DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ASTRONOMY DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2016-2018***

Dean Linda A. Hicke in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to BS in Astronomy in the College of Natural Sciences chapter in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. On September 8, 2015, the faculty representatives from department approved the changes and on September 9, the college curriculum committee approved them. On September 28, 2015, Associate Dean David Vanden Bout approved it on behalf of the dean. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *exclusive* interest to a single college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the changes on October 18, 2015, and forwarded them to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with UT System.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by December 4, 2015.

Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Posted on the Faculty Council website (http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/) on November 24, 2015.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ASTRONOMY DEGREE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2016-2018***

**Type of Change** ☒ Academic Change
☐ Degree Program Change (THECB form required)

**Proposed classification** ☒ Exclusive ☐ General ☐ Major

**1. IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IS YES, THE COLLEGE MUST CONSULT LINDA DICKENS, DIRECTOR OF ACCREDITATION AND ASSESSMENT, TO DETERMINE IF SACS-COC APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.**

- Is this a new degree program? Yes ☐ No ☒
- Does the program offer courses that will be taught off campus? Yes ☐ No ☒
- Will courses in this program be delivered electronically? Yes ☐ No ☒

**2. EXPLAIN CHANGE TO DEGREE PROGRAM AND GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL CHANGE:**

1. Delete SCI 360 (Topic 4: Physics by Inquiry); add SCI 365, Physics by Inquiry
   **Rationale:** The department created a stand-alone course for this numbered topic.
2. Add M 427J as an alternative to M 427K.
   **Rationale:** The Department of Mathematics developed M 427J, a blend of differential equations and linear algebra. This course is being taught instead

**3. THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES (Please check all that apply)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ☐ Courses in other colleges | ☐ Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges | ☐ Flags |
| ☐ Course in the core curriculum | ☐ Change in course sequencing for an existing program | ☐ Courses that have to be added to the inventory |
| ☐ Change in admission requirements (external or internal) | ☐ Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office) | ☒ Other: add an alternative math course to a degree requirement |

**4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE**

a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes ☐ No ☒
   If yes, then how?

b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes ☐ No ☒
   If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?

c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes ☐ No ☒
   If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes ☐ No ☒
   If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

**If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.**

How many students do you expect to be impacted?

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:
Person communicated with:
Date of communication:
Response:

e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, explain: No
**If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:**
Person communicated with:
Date of communication:
Response:

f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? If yes, explain: **No**

**5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**

Department approval date: September 8, 2015
College approval date: September 9, 2015
Dean approval date: September 28, 2015, David Vanden Bout, Associate Dean

**PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ASTRONOMY**
[no changes]

**Prescribed Work Common to all Options**
[no changes]

**Additional Prescribed Work for Each Option**
[no changes]

***Option I: Astronomy***

6. Six semester hours in biology, chemistry, computer science, and/or geological sciences. Chemistry 301 or 301H and the courses in the Elements of Computing Certificate Program may be counted toward this requirement; any other course to be counted must meet major requirements in the department that offers it.
7. Mathematics 408C and 408D, or the equivalent; and 427J or 427K, 427L, and 340L.
8. Physics 301, 101L, 315, 115L, 316, 116L, 336K, 352K, 353L, 355, 362K, 369, and 373.
9. Twelve semester hours of upper-division coursework in astronomy, including Astronomy 352K, 353, and 358. Astronomy 351 is recommended.
10. Nine additional semester hours of upper-division coursework in physics and/or astronomy.
11. Enough additional coursework to make a total of 123 semester hours.

**Option II: Astronomy Honors**
[no changes]

**Special Requirements**
[no changes]