)
   III. Other (Notice, Request, Report, etc.)
       For your information

SUBJ: Revision of the Foreign Languages Major: French and Spanish
       (attached)

Signed: [Signature]

Date Sent: 5/6/96
(Faculty Senate President)

TO: The Faculty Senate

FROM: President John E. Van de Wetering

RE: I. Decision and Action Taken on Formal Resolution
   a. Accepted. Effective Date
   b. Deferred for discussion with the Faculty Senate on 5/6/96
   c. Unacceptable for the reasons contained in the attached explanation

II, III.

   a. Received and acknowledged
   b. Comment:

DISTRIBUTION: Cover sheet only - full document
Can be obtained through Faculty Senate.

Distribution Date: 5/6/96
Signed: [Signature]
(President of the College)
April 10, 1996

Prof. Georges Dicker, Chair  
Senate Undergraduate Curriculum  
Committee of the Faculty  
Senate

Dear Georges,

Attached please find a proposal for revisions to programs in the Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures, specifically, the French Major and French Minor, and the Spanish Major (Track I) and Spanish Minor (Track I). Letters of support from both myself and Dean McLean are attached, per the guidelines for proposals.

We are aware that your committee has a significant amount of work before it, but it is our hope that you might be able to give it your attention in time for the revised program to be included, if approved, in the new catalog. The proposal is straightforward and uncomplicated, as well as responsive to current College interests as related to both staffing and curriculum updating.

Thanks, in advance, for whatever efforts you are able to make to expedite the proposal.

Sincerely,

Elaine K. Miller, Chair  
(for the members of the Dept.  
of Foreign Languages and Literatures)

cc Dean McLean
April 10, 1996

TO: Georges Dicker, Chair
    Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

FROM: Robert J. McLean, Dean

RE: French and Spanish Major/Minor Revision

I fully support the curricular revisions being proposed by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures for the French and Spanish majors and minors.

The revisions are well conceived and realistic for a department planning to utilize its limited resources in the best interests of the students.

RJM: kk
April 9, 1996

TO: Georges Dicker, Chair
Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

FROM: Elaine K. Miller, Chair
Dept. of Foreign Languages

RE: Proposal for revisions to French and Spanish Majors and Minors

This is in response to item #7 of the guidelines for submitting proposals, "Academic Administration Commentary," which requests indication of support from the Chair and the Dean.

I worked very closely with the Department members in the process of reviewing our programs and devising the revisions we have proposed. The attached proposal has my complete support.
TO: Senate Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
FROM: Department of Foreign Languages
DATE: April 9, 1996

RE: PROPOSAL FOR REVISIONS TO
--THE FRENCH MAJOR, AND MINOR
--THE SPANISH MAJOR (TRACK 1), AND MINOR (TRACK 1)

The information provided here follows the outline indicated in the document "Senate Undergraduate Committee Program Review; Guidelines for Submission of Program Proposals".

1. COMPARISON OF THE EXISTING TO THE REVISED PROGRAM:

FRENCH MAJOR

Existing Major in French--36 Hours
Prerequisites: FRN 212 or equivalent

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES--10 Hours
(21 credits at 300 level and 9 at the 400 level)
FRN 302-French Grammar
FRN 303-Reading French
FRN 305-Adv. Comm. in French
FRN 306-French Composition
FRN 311-France Today
FRN 312-Fr. Civ. to 1968
FRN 321-Intro. to Frn. Lit.
FRN 405-Frn. Lit. MA to Rev.
FRN 406-Frn. Lit. after the Rev.
FRN 412-Francophone Civilizations

ELECTIVES--6 credits
(6 credits at the 400 level)

Revised Major in French--30 Hrs
All 300-level courses have a prerequisite of FRN 212;
All 400-level courses have a prerequisite of FRN 350,
FRN 351, FRN 352, FRN 353 (by advisement).

