



TO: College of Science Curriculum Committee

FR: Assad Khan, Director of Undergraduate Student Affairs, College of Science

DATE: March 21, 2016

RE: Allowing activity courses to degree requirements

Since the College of Science was founded in 2006, the policy of not allowing activity courses (i.e. PHED and PRLS) has been in place even when the College of Arts and Sciences was in existence.

Under the “Excluded Courses” section in the College of Science portion of the catalog states the following:

- Physical Education (PHED) and Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies (PRLS) activity courses cannot be used for credit towards a COS degree.

Recent conversations surrounding this topic have been happening on campus for those academic units which previously did not allow these courses to be factored into the 120 credits needed for undergraduate degrees at Mason.

What we are proposing:

The allowance of up to and not increasing 3 credits of activity courses to be factored into degree requirements for undergraduate students in the College of Science.

Justification for Change in Policy:

The majority of PHED courses are 1 credit each. This is the same for most of the PRLS courses. Some are offered at 2 credits each. The limit would still be 3 total credits which would be allowed for COS students. This number of credits is also the equivalent of one elective non-lab course.