To: Academic Senate

From: Jeffery Seitz, Chair, Committee on Instruction and Curriculum (CIC)

Subject: Proposal for Learning Outcomes in Upper Division Humanities, General Education (G.E.) Area C4

Purpose: For Action by the Academic Senate

Action Requested: Approval by the Senate of the following Learning Outcomes effective upon the signature of the President:

Humanities courses in the upper-division general education program are 4-unit upper division courses in history, literature, or philosophy that emphasize an advanced writing component and include significant oral communication or manual communication (sign language) and advanced critical thinking skills.

Humanities courses in the upper-division general education should enable students to master the four Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) listed for lower-division general education humanities. In addition, after completing an upper-division humanities course, students will, through their oral and/or written work:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to apply the principles, methodologies, value systems, and thought processes employed in human inquiries.

2. Demonstrate an understanding of the cultural endeavors and legacies of human civilization.

3. Be able to discuss and deliberate about opposing viewpoints in an insightful and logical manner. Be able to present an opposing side fairly and to criticize the argument rather than attacking the person.

4. Demonstrate a developing intellectual curiosity and a habit of lifelong learning, through choice of research topics, the number and quality of questions asked in class, the application of course concepts or themes to lived experiences or world events, or through other similar means.

5. Demonstrate the potential for participating in and contributing to a democratic society as an informed, engaged, and reflective citizen.

Background Information:
All students must take 4 units of upper division Humanities in G.E. These learning outcomes for courses meeting the C4 requirement were developed by a special interdisciplinary committee. They were slightly modified (nonsubstantive changes) from their original version and approved unanimously by CIC at its meeting of Jan. 30, 2006.