Education Committee
Annual Report 2014-2015

This year the Education Committee welcomed the new Vice Provost for Education Melissa Begg, who has succeeded Vice Provost Stephen Rittenberg upon his retirement, and her colleague Associate Provost Jim Glover. We are looking forward to a continued successful collaboration with the Provost's Office in the tasks of the Education Committee.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROPOSALS
Academic Credit Applied Toward Multiple Graduate Credentials

The committee finalized this document, which is attached to this report. The document clarifies and provides guidance and transparency for future proposals involving multiple credentials. Specifically, in the interests of academic rigor, policy consistency, and institutional integrity and reputation, there should be evidence that the whole is sufficiently greater than the sum of the parts to justify an overlap in credits. As the name indicates, it is intended as *guidance,* which is derived from past programs, and is not to be construed as "strict rules." We acknowledge the significant contributions of Sen. Ian Lipkin and alumnus Tao Tan in preparing this document.

The committee completed its usual meeting schedule of eight monthly meetings, as well as a joint meeting with the IT and Libraries Committees. While much of the work of the committee involves reviews of new program proposals and surveys of recently approved programs, the committee also informed itself on:

1. The GSAS review of the point values of courses (invited guests Susan Pedersen, James Shenton Professor of the Core Curriculum; and Andrea Remi Solomon, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, GSAS)
2. SIPA's dual degree master's programs (invited guest Urbano Garza, Senior Assistant Dean, SIPA)
3. SCE's M.S. in Enterprise Risk Management (invited guests: Josh Burgher, Senior Vice Dean, SCE; Sim Segal, President, SimErgy Consulting, and Director, M.S. in Risk Management; Lisa Minetti, Associate Dean of Curricular Design and Assessment, SCE; and Art Langer, Senior Lecturer in Technology Management, SCE)
4. New directions of SCE (invited guests: Noor Rajah, Executive Vice Dean, SCE; Joshua Burgher, Senior Vice Dean, SCE; David Madigan, Executive Vice President for Arts and Sciences; and Art Langer, Senior Lecturer in Technology Management, SCE)
5. Public Sector Structural Change in Public Education (invited guest: James Liebman, Rifkind Professor of Law)

In March the committee had its joint annual meeting with the Libraries and IT Committees with the following agenda items:

1. **Columbia Video Network** (CVN) is the graduate distance learning program of Columbia University's School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS). CVN enables students globally to pursue residency-free, fully accredited engineering courses and degree programs completely via the Internet, allowing students to view their lectures anytime and

anywhere. **Nancy Rubin**, Executive Director of Online and Distance Education, will discuss CVN's pioneering role in distance learning and its offerings today.

2. **The Center for Digital Research and Scholarship** helps academics at Columbia and its affiliate institutions share their research with the world via CDRS's academic journal and special projects publishing services and its digital repository, Academic Commons. **Mark Newton**, Interim Director, will provide an update on open access and the work of the Center.

3. **Introducing Vergil** -- **Barry Kane**, Associate Vice President and Registrar, will present a demonstration of Vergil, the new comprehensive registration planning portal that combines access to course schedules, syllabi, major requirements and other information.

Approved new programs (plenary approval dates in parentheses)

* Ph.D. in Historic Preservation (GSAPP) (10/24/2014)
* M.S./Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics (SEAS) (02/06/2015)
* M.S. in Enterprise Risk Management (SCE) (02/06/2015)
* Advanced Certificate in Health Communication (MSPH) (04/02/2015)
* Advanced Certificate in Population and Family Health (MSPH) (04/02/2015)
* M.S. in Population Mental Health (MSPH) (04/02/2015)
* Institute for Genomic Medicine (University-wide) (02/27/2015)

Approved (by Education Committee) **for online delivery of existing programs**
* M.S. in Negotiation and Conflict Resolution (SCE)

Certifications of Professional Achievement (approved by Education Committee)

