

To: Reviewers of Policy Change Recommendations

From: Katrina Green, Curriculum Policy Review Board Co-Chair

Policy Owner(s): Dean of the Graduate School, Vice Provost for Student Success and Dean of Undergraduate Studies

Date: October, 2024

Re: Clarification to Graduate and Undergraduate Emphasis Policies

Introduction and Background

- Policy 6-225: Graduate Emphases & Policy 6-117: Undergraduate Emphases
- There were a variety of interpretations to the implementation of the policy, the changes provide clarification and support consistency.

Proposed Changes

- Both policies added language that majors with an emphasis must have a common set of courses or knowledge (for Graduate policy).
- A section of Policy 6-500 was added regarding the difference between an emphasis and other groupings of courses to each policy and will be removed from 6-500 policy forthcoming.
- The undergraduate policy
 - sets minimum standard requirements for the core courses and emphasis to provide baseline consistency across the institution while continuing to allow for specific program needs; and
 - allows for up to two emphases to be earned rather than a single one.

Regulation Development Process

- The proposed changes were initiated through the Curriculum Policy Review Board. Each member of the Board solicited feedback from faculty in their respective colleges. Feedback and discussion ensued over several months to fine tune the proposed changes.
- The Graduate Council reviewed the proposal and sent back minor recommendations for changes that were incorporated. Proposal with the changes approved at their 2/26/24 meeting.
- The Undergraduate Council reviewed the proposal and sent back minor recommendations for changes that were incorporated. Proposal with the changes approved at their 3/21/24 meeting.

- Policy changes were reviewed by the Senate Advisory Committee on Academic Policy.