18 September 2012

To: University Curriculum Committee

Thru: Daniel LaRocque, Associate Dean
       College of Liberal Arts

From: Gerry Gryski, Chair

Re: proposals for minor and major in Public Administration

This proposal has two parts: the elimination of the Public Administration major, and the addition of a minor in Public Administration.

The Political Science Department underwent Academic Program Review during AY 2011-12. A major finding of the site team—subsequently endorsed by the CLA Dean and the Provost—was that the Department was exceeding its capacity with respect to its multiple academic programs, and that consideration be given to eliminating the Public Administration (PUBA) major.

Departmental faculty approved the elimination of the major but simultaneously approved the addition of a minor in Public Administration, essentially as a middle ground between the status quo and program elimination. The Department offers two graduate degrees in Public Administration; we also have an accelerated BA/MPA program in that area. As such there is a constituency of students with sufficient interest in Public Administration to justify a minor. Moreover, in contrast to the Public Administration major, the minor would present no significant capacity issues to the Department and would lead to a more efficient use of faculty resources.