The programs leading to Certifications of Professional Achievement were originally designed for graduate engineers, who required additional education in a specific new area of knowledge and/or skills and needed to present proof of such additional education to their employers.
The availability of a proven platform for online education, which was pioneered by the School of Continuing Education, has led to a number of program proposals that have been developed in partnership between SCE and other units of the University. The online and blended formats are particularly well suited for these focused, 12-credit-point programs, which are intended for individuals who need them to stay current or advance in their careers, but cannot afford to commute regularly to the Columbia campus. The following proposals were approved:

* Certification of Professional Achievement in Carbon Management Policy and Economics (SEAS) (11/7/14)
* Certification of Professional Achievement in Low Carbon and Efficiency Technology (SEAS) (11/7/14)
* Certification of Professional Achievement in Applied Analytics (SCE) (1/30/15)
* Certification of Professional Achievement in Enterprise Risk Management (SCE) (1/30/15) with the proviso that the program be reviewed in four years.
* Certification of Professional Achievement in Sustainable Finance (SCE) (1/30/15)

- • Certification of Professional Achievement in Environment, Peace and Security (SCE) (4/24/15)

Five-year reviews

Resolutions for approval of new programs contain a clause requiring a review after five years to determine whether the new program meets its set goals. Two programs were never launched and thus are no longer in existence. One program needs a re-review. Four programs were found satisfactory, while six programs remain to be reviewed during the summer recess.

1. Dual Master of Science Degree in Journalism and Computer Science (4/2/10)
2. Master of Science in Accounting and Fundamental Analysis, Graduate School of Business (1/29/10) **NEVER LAUNCHED**
3. Master of Science in Financial Economics, Graduate School of Business (1/29/10) Review: **satisfactory**
4. Master of Science in Leadership, Graduate School of Business (1/29/10) Review: **insufficient data**, due to insufficient operating history. **Needs re-review.**
5. Master of Science in Marketing, Graduate School of Business (1/29/10) Review: **satisfactory**
6. Master of Science Degree in Bioethics, School of Continuing Education (12/4/09) <u>review received</u>
7. Master of Science Degree in Sustainability Management, School of Continuing Education (11/13/09) <u>review received</u>
8. Dual Degrees Linking SIPA's Master of International Affairs with Master's Degrees from the Escola de Administracao de Empresas de Sao Paulo of the Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Brazil (11/13/09). Review: **satisfactory.**
9. Dual Degrees Linking SIPA's Master of Public Administration with Master's Degrees from the Escola de Administracao de Empresas de Sao Paulo of the Fundacao Getulio Vargas, Brazil (11/13/09). Review: **satisfactory.**
10. Master of Science in Fund Raising Management (SCE) (Approved 4/30/04)
11. Master of Science in Engineering Management Systems (SCE) (Approved 9/16/05)
12. Executive M.S. in Biomedical Informatics (approved 2/24/2006) – **NEVER LAUNCHED**
13. Master of Science Degree in Construction Administration (SCE) (Approved 5/5/06)

Questionnaires are sent to and completed by the program directors.

Numbers 2, 3, 4 and 5 were reviewed by a separate subcommittee. Numbers 8 and 9 were reviewed by the full committee. Numbers 1, 6 and 7, 10, 11, and 13 will be reviewed during this summer by another separate subcommittee.

Acknowledgment

The committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Trustee Emerita Anna Longobardo, Trustee observer, for her interest and efforts on behalf of the committee, as well as for her active participation in the committee meetings.

J. H. Applegate and L. Moss-Salentijn, Co-chairs

GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROPOSALS
Academic Credit Applied Toward Multiple Graduate Credentials

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Guidance Document addresses situations where a Columbia faculty offers an academic program where successful completion results in the receipt of more than one credential (i.e., degree or certificate), either within its own faculty, with another Columbia faculty, or in partnership with an external institution. There are often unwritten practices where this situation has arisen, but also differences in understanding and assumption as to what would be acceptable.

