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MEETING AGENDA

8:30 a.m. -
10:00 a.m.

**BREAKFAST MEETING - STATE BOARD OF REGENTS, SNOW COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
PRESIDENT WYATT, COMMISSIONER SEDERBURG**
(Heritage Room)

10:00 a.m. -
12:00 noon

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
(Founders Hall)

1. Welcome and Overview
2. Report of the Commissioner
3. Review of 2010 Legislative General Session
4. USHE - Tuition Increases for 2010-2011
5. USHE - Proposed Fee Increases for 2010-2011

Tab A
Tab B
Tab C

12:00 noon -
1:15 p.m.

LUNCH
(Founders Hall)

State of the College Report - President Wyatt

1:30 p.m. -
3:30 p.m.

MEETING OF BOARD COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC, CTE, AND STUDENT SUCCESS (Programs) COMMITTEE

Regent Anthony W. Morgan, Chair
(Founders Hall)

ACTION:

1. University of Utah - Bachelor of Science Degree in Operations Management
2. University of Utah - Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics
3. University of Utah - PH.D. Degree in Pharmacotherapy
4. Utah State University - Master's Degree in Marriage and Family Therapy
5. Utah State University - Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Degrees in General Studies
6. Dixie State College - Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Degrees in Theatre
7. Dixie State College - Bachelor of Science Degree in Clinical Laboratory Science
8. Salt Lake Community College - Associate of Applied Science Degree in Network Systems
9. Revised Police R401, *Approval of New Programs, Program Changes, Discontinued Programs, and Program Reports*

Tab D
Tab E
Tab F
Tab G
Tab H
Tab I
Tab J
Tab K
Tab L

CONSENT:

10. Consent Calendar, Programs Committee
 - A. University of Utah - Program Discontinuation: The Department of Teaching and Learning in the College of Education and Restructure: Undergraduate Elementary Education to a cross-departmental program in the College of Education
 - B. Utah State University - Three-year Follow-up Report: PH.D. in Theory and Practice of Professional Communication
 - C. Southern Utah University - Reinstatement: Bachelor of Science in Art and Name Change: Department of Arts

Tab M

- Degree in Studio Art to Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art.
- D. Utah Valley University
 - i. Discontinued Programs:
 - a. Diploma in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology
 - b. Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education in Department of Elementary Education
 - c. Associate of Applied Science Degree in Finance and Banking in Department of Finance and Economics
 - d. Associate of Science Degree in Finance and Banking in Department of Finance and Economics
 - ii. Three-Year Follow-up Reports:
 - a. Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Degrees in Communications
 - b. Bachelor of Science Degree in Forensic Science
 - c. Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Systems
 - d. Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education
 - e. Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music
 - f. Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science
 - g. Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science Degrees in Theatre Arts
 - h. Bachelor of Science Degree in Theatre Education

INFORMATION:

- 11. Information Calendar, Programs Committee Tab N
 - A. Weber State University - Name Change: Associate of Applied Science Degree in Emergency Care and Rescue to Associate of Applied Science Degree in Paramedic Studies
 - B. Southern Utah University
 - i. Minor in Anthropology
 - ii. Name Change: Department of Foreign Languages and Humanities of Department of Foreign Languages and Philosophy
 - iii. Certificate in Leadership
 - iv. Certificate in International Relations
 - C. Dixie State College - Emphasis: Bachelor of Science in the Integrated Studies With Emphasis in Criminal Justice
 - D. Utah Valley University
 - i. Minor in Forensic Science in the College of Technology and Computer, Department of Criminal Justice
 - ii. Stand-alone Minor: Outdoor Recreation in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation
 - iii. Name Changes:
 - a. The School of Community Education to the Division of Community and Continuing Education
 - b. Pre-Major in General Academics to Pre-Major in University Studies
 - c. Associate of Applied Science Degree in Physical Plant Management to Associate of Applied Science Degree in Facilities Management
 - iv. Emphases:
 - a. Bachelor of Science Degree in Integrated Studies with Emphasis in Peace and Justice Studies
 - b. Bachelor of Science Degree in Math with Emphasis in Actuarial Science
 - E. Salt Lake Community College - Consolidation of Computer Science Department and Computer Information Systems Department into Division of Computer Systems, Marketing, and Paralegal Studies

