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## DOC 1998-01 Physical Activities Courses

University of Dayton. Student Academic Policies Committee

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## PROPOSAL TO THE ACADEMIC SENATE

TITLE: Physical Activities Courses

SUBMITTED BY: Student Academic Policies Committee of the Academic Senate

DATE: March 27, 1998

APPROVED BY: Academic Senate

ACTION IS: Legislative Concurrence

REFERENCE IS: Faculty Handbook, Pg. 48

### DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:

This document presents reasons for the following recommendation:

The former HSS 130 physical activities courses should be offered for credit and should be open to all university students. In keeping with past practice, individual schools should decide how many such credits a student may count toward the minimum credit hours required for graduation. Voting for the recommendation communicates that the Senate concurs with the Student Government Association's desire to restore these courses.

**March 12, 1998**

**To: Executive Committee of the Academic Senate**

**From: Student Academic Policies Committee**

**