This document clarifies and provides guidance and transparency for future proposals involving multiple credentials, in the interests of academic rigor, policy consistency, and institutional integrity and reputation. This document is intended as *guidance* derived from past programs, and is not to be construed as "strict rules." Not every conceivable credential combination will be addressed. Nonetheless, proposed programs that fall outside of these guidelines may expect heightened scrutiny. The guidelines are derived from the following principles:

- The single most important consideration is the overall quality of the proposed program. For joint programs, this means that the whole must be sufficiently greater than the sum of the parts to justify the overlap in credits;
- The program of study for the second credential must represent significant work above and beyond what is required for the primary credential;
- The program of study for the second credential must be justifiable as a coherent program by itself, even if it is not offered as such by Columbia;
- The overall credit total for the primary credential and the second credential must be sufficient to justify awarding both for the body of work.

This Guidance Document applies only to new proposals received after passage by the Education Committee of the University Senate on April 18, 2014.

CRITERIA

Multiple credential programs are divided into three representative categories:

- Joint degrees conferred simultaneously in different courses of study;
- Joint degrees conferred in partnership with an external institution;
- Certificates earned in parallel with one or more degrees in the same course of study.

The following programs are excluded from this guidance:

- Active programs or proposals submitted to the Education Committee as of April 18, 2014;
- Combinations involving undergraduate degrees, e.g. 3-2 and 4-1, AILE (CC and Law);
- Intermediate degrees earned in a serial fashion toward a terminal degree, e.g. M.A. and Ph.D.;
- Embedded certificates required as part of a degree program where both credentials are appropriately reflected in course work and credit totals, e.g. Master of Public Health.

Details for each category are provided below.

Joint degrees conferred simultaneously in different courses of study

These degrees are typically joint degrees offered between two graduate faculties with some overlap in content. In general, courses cross-listed at both schools are presumed to be double-count eligible, although the respective faculties retain ultimate jurisdiction. **The percentage of credits double-counted toward both degrees should not exceed 30%.**

Example: A student enrolls in the joint M.S. in Journalism / Master's in International Affairs program. The M.S. on a stand-alone basis requires 30 credits, while the M.I.A. on a stand-alone basis requires 54 credits, for a combined 84 credits. The joint degree requires 60 credits in total. Thus, 24 credits (or 29% on a stand-alone basis) are double-counted.

Joint degrees conferred in partnership with an external institution

These degrees differ from the joint degrees offered between one Columbia faculty and one external partner. Barnard College, Teachers College, UTS, and JTS, as Columbia affiliates, are not considered "external" partners. Joint degrees with external institutions are typically in the same field of study (e.g., dual M.B.A. from Columbia Business School and London Business School, dual M.A./M.Sc. in world history from GSAS and London School of Economics.)

Due to differences in other institutions' credit and point systems, this will focus on credits earned at Columbia. **The credits earned at Columbia for a joint degree with an external partner should be reduced by no more than 50%.**

Example: A student enrolls in the three-year joint Juris Doctor (J.D.) / Legum Magister (LL.M.) offered by Columbia Law School and one of the colleges of the University of London. The student spends the first two years at Columbia and the third year in London. The student earns at least 61 credits toward the 83 credits required for the Juris Doctor at Columbia. Thus, this represents a reduction of 22 credits (or 27%) than if it were earned on a stand-alone basis.

Certificates earned in parallel with one or more degrees in the same course of study

These courses of study include situations where students earn a non-degree certificate in parallel with one or more separate degrees. The certificate usually involves specialized training and supplements the degree(s). The Education Committee endorses the existing rules provided by the Vice Provost for Academic Administration[1]:

> **"Programs leading to a statutory certificate require a minimum of 20 credits for students who are simultaneously studying for a degree at Columbia and 24 credits if they are not."**

The Education Committee construes this as a "minimum of 20 *additional* credits" for students simultaneously studying for a degree.

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[1] http://dp.vpaa.columbia.edu/new-certificate-programs