FINANCE, FACILITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

Regent Nolan E. Karras, Chair

(Heritage Room)

ACTION:

- 1. Snow College - Campus Master Plan Tab O
- 2. University of Utah - Refinancing of ACFS Bonds Series 1998A, 1999A and 2001 Tab P
- 3. University of Utah - Revenue Bonds, Series Tab Q
- 4. Utah State University - Agricultural Research Station (ARS) Lease Tab R
- 5. USHE- Proposed Revision to Police R710, *Capital Facilities* Tab S
- 6. Southern Utah University - Proposed Sale of Property Tab T
- 7. UHEAA - Approving Resolution for Student Loan Revenue Bonds Series 2010A Tab U
- 8. UHEAA - Approving Resolution for Straight Commercial Paper Funding Conduit Tab V
- 9. UHEAA - Proposed Selection of UHEAA Financial Underwriter Tab W
- 10. UESP - Line of Credit Tab X

INFORMATION:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 11. USHE - UPAC Efficiencies | |
| 12. USHE - Capital Facilities and Capital Improvement Legislative Update | |
| 13. USHE - Money Management Report | Tab Y |
| 14. USHE - Spring Enrollment Report | Tab Z |
| 15. Salt Lake Community College - Summary of Series 1998 and 2001 Auxiliary System and Student Fee Refunding Bonds | Tab AA |
| | Tab BB |
| | Tab CC |

COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Regent John H. Zenger, Chair

(Academy Room)

ACTION:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Policy Amendments Related to the Resource and Review Teams | Tab DD |
| A. Revised Policy R208, <i>Resource and Review Teams</i> | |
| B. Revised Policy R209, <i>Evaluation of Presidents</i> | |
| 2. Policy Amendments related to the New Century and Regents' Scholarships | Tab EE |
| A. Revised Policy R604, <i>New Century Scholarship</i> | Tab FF |
| B. Revised Policy R609, <i>Regents' Scholarship</i> | Tab GG |
| 3. New Century and Regents' Scholarship 2010-2011 Awards | |

INFORMATION:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| 4. Spring Enrollment Report | Tab BB |
|-----------------------------|--------|

DISCUSSION:

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 5. Roles and Authority Quality Improvement Task Force Report (Draft) | Tab HH |
| 6. Higher Education Plan for Utah (Draft) | Tab II |

3:30 p.m. -

3:45 p.m.

BREAK

3:45 p.m. -

4:15 p.m.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BOARD**
(Founders Hall)

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. General Consent Calendar | Tab JJ |
| 2. Proposed Campus Assessment for 2010-2011 | Tab KK |
| 3. Reports of the Board Committees | |
| ○ Program Committee (Tabs D - M) | |
| ○ Finance Committee (Tabs N - DD) | |
| ○ Planning Committee (Tabs EE = II) | |
| 4. Report of the Chair | |

4:15 p.m. -

5:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING OF THE BOARD
(Lorenzo and Erastus Snow Conference Room, if needed)

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Projected times for the various meetings are estimates only. The Board Chair retains the right to take action at any time. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) during this meeting should notify ADA Coordinator, 60 South 400 West, Salt Lake City, UT 84180 (801-321-7124), at least three working days prior to the meeting. TDD # 801-321-7130.

March 24, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents

FROM: William A. Sederburg

SUBJECT: Utah State University – Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts degree in General Studies – Action Item

Issue

Utah State University requests approval to offer a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts degree program in General Studies, with an emphasis in one of eight concentrated areas of study, effective in the Fall Semester of 2010. This program is expected to be approved by the USU Board of Trustees on March 26, 2010, and was approved by the Regents' Program Review Committee on March 19, 2010.

Background

The General Studies degree can be completed in one of the following eight areas: Agriculture, General Studies in Arts and Humanities, Policy and Administration, Education and Human Services, Technology, Natural Resources, Science, and Social Sciences. This degree is a customized program in which students, in collaboration with and under the guidance of experts in the field of interest, undertake the responsibility for the design of an undergraduate degree with a broad emphasis in a selected area of study. The program is intended for independent-minded, self-directed adult learners who have completed an associate's degree or earned a minimum of 60 college credits from a regionally accredited college or university.

