

## Appendix 2: Dual Degree Provisions for NEAG Students:

### A. Proposal distributed at the 18 September meeting:

#### *Proposal for Dual Degree from TNE to the University Senate Fall 2007*

##### **Current Education Degrees**

- Students earn a B.S. in Education and an M.S. in Education as part of the nationally-ranked, integrated Bachelors/Masters program in the Neag School of Education. This is a **five-year** program.
- Students must fulfill an array of “content” courses depending on their area of specialization (e.g., elementary education, science education, math education, etc.)
- Students do **not** earn a disciplinary major as generally conceived in other Schools and Colleges of the University. They take a series of courses outlined by Neag to fulfill current certification requirements in a specific topical teaching area.

##### **Why a Change is Needed**

- The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) program mandates a “qualified teacher in every classroom.” One measure of these qualifications is the holding of a disciplinary major in the content area in which an individual teaches. See <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/methods/teachers/hqtflexibility.html> for more information on the federal regulations.
- Following NCLB mandates, each state develops their own certification requirements. Currently, a disciplinary major is not required for certification in Connecticut, but that will likely change in the near future. See [http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/nclb/teacher\\_paraprof\\_reqs/index.htm](http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/nclb/teacher_paraprof_reqs/index.htm) for more information from the Connecticut Department of Education.

##### **Challenges to Change at UConn**

- Currently, a student wishing to earn degrees in two schools of colleges must earn an extra 30 credits. The exact language is as follows:

*Article II, Section C.1.g. of the BY-LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE*

*Existing Language: Minimum Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees: A student may pursue an additional baccalaureate degree either wholly or partly concurrently or after receiving another degree. Permission must be given by the dean of each school or college in which the student will be enrolled. All requirements for each degree must be met and at least 30 credits more than the highest minimum requirement of any of the degrees must be presented for each additional degree. One degree must be designated as the primary degree if the degrees are being pursued concurrently. At least 30 of the additional credits must be 2000-level, or above, courses in the additional degree major or closely related fields and must be completed with at least a 2.0 grade point average.*

- For pre-service teachers to earn a dual degree (i.e., an additional Bachelors degree in a content area) each student would then need to add a **sixth** year to the existing 5-year program. This would make a disciplinary major an unattractive, if not, prohibitive option for most all education students. It would likely also make UConn’s education program a less attractive program relative to other options around the state offering teacher education.

**Proposed Amendment** to Article II, Section C.1.g. of the BY-LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

- Proposed addition to section displayed above: *Because of state certification requirements, students accepted into the 5-year integrated B.S./M.S. education program will have the additional 30 credit requirement waived, if they wish to apply to earn a Bachelors degree in a content area in another school or college. Such students will be required to meet the General Education requirements of their primary degree.*

## **B. Revised proposal received 27 September 2007**

***Proposal for Dual Degree from  
The Teachers for a New Era Project  
to the University Senate  
Fall 2007***

### **Current Education Degrees**

- Students earn a B.S. in Education and an M.A. in Education as part of the nationally-ranked, integrated Bachelors/Masters program in the Neag School of Education. This is a **five-year** program. Students complete their first two years of study within CLAS and/or ACES (except for a small number of transfer students).
- Students must fulfill an array of “content” courses depending on their area of specialization (e.g., elementary education, science education, math education, etc.)
- Students do **not** earn a disciplinary major as generally conceived in other Schools and Colleges of the University. They take a series of courses outlined by Neag to fulfill current certification requirements in a specific topical teaching area, although the students are within 2-3 courses of the requirements in the content-area department

### **Why a Change is Needed**

- The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) program mandates a “qualified teacher in every classroom.” One measure of these qualifications is the holding of a disciplinary major in the content area in which an individual teaches. See <http://www.ed.gov/nclb/methods/teachers/hqtflexibility.html> for more information on the federal regulations.
- Following NCLB mandates, each state develops their own certification requirements. Currently, a disciplinary major is not required for certification in Connecticut, but that will likely change in the near future. See for [http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/nclb/teacher\\_paraprof\\_reqs/index.htm](http://www.csde.state.ct.us/public/cedar/nclb/teacher_paraprof_reqs/index.htm) for more information from the Connecticut Department of Education.

### **Challenges to Change at UConn**

- Currently, a student wishing to earn degrees in two schools of colleges must earn an extra 30 credits. The exact language is as follows:

*Article II, Section C.1.g. of the BY-LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE*

Existing Language: Minimum Requirements for Undergraduate Degrees: *A student may pursue an additional baccalaureate degree either wholly or partly concurrently or after receiving another degree. Permission must be given by the dean of each school or college in which the student will be enrolled. All requirements for each degree must be met and at least 30 credits more than the highest minimum requirement of any of the degrees must be presented for each additional degree. One degree must be designated as the primary degree if the degrees are being pursued concurrently. At least 30 of the additional credits must be 2000-level, or above, courses in the additional degree major or closely related fields and must be completed with at least a 2.0 grade point average.*

- For pre-service teachers to earn a dual degree (i.e., an additional Bachelors degree in a content area) each student would then need to add a **sixth** year to the existing 5-year program. This would make a disciplinary major an unattractive, if not, prohibitive option for most all education students (due to costs and time). It would likely also make UConn's education program a less attractive program relative to other options around the state offering teacher education.

**Proposed Amendment** to Article II, Section C.1.g. of the BY-LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY SENATE

Proposed addition to section displayed above: *The requirement for 30 additional credits is waived for students accepted into the 5-year integrated B.S./M.A. education program who concurrently earn a Bachelors degree in a content area in another school or college. Such students will be required to meet the General Education requirements of their primary degree.*