TO: Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: Double Counting of One General Education Course (with their major prefix) for Certain Science Majors

PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate Approve the Double Counting (for their major as well as LDGE) of One General Education Course with their major prefix, for the Science Majors listed below; effective Fall 2005

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On April 18, CIC unanimously passed a proposal to permit certain College of Science majors (see list below) to double-count one course with their major prefix for their major as well as lower division General Education (G.E.). An earlier version of this proposal had been approved by CIC’s G.E. Subcommittee at its meeting of Feb 14, 2005 on a unanimous vote (7-0-0). MSP: To allow Science students to take a freshman Science cluster sequence during their second year or to take one comparable course with their major department prefix and double count that course for GE and their major.

As a rule, students may not use a course with their major prefix for G.E. However, for the past several years, an exception has been made for cluster courses, so as not to deter students from taking a cluster that includes a course or courses in their major or the field they will probably major in. Students majoring in science fields that require large numbers of units have been permitted to take special clusters that allow up to two courses in their major field and to count both these courses toward G.E.

Some science majors are unable to take their special science clusters in freshman year and therefore are unable to take advantage of this double counting. This is because either they must first complete remedial work or they transfer into CSUEB in their sophomore year. The inability to double-count some major-prefix science courses in G.E. puts them behind and may even result in their eventually having to take more than 180 units. This change is designed to facilitate the graduation of those students. Since the affected science majors require their students to take courses in other sciences, the change will not reduce the breadth of science knowledge required of these students.

List of Science Majors to Which the Change Applies

Biological Science

Biochemistry
Chemistry
Engineering
Environmental Science
Geology
Nursing and Health Sciences
Physics
Psychology