

April 26, 2012

C. Calvert, Chair  
Faculty Executive Committee  
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

RE: Admissions to Textiles and Clothing Major

Dear Professor Calvert:

In our meeting April 4, 2012 the Undergraduate Council voted 8 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions, to open all admissions at all levels for Fall 2013 for the major in Textiles and Clothing. We further voted 10 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions to conduct an expedited program review<sup>1</sup> under the auspices of the University Instructional Program Review Committee to be completed on or prior to April 1, 2013 and to be used in all deliberations regarding further requests for suspension of admissions and/or discontinuation of the major in Textiles and Clothing.

We recognize that this decision contravenes the decision of the Faculty Executive Committee in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science and are also cognizant of the implicit imperative to continue funding the instruction and advising of the major beyond the time frame that has been explicitly supported by the Dean's office of the College. However, it is the strong feeling of the committee that it is inappropriate to close or discontinue a major without access to recent review information about the major, and given that the major is due for review in the current cycle, we feel that it is imperative to review the major prior to taking any further action.

I regret that this decision to review the major was not made during the Spring of 2011, which should have been the Council's action at the time; however, given the increasing accountability demanded of academic decisions in the face of an impending WASC reaccreditation review, it seems only prudent to examine timely review documents in order to evaluate the major, and in the absence of appropriate recent documentation, to generate materials through an expedited process.

In the process of deliberations it has also come to the Council's attention that according to the Compendium a Five-Year Planning Perspective is sent each year from the campus after review in January by the divisional chair (see I.1 of the Compendium). Effective review of this document might enable more dialogue about proposed changes to majors and programs before they reach the Undergraduate Council.

Undergraduate Council would appreciate the opinion of the Faculty Executive Committee of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science as to whether it would be appropriate to place the review of the major of Fiber and Polymer Science on

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<sup>1</sup> An expedited program review is understood to follow the current structure for undergraduate program review with two basic changes. 1) The time frame for responses from each constituency is compressed. 2) If a constituency does not meet the deadline established for their response, the review will continue without their input. These changes are necessary to facilitate a timely review when important decisions are pending. See additional page for proposed timeline.

the same expedited time frame as the Textiles and Clothing review. While the self-study portion of the Fiber and Polymer Science review has already been initiated, there is substantial overlap among the faculty in the two majors and it might save time for all involved if the two followed the same time line (see proposed time line). Please let us know if there are any objections to this shift in the proposed timeline for the review of the major in Fiber and Polymer Science.

Respectfully,

Jon Rossini, Chair  
Davis Division Academic Senate Undergraduate Council

cc: Gina Anderson, Executive Director, Davis Division Academic Senate  
Linda Bisson, Chair, Davis Division Academic Senate  
Walter Robinson, Director, Undergraduate Admissions Office  
Margaret Rucker, Chair, Textiles and Clothing Department  
Patricia Turner, Vice Provost, Undergraduate Studies  
Neal Van Alfen, Dean, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

## UIPR PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR EXPEDITED PROGRAM REVIEW OF TXC MAJOR

Based on the request of the Undergraduate Council, the University Instructional Program Review Committee will conduct an expedited program review the Textiles and Clothing (TXC) major.

The timing for this expedited review will be as follows:

5/1/12 Department and BIA notified

9/1/12 Program Self-study due to CAES college-level program review committee [cc'ed to UIPR]

11/1/12 CAES program review committee report to the CAES Executive Committee and Dean's Office

2/1/13 CAES Executive Committee and Dean's Office response to UIPR

4/1/13 UIPR report to UGC