Before acceptance into this degree program, students will propose a program of study, consistent with their career or professional goals, which is reviewed and approved by the dean of the appropriate academic college or school, or his or her designee, in consultation with faculty from the college. All approved plans will be required to have academic rigor and integrity, be consistent with the broad undergraduate competencies of the academic area granting the degree, and be in harmony with the career or professional goals of the student. In addition, all students completing a general studies degree will be required to complete a capstone experience intended to integrate the breath of their coursework and facilitate their transition into a post-baccalaureate career.

While there is no labor market demand for such a degree, USU officials believe it will serve the professional needs of adult students who are returning to complete baccalaureate degrees.

The proposed program is not expected to have additional costs as faculty, curricula, and facilities are in place.

#### Policy Issues

Earlier concerns regarding quality and rigor were addressed by Utah State University officials. The USHE institutions raised no other concerns.

#### Commissioner's Recommendation

The Commissioner recommends that the Regents review the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts degree in General Studies requested by Utah State University, raise questions, and, if satisfied, approve the request.

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William A. Sederburg, Commissioner

WAS/PCS  
Attachment

Program, Career and Technical Education, and Student Success Committee

Action Item

Request to Offer the Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts in General Studies

Utah State University

Prepared for  
William A. Sederburg  
by  
Phyllis C. Safman

March 24, 2010

## **Section I: The Request**

Utah State University requests approval to offer a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts degree program in General Studies, with an emphasis in one of eight concentrated areas of study, effective in the Fall Semester of 2010.

## **Section II: Program Description**

### **Purpose and Rationale**

The General Studies degree, with an emphasis in one of eight concentrated areas of study, provides maximum flexibility for the student who wishes to embrace a broad educational program of study while maintaining a focus on personal, career or professional goals. The area of emphasis is intended to add a measure of specialization to the degree and can be completed in one of the following eight areas: Agriculture; Arts and Humanities; General Studies in Policy and Administration; Education and Human Services; Technology; Natural Resources; Science; and Social Sciences.

This degree is a customized program in which the student, in collaboration with and under the guidance of experts in the field of interest, undertakes the responsibility for the design of an undergraduate degree with a broad emphasis in a selected area of study that reflects their particular personal and professional interests. The program is intended for independent-minded, self-directed adult learners who have completed an associate's degree or who have earned a minimum of 60 college credits from a regionally-accredited college or university.

Before a student is accepted into this degree program, they will propose a program of study consistent with their career or professional goals which is reviewed and approved by the dean of the appropriate academic college or school, or his or her designee, in consultation with faculty from the college. All approved plans will be required to have academic rigor and integrity, be consistent with the broad undergraduate competencies of the academic area granting the degree, and be in harmony with the career or professional goals of the student. In addition, each student completing a General Studies degree will be required to complete a capstone experience intended to integrate the breath of their coursework and to facilitate their transition into their post-baccalaureate career.

### **Learning Goals and Outcomes**

The primary goal of the General Studies program is to facilitate a platform for scholarship designed to meet a student's unique career objectives. Given the broad array of specified degree options available at Utah State University, it is expected that the vast majority of students will select one of the standard majors. The General Studies degree is designed to meet the needs of a few students, seeking the opportunity to create a more customized program of study. Given the customized nature of the General Studies degree, learning objectives for each student will be unique and will expand upon the citizen scholar objectives of the University Studies Program.

It is expected that graduates of this program will:

- Demonstrate an appropriate mastery of a body of knowledge and intellectual skill set, as specified in their approved program of study and degree emphasis.



- Demonstrate initiative and intentionality in charting their unique path toward graduation and beyond.
- Demonstrate a level of engagement with the materials as evidenced by intellectual exchange with faculty and/or community mentors through an approved capstone experience such as an internship or research project.
- Demonstrate in their candidacy for graduation that they have met the requirements of an educated citizen as evidenced through completion of University Studies requirements.

A key requirement for admission to the program is an application prepared by the student, proposing their program of study and specifying the specific objectives and outcomes they expect to achieve in their program. A degree program application is provided in Appendix A.

### **Relationship to Other Multidisciplinary Degrees at Utah State University**

Utah State University currently offers two multidisciplinary degrees, the Bachelor of Liberal Arts and the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies. The Liberal Arts major allows students in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences to design a customized program of study in completion of the Bachelor of Arts degree. The Interdisciplinary Studies major allows students to integrate two or more specific disciplines into a customized program of study. In the continuum of degree offerings, USU's traditional degree programs provide the most discipline-focused curriculum path and satisfy the needs of the vast majority of students. The two multidisciplinary degrees mentioned above broaden the discipline-focus slightly, providing an attractive degree path for students whose career ambitions require the blending of two or three traditional majors. The proposed General Studies degree will offer the broadest degree option, providing discipline focus at the college-level, for the independent, self-directed learner with a well articulated need for the skills obtained by pursuing a broad degree.

### **Admission Requirements**

Students seeking admission to the General Studies program must meet the following admission requirements:

- Be a student in good standing at Utah State University
- Have obtained 60 earned credits
- Submit an application and plan of study with an identifiable area of emphasis (Arts and Humanities, Agriculture, Education and Human Services, Natural Resources, Policy and Administration, Science, Social Science and Technology) to the associate dean of the academic college that oversees the chosen emphasis.
- This plan of study must include: (1) a plan for completing USU's University Studies requirements, (2) include at least 40 credits of upper division courses, and (3) include a culminating capstone course or experience.
- Admission to the General Studies degree program will require approval by both the advisor and the college dean, or his or her designee, who will consult with faculty of the college in which the student wishes to enroll.

### **Academic Oversight and Student Advisement**

The administrative group providing oversight for this degree will be the USU Council of Associate Deans, comprised of the associate deans responsible for undergraduate affairs in each of Utah State University's seven academic colleges. The Council of Associate Deans will set policy for the General Studies program,

and formally review the General Studies program on an annual basis to assess its effectiveness in meeting the needs of the target audience as well as the broader academic goals of the institution.

Like many students, students opting for the General Studies degree path will require careful advising and mentoring. Hence, students accepted to the General Studies program will be expected to work under direction of an approved advisor. Students will apply for admission to the General Studies degree in the academic college aligned with their area of emphasis. Faculty with expertise related to the student's academic and career interests will be consulted as necessary during the preparation of the plan of study, and will be in regular communication with the student throughout the completion of their program, including the capstone experience.

Advising regarding University Studies and discipline emphasis requirements will come from professional advisors in the colleges. For transfer and undeclared students, the first point of contact will be a coordinator appointed in University Advising Services. Students will be required to consider other degree programs before opting for General Studies, to ensure that the degree they wish to design is not already available.

### **Intentionality of Student Learning**

The design of a student's General Studies program must have meaning and purpose. To ensure this goal, students seeking such a degree will: (1) pass a rigorous admission-application process, (See Appendix A), (2) experience intrusive advising practices in finalizing and completing their plan of study, and (3) complete one or more capstone experiences. The sequence of courses, both university studies and discipline emphasis, will be assessed for articulation among and between learning concepts. A threaded yet seamless learning experience will be expected. Formative and summative evaluation processes will help to guide the development and outcomes of intentional learning. Students will exhibit reflective learning when assessed with one or more of the following required tools: exit interviews, portfolio displays, internship reports, capstone experience.

### **Curricular Concentration and Coherence**

Integrative, interdisciplinary study involves bridging traditional academic boundaries to examine the relationships between various disciplines. This approach challenges students to recognize the distinct methodologies and practices unique to different fields of knowledge and to appreciate the significant ways that knowledge results from interactions among these fields. The major emphasis must be thematically cohesive, which is to be articulated by the student in the application process.

### **Intellectual Engagement**

Faculty in the student's area of emphasis will be sought as needed for individualized consultations and, when appropriate, individualized reading and research classes. Students are required to work with faculty members as part of the General Studies major to complete a culminating experience relevant to their course of study. This would typically be accomplished through undergraduate research, internships, or capstone courses.

### **Integration of Content and Learning Experiences**

Reflective learning is fundamental to the General Studies degree. A student will typically enter the degree path with a mature academic record (60+ credits); the balance of the degree will require reflection on what has occurred and what will occur in preparing the student to enter an occupation and democratic citizenry. Accurate and accessible advising is the lynch pin as the student will work with a mentor in reflection,

design, and targeted course completion. A capstone experience is expected and will be integral to degree completion. Students will be encouraged to prepare a portfolio of experiences and accomplishments to summarize and demonstrate the knowledge base and skill set they have gained through their university program.

### **Graduation Requirements**

The degree requirements for General Studies include the following:

- 120 total credits
- Grade point average of 2.0 USU cumulative GPA – in good standing at Utah State
- Completion of University Studies Requirements:
  1. Completion of USU General Education requirements (minimum of 30 credits)
  2. Depth education components of 2 Communications Intensive courses, 1 Quantitative Intensive course; and 2 Depth Courses
- 40 credits of upper-division courses
- An area of emphasis identified within an academic college (Agriculture, Business, Education and Human Services, Engineering, Humanities, Arts, and Social Science, Natural Resources, and Science) with a minimum of 30 credits.
- A plan of study approved by their advisor, the associate dean of the college associated with their emphasis.
- A capstone experience is required (e.g., internship; research project, independent study, senior project).

### **Comparison with Other General Studies Degrees around the Country**

Degree programs in General Studies are offered at many universities around the country, including Brigham Young University, Kent State University, Indiana University, Texas A&M University<sup>1</sup>, University of Connecticut, University of Massachusetts – Amherst, and University of Missouri – Columbia,. Each university program has a unique structure and requirements, designed to meet the institutional objectives and the needs of the target student population. Among the programs reviewed, the proposed Utah State University program most closely resembles programs offered at The University of Missouri – Columbia, Texas A&M University and Kent State University, in that these programs target both traditional and non-traditional students seeking a rigorous, self-directed, degree experience. The General Studies program at Texas A&M also resides in each of the academic colleges, as is true of the proposed program at Utah State University.

### **Institutional Readiness**

Due to the nature of the General Studies degree, the institution is prepared to offer it immediately. No additional courses will be required. The entire faculty of Utah State University may participate as teachers and designated faculty and professional advisors may guide students through the General Studies degree. The existing curriculum and advising community are sufficient to deliver the degree. The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and Council of Associate Deans will take the lead in providing training and support materials (including a standard admissions application and plan of study worksheets) to college and University Advising Center advisors.

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<sup>1</sup> Texas A&M University's degree is titled "University Studies" but is similar in format to many of the General Studies programs we reviewed.

**Faculty**

Since this degree will utilize the entire existing curriculum, no additional faculty are required and all may contribute.

**Staff**

Administration of the General Studies degree will utilize the existing advising and administrative structure housed within Utah State University's seven academic colleges.

**Library and Information Resource**

The collection of the library is sufficient to meet the demands of almost any focus that a student chooses within General Studies. This includes book collections, audio visual items, periodicals, and other information resources.

**External Review and Accreditation**

No external review or accreditation agencies or consultants were used in the development of the proposed Bachelors in General Studies.

**Projected Enrollment**

As noted above, enrollments for this program are expected to be modest and spread across USU's seven academic colleges. Enrollment projections for the first five years are indicated below:

|  | Year 1<br>2008-09 | Year 2<br>2009-10 | Year 3<br>2010-11 | Year 4<br>2011-12 | Year 5<br>2012-13 |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | 15                | 30                | 30                | 30                | 30                |

**Section III: Need****Program Need**

While Utah State University offers an extensive array of baccalaureate degree offerings, this program is designed to meet the unique needs of a few students whose circumstances and/or career objectives call for greater flexibility in the design of the academic program of study. As described above, USU's traditional degree programs provide the most discipline-focused curriculum path and satisfy the needs of the vast majority of students. The proposed General Students degree will offer the broadest degree option, providing discipline focus at the college-level, for the independent, self-directed learner with a well articulated need for the skills obtained by pursuing a broad degree.

**Audiences**

Given the flexibility granted by the General Studies degree, it is expected that the rationale underlying the choice of General Studies as a major will vary widely. Some students, proactive in charting their unique career direction, will see General Studies as a way to pursue a career path not presently available in the university's array of baccalaureate options. Other students may find themselves changing direction midway through their academic program (i.e. a business student that decides to prepare for medical school). For these students, a customized program may enable them to change directions, pursuing their new goal in a fairly direct manner, as opposed to starting at the beginning of new major. In other cases, students with several years in the workforce will be returning to complete their degree, seeking to customize a program

that fosters their present field of employment. These are just a few examples of populations for which the General Studies degree might prove attractive.

### **Value of the Degree to Graduates and Labor Market Demand**

Characteristics such as excellence in written and oral communication, problem-solving ability, experience with collaborative and team projects and independent inquiry skills necessary to become a life-long learner are frequently cited as more important than narrow, in-depth expertise. The National Association of Colleges and Employers 2008 Job Outlook survey cites the following top five personal qualities/skills employers seek: communication skills (verbal and written), strong work ethic, teamwork skills, initiative and interpersonal skills. Lee Bollinger (President of Columbia University) has stated: "An undergraduate education is a time to explore the great thinking that has occurred over time about subjects that endure. The university is about being able to move intellectually within a whole array of views." These are the very characteristics that will be developed in General Studies degree students through the "Citizen Scholar" objectives (Appendix B) in USU's University Studies program, which will be common among all General Studies majors. The area of emphasis and capstone experience will be designed to build upon and reinforce these skill sets in the context of each student's learning and career objectives.

### **Student Demand**

The program is not intended to attract large or even significant numbers of students. Rather, its intent is to meet the unique academic and professional needs of a few students. Unlike programs requiring a certain number of students to cover program-related fixed costs, this program is designed to utilize the existing faculty and administrative infrastructure.

### **Similar Programs**

Several institutions within the State of Utah offer degree programs with similar objectives to USU's proposed General Studies degree. Almost every institution in the state offers General Studies or a similar degree. The University of Utah offers University Studies: "The purpose of the Bachelor of University Studies (B.U.S.) degree option is to enable students, under the guidance of a faculty adviser, to design their own majors by combining courses from several departments." The program at the University of Utah expects students to take a proactive stance in planning their curricula. The Bachelor of Integrated Studies degrees at Weber State University, Utah Valley University and Dixie State College require students to build their programs around specific areas of emphasis or clusters. The USU General Studies degree as proposed is more closely aligned with the University Studies program as offered by the University of Utah in that students are allowed broader leeway in defining their concentrated area of study. The infrastructure supporting the USU program will reside in the seven academic colleges of the University, contrasted with the U of U, where the infrastructure for the program is more centralized in the office of undergraduate affairs.

### **Collaboration with and Impact on Other USHE Institutions**

Utah State University expresses thanks to the excellent guidelines provided for General Studies degrees by the statewide General Education Task Force. Since this degree is not intended as a recruitment tool, but rather an alternative program for existing students in the USU Logan and Regional Campus system there should not be any impact on other USHE institutions.

## **Benefits**

The proposed General Studies degree program will establish a rigorous, broad, degree option for the self-directed student seeking an educational experience that is customized to meet their personal and professional goals. As with all higher education degrees, the General Studies degree will help meet the public demand for a learned population, or citizen scholars.

## **Consistency with Institutional Mission**

Utah State University is a comprehensive, land-grant, research and teaching institution, offering more than 200 degree options to its students. The proposed General Studies degree will serve both traditional and non-traditional students throughout the state and is entirely consistent with the mission and role of Utah State University.

## **Section IV: Program and Student Assessment**

### **Program Assessment**

The goal for the General Studies degree allows students to explore broad academic offerings and integrate these into a personalized baccalaureate program of study. The program is designed to meet the educational objectives of independently minded, self directed learners seeking bachelor degree completion, allowing them to pursue, with appropriate faculty supervision, a structured, yet customized sequence of courses designed to meet their unique personal and career objectives.

Assessment will include:

- A demonstrated level of engagement with the content as evidenced by intellectual exchange with faculty and/or community mentors through a capstone experience, such as an internship or research project.
- A demonstrated ability to exhibit the intellectual skill set of a citizen scholar measured by successful program completion, and exit interviews of a representative sample of program graduates by the college dean or their designee.
- As graduates of an academic college, General Studies students will participate in all assessment activities of that particular college.
- Evidence that graduates possess the necessary entry level skills as measured by post-graduation employment (placement) in a discipline-related business/industry.
- Evidence that graduates possess critical work-force skills measured by post-graduation employer surveys.
- Evidence of student success through analysis of retention and time-to-graduation data for program graduates.

At the time of the three-year program review, USU expects to have a profile of the characteristics of students who choose to complete a degree in General Studies. Provided will be an analysis of how the General Studies degree is perceived and used by the prospective students outlined in the Student Demand section of this document.

### Expected Standards of Performance

Program objectives and assessment criteria have been set forth earlier in this document. As noted above, policy guidance and academic oversight for the General Studies program will be provided by the USU Council of Associate Deans. On an annual basis, the Council of Associate Deans will meet to evaluate the quality and progress of the program.

## Section V: Finance

### Budget

Because the existing curricula and faculty will be employed for this general degree, there is no additional cost to the institution. Increased retention of students who find an academic home in General Studies may positively influence tuition revenues.

| Financial Analysis Form            |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                                    | Year 1                                                                                                                                                | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
| <b>Students</b>                    |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Projected FTE Enrollment           | 12                                                                                                                                                    | 24     | 24     | 24     | 24     |
| Cost Per FTE <sup>1</sup>          | 5,444                                                                                                                                                 | 5,444  | 5,444  | 5,444  | 5,444  |
| Student/Faculty Ratio <sup>1</sup> | 22.2                                                                                                                                                  | 22.2   | 22.2   | 22.2   | 22.2   |
| Projected Headcount                | 15                                                                                                                                                    | 30     | 30     | 30     | 30     |
| <b>Projected Tuition</b>           |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Gross Tuition                      | 59,775                                                                                                                                                | 62,764 | 65,902 | 69,197 | 72,657 |
| Tuition to Program                 | 0                                                                                                                                                     | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      |
| 5 Year Budget Projection           |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
|                                    | Year 1                                                                                                                                                | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
| <b>Expense</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Salaries & Wages                   | N/A - All costs are currently covered in existing program. There are no additional faculty or staff FTE, library or other operational funds required. |        |        |        |        |
| Benefits                           |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Total Personnel                    |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Current Expenses                   |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Travel                             |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |
| Capital                            |                                                                                                                                                       |        |        |        |        |

|                           |                                         |    |    |    |    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Library Expenses          |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Total Expenses            | \$                                      | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
|                           |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Revenue                   |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Legislative Appropriation | N/A – Funded through existing resources |    |    |    |    |
| Grants & Contracts        |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Donations                 |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Reallocation              |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Tuition to Program        |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Fees                      |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Total Revenue             | \$0                                     | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
|                           |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Difference                |                                         |    |    |    |    |
| Revenue-Expense           | \$0                                     | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  |

<sup>1</sup> Numbers represent 2007-2008 USU total undergraduate averages. Source: USU Department Profiles, 2007-2008, Total USU.



## Appendix A

### Utah State University General Studies Degree Application

Type the information and responses to questions on this form. **Please develop this proposal with your advisor.** This form must be signed by you, your advisor, and the associate dean of your college.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ A#: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Semester and year you intend to graduate: \_\_\_\_\_

College of emphasis: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Interest: Explain why you are interested in the General Studies Degree. Please indicate clearly why existing majors on campus will not help you meet your educational goals. Note that you must demonstrate that you explored other majors before you will be admitted to this one.

2. Describe your area of academic emphasis and how it relates to your goals. Your advisor will assist you in identifying faculty with appropriate expertise to develop this curriculum.

3. You must participate in a capstone experience that may be an internship, research project, independent study or a portfolio. Please describe a potential capstone experience. It is understood that this may change after consultation with a faculty mentor or advisor. This should include a description of the major tasks that must be completed.

Faculty mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Capstone Description:

4. What are your post-baccalaureate goals? What will this degree and specifically the courses in your area of emphasis and the planned capstone experience help you accomplish?

5. Please attach to this form the completed General Studies Degree Plan of Study form indicating the courses you plan to take to complete your degree.

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Student Signature

---

Date

---

Advisor Signature

---

Date

---

Associate Dean Signature

---

Date

Appendix A, continued

GENERAL STUDIES DEGREE PLAN OF STUDY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Number: A \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

List courses necessary to complete University Studies or attach a college worksheet. List the courses proposed for the area of academic emphasis (min. 30 credits):

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |
| Course _____ | Credits _____ |

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your 3 Credit Capstone Experience:

Mentor: \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Checklist (Review with your Advisor):

\_\_\_\_\_ I have included courses necessary to complete my General Education requirements, composed of Communication Literacy (CL)1; Communication Literacy (CL2); Quantitative Literacy; Computer and Information Literacy exams; Breadth American Institutions (BAI); Breadth Humanities (BHU); Breadth Creative Arts (BCA); Breadth Social Sciences (BSS); Breadth Life Sciences (BLS); Breadth Physical Sciences (BPS).

\_\_\_\_\_ I have included courses necessary to complete the Depth education components consisting of 2 Communications Intensive courses, 1 Quantitative Intensive course; and 2 Depth Courses.

\_\_\_\_\_ My plan of study includes 40 credits of upper-division courses.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have included a capstone experience.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a 2.0 USU cumulative GPA.

\_\_\_\_\_ **For BA only:** I have completed or scheduled 4 semesters of a second language.

## **Attachment to application**

### **Advisor Process of Review of the General Studies Degree Application**

1. Students must articulate the specific area of emphasis they wish to pursue and how this major meets their educational goals.
2. Students must successfully articulate why existing degrees do not meet their educational paths.
3. Students must demonstrate an understanding of career opportunities and the marketability of the degree they are proposing and reflect on how the specific skill sets addressed in the "Citizen Scholar" appendix will be incorporated in their career objectives.
4. Advisors will review interests with the students and direct them to appropriate faculty who can help determine the course content and capstone required to provide an integration of study in the major.
5. The combination of a concentration of courses AND a capstone experience should be designed to force the student to provide reflection regarding their goals and to be better prepared for the next career step.
6. Students need to be able to articulate the value of the General Studies degree.

Once the student has met with both a faculty mentor and the appropriate college advisor, the application will be forwarded to the respective college associate dean who will review the application with the advisor for relevance and acceptance. The advisor will serve as the liaison between the student and the associate dean. If the degree proposal is acceptable to all parties, it will be signed by the student, the advisor and the associate dean.

## Appendix B

### CITIZEN SCHOLAR GOALS

The mission of undergraduate education at Utah State University is to help students develop intellectually, personally, and culturally, so that they may serve the people of Utah, the nation, and the world. USU prepares citizen-scholars who participate and lead in local, regional, national, and global communities. University Studies is an integral part of every student's experience—in both lower-division and upper-division courses. A solid University Studies foundation, combined with concentrated study in a major discipline and interdisciplinary studies, provides the breadth and depth of knowledge qualifying USU graduates as educated citizens.

The University Studies program is intended to help students learn how to learn—not just for the present, but also for the future. No individual can master all, or even a small portion, of society's knowledge, but students can learn the basic patterns used to obtain and organize information, enabling them to discover or recover knowledge. University Studies involves a series of interrelated educational experiences which stimulate and assist students in becoming self-reliant scholars and individuals.

#### General Education Learning Objectives

The ultimate objective is for general and discipline-specific education to complement each other in helping student to:

1. Understand processes of acquiring knowledge and information.
2. Reason logically, critically, creatively, and independently, and be able to address problems in a broad context.
3. Recognize different ways of thinking, creating, expressing, and communicating through a variety of media.
4. Understand diversity in value systems and cultures in an interdependent world.
5. Develop a capacity for self assessment and lifelong learning.

By introducing ideas and issues in human thought and experience, University Studies courses help students achieve the intellectual integration and awareness needed to meet the challenges they will face in their personal, social, and professional lives. University Studies courses emphasize how knowledge is achieved and applied in different domains. Collectively, they provide a foundation and perspective for:

1. Understanding the nature, history, and methods of the arts and humanities, as well as the natural and physical sciences.
2. Understanding the cultural, historical, and natural contexts shaping the human experience.
3. Interpreting the important cultural, socio-economic, scientific, and technological issues of the diverse global community in which we live.

A university education prepares students to work and live meaningfully in today's rapidly changing global society. Together, general and discipline-specific education helps students master the essential competencies making this goal possible. These competencies include:

1. Reading, listening, and viewing for comprehension.
2. Communicating effectively for various purposes and audiences.
3. Understanding and applying mathematics and other quantitative reasoning techniques.
4. Using various technologies competently.
5. Working effectively, both collaboratively and individually.