TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum

SUBJECT: Proposed New B.A. Degree in Physics

PURPOSE: For Action by the Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate Approve the New B.A. Degree in Physics; effective Fall 2006

BACKGROUND
INFORMATION: This proposed new degree involves no new resources, since students will take the same courses now required for students in the B.S. in Physics. The proposed B.A. is very similar to the B.S. in Physics but with slightly more flexibility. Students taking the B.A. major will be required to take 87 units instead of the 97 in the B.S. and they will have a little more choice of which courses to take. The department hopes this will increase the number of majors and thus make better use of existing resources.

The proposal was approved by the Dean and Curriculum Review Committee in the College of Science on May 26, 2004, as was a modification of the B.S. degree (which does not require approval outside the college). CIC approved the proposal at its meeting of Oct. 4, 2004 by a vote of 8-0-0, with no expressed disagreement.

Because this program creates a new degree, the proposal will have to be approved in the Chancellor’s Office before it returns to campus for final approval.