TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum
SUBJECT: Discontinuance of the Religious Studies and Cognitive Science Minors in Philosophy
PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate.

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the discontinuance of these two minors; effective Fall 2009.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At its meeting on February 4, CIC voted unanimously to discontinue the Religious Studies and Cognitive Science Minors in the Philosophy program.

At its faculty meeting on October 26, 2007, the faculty of Philosophy Department voted to revise the Philosophy minor and discontinue the Religious Studies and the Cognitive Science Minors.

The reason for the discontinuance of the Religious Studies and Cognitive Science Minors is to streamline the minors offered by the Philosophy department. The discontinuance of these two minors does not entail the discontinuance of any courses.

Minors are notoriously difficult to track, but the Philosophy Department counts 2 current Religious Studies minors, and 0 Cognitive Science minors. The currently enrolled Religious Studies Minors will be able to finish their course work for the minor. The Religious Studies and Cognitive Science Minors both list elective courses from other departments (Anthropology, Biology, Computer Science, English, History, Human Development, Psychology Sociology, and Women’s Studies. CLASS has notified these departments of these proposed discontinuances, but it obviously does not reflect significant enrollment.