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES--12 Hours
FRN 350-Comm. in French
FRN 351-Written Expression
FRN 352-Lit/Cult. of France
FRN 353-Lit/Cult. Franco. Wrld

ELECTIVES--18 Hours
FRN 399-Ind. Study in Frn.
FRN 451-Doing Bus. in Frn.
FRN 452-The Frn. Wrld. Through Film
FRN 453-French Women Writers
FRN 454-France in the Americas
FRN 455-French Attitudes
FRN 456-Frn. Cult. in Africa
FRN 457-French Thought in Social Context
FRN 499-Ind. Study in French

The following courses will not be offered in Brockport. They will be for credit only on the Tours program: FRN 302-French Grammar, FRN 322-Advanced Conversation, FRN 323-French Composition, FRN 324-Reading French, FRN 325-France Today; FRN 321-Intro. to French Lit.
SPANISH MAJOR

Existing Major in Spanish-36 Hours

Track 1-Language, Lit., and Civ
Prerequisites: SPN 212

Revised Major in Spanish-30 Hours

Prerequisites:
SPN 350 and SPN 352
prerequisite is SPN 212;
SPN 351 prerequisite is
SPN 356;
SPN 353/354 prerequisite is
SPN 350 or SPN 352.
All elective courses require
completion of SPN 353 or
SPN 354.
NOTE: SPN 351 must be taken
prior to or concurrently with
the first 400-level course
taken by a student.

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES-33 Hours

SPN 301-Spanish Grammar Review
SPN 302-Conversation and Comp.
SPN 303-Cont. Hispanic World
SPN 304-Spanish Civilization
SPN 305-Spn. Am. Civilization
SPN 401-Spanish Lit I
SPN 402-Spanish Lit II
SPN 405-Spn. Am. Lit I
SPN 406-Spn. Am. Lit II
SPN 412-Phonology
SPN 422-Adv. Conv/Comp.

ELECTIVES at 300 or 400 level-3 hrs.
from the following:
SPN 407-Spn. Am. Short Story
SPN 408-Mexico Today
SPN 409-Spn. Am. Women Writers
SPN 410-Lit/cult. of Caribbean
SPN 411-Spn. Am. Novel
SPN 413-Adv. Spanish Grammar

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES-15 Hours

SPN 350-Comm. in Spanish
SPN 351-Adv. Comm. in Spanish
SPN 352-Hispanic World Today
SPN 353-Lit/Cult of Spain
SPN 354-Lit/Cult. Spn. America

ELECTIVES-15 Hours (any five)
*SPN 360-Spn. for Nat. Speakers
SPN 399-Ind. Study in Spanish
SPN 450-Topics Hisp. Lit/Cult
SPN 451-Spn. for Professions
SPN 452-Hisp. Culture/Film
SPN 453-Spn. Am. Women Writers
SPN 454-Hisp. Lit/Cult in US
SPN 455-Hisp. Popular Culture
SPN 456-Lit/Cult. of Caribbean
SPN 457-Cont. Spn. Narrative
SPN 458-Cont. Spn. Am. Narr
SPN 459-Mexico Today
SPN 460-Spn. Phonology
SPN 462-Spn. Lang. Var. in US
SPN 499-Ind. Study in Spanish
*indicates by advisement

2. RATIONALE FOR CHANGES:

The three changes are (a) reduction of hours in the major from
36 to 30; (b) changes in curriculum content -- merging of some
existing course content, creation of new courses, and deletion of
courses no longer planned to be taught; and (c) reduction of number
of required courses and corresponding introduction of greater
selective choice in the major. The rationales for these changes follow:

a) The reduction of hours in the major from 36 to 30 is intended
to respond to both staffing and substantive academic considerations,
The staffing issue is that the number of faculty that we are working with has made it difficult, especially for the French program, to staff the required number of courses under the 36-hour plan.

The substantive academic considerations include the wish to provide our students with more space in their undergraduate program to pursue intellectual/academic, and/or personal interests through course work in other areas. These interests might include double majors, major/minor combinations, and study in a number of areas that complement foreign language preparation, such as in technology, communication, international studies, etc. It is important to note, additionally, that the 30-hour major includes course work only at the upper division level; thus, students who are at the beginning or intermediate level of language study when they enter college will actually be completing additional course work (anywhere from three to twelve credits) at the lower division level.

(b) The changes in curriculum content also address both practical and substantive academic considerations.

Heightened awareness of the difficulty of justifying support for a number of upper-division courses that were consistently low enrollment was an important practical consideration. A reduction in the number of required courses and a carefully planned sequence of elective offerings will address that problem by concentrating students in larger numbers in both types of courses.

Substantive academic considerations include our wish to update the curriculum to include more contemporary material and perspectives, more effective integration of those areas, and greater emphasis on culture. Examples of more contemporary material are the new courses in the areas of language for business, contemporary narrative, film/video, and popular culture. Course content originally spread out over three courses (e.g., literature surveys and civilization courses) has been merged into fewer courses, thus facilitating a more integrated approach to materials that are, in any case, essentially interwoven.

(c) Greater elective choice in the majors, resulting from the reduced number of required courses, will permit students greater latitude in selection of areas of special interest. This elective component of the curriculum has been developed to incorporate more contemporary issues and perspectives, and with special attention to Francophone and Hispanic cultures in global contexts (e.g., Africa, the Caribbean, North America, etc.)

3. EVIDENCE OF DEMAND FOR PROPOSED REVISIONS:

The proposed revisions are responsive to the expressed interests of students, faculty, and administration; those interests include the considerations outlined above -- both practical and substantive.
4. POTENTIAL CLIENTELE, COMPETITION WITH ROCHESTER AREA COLLEGES, ETC.: (N/A)

5. DESCRIPTION OF NEW COURSES, INCLUDING PROGRAM ENTRANCE AND EXIT REQUIREMENTS:

   New course descriptions; new course titles indicate new courses; descriptions in process; please see the Dean's letter of support.
   There is no entrance requirement for the French and Spanish majors. There is an exit requirement of a language proficiency exam for students intending to student teach, but that is not a new feature of the program.

6. STAFFING/BUDGET ITEMS:

   The proposed revisions do not require additional staffing or budgetary allocations.

7. ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION COMMENTARY:

   See attached letters from:
   Chair, Dept. of Foreign Languages -- Elaine K. Miller
   Dean, School of Letters and Sciences -- Robert J. McLean

8. FACILITIES AND NON-TEACHING STAFF NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM AT THE CURRENT TIME AS WELL AS IN THE FUTURE:

   There are no changes to the current arrangements.
FRENCH MINOR

Existing Minor in French-18 Hours

Students pursuing a minor in French must complete 18 credits in upper-division (300-level) French courses, to be taken by advisement.

Revised Minor in French-18 Hrs

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES-12 Hours

FRN 350-Comm. in French
FRN 351-Written Expression
FRN 352-Lit/Cult. of France
FRN 353-Lit/Cult. Franco. Wrld

*ELECTIVE COURSES-6 hours
*Please see elective courses in French identified under the major.

SPANISH MINOR-TRACK I

Existing Minor in Spanish-18 Hours

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES-9 Hours

SPN 302-Spn. Conv/Comp. OR
SPN 303-Cont. Hispanic World
SPN 304-Spanish Civilization OR
SPN 305-Spanish/American Civ.
SPN 422-Adv. Conv/Comp.

ELECTIVES-9 Hours

Elective Credits by advisement: of the remaining 9 credits (electives) at least three must be at the 400-level.

Revised Minor in Spanish-18 Hrs

CORE/REQUIRED COURSES-9 Hours

SPN 350-Comm. in Spanish
SPN 351-Adv. Comm. in Spanish
SPN 352-Hisp. World Today

*ELECTIVES-9 Hours
*Please see elective courses in Spanish identified under the major. At least three of the 9 elective credits must be at the 400-level.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGES:

The proposed changes in the minors address two considerations:

a) to introduce more structure into the French minor
b) to incorporate the changes in curricular offerings reflected in the proposed changes to both the French and Spanish majors