TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning and Review (CAPR)

SUBJECT: Approval of the discontinuance of requested options in CBE

PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the discontinuance of the requested options in CBE, listed below; effective Fall 2009

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: CBE has requested the following discontinuances:

1. General Option in the B.A. in Economics program: This will be replaced with a B.A. without option. Coursework will remain available, as it is required of students that do not select one of the remaining options in the B.A. in Economics program (Accounting, Social Science Economics, or Statistical Economics).

2. All options in the M.A. in Economics program: Students will earn an M.A. in Economics. The General Economics Option, currently chosen by most students, would become the M.A. in Economics (w/o options). CBE will make available to currently-enrolled students coursework in the options or individual study to enable them to complete their degrees in a timely manner.

3. Various options in the M.B.A. program, namely
   a. Business Economics
   b. E-business
   c. Management
   d. International Business
   e. Operations and Materials Management
   f. Taxation
   g. Accounting option

Some options will be consolidated with the remaining options (with appropriate adjustments) and others will be discontinued, decisions which are still pending. CBE will make available to currently-enrolled students coursework in the options or individual study to enable them to complete their degrees in a timely manner.

The reasons for these requests are as follows:

1. In the recent visit by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), the accrediting body for these programs, concern was expressed at the number of options offered. The discontinuances will correct that situation before AACSB returns in Fall 2008.

2. CBE is aware that they have too many options and, in fact, cannot deliver all of them effectively. Discontinuing the requested options will ensure that students cannot enroll in options which CBE cannot support.

These options have no impact on other programs, being self-contained in the Business and Economics programs being modified. CAPR approved all but one discontinuance via email on April 28 and confirmed the vote at its meeting on May 1.

Regarding the discontinuance of the Accounting option, this request is an addendum to the original CBE request and was received by CAPR via email on May 22, 2008. CAPR committee members voted their approval to add this request via a majority of yes responses; however, the vote on this element of the matter was not unanimous. There was concern about the CBE curriculum decision-making process and also concern that the process issues raised last fall (see 2007-08 CAPR 03) were recurring.

RECOMMENDATION
That the Academic Senate approve the discontinuances requested by the College of Business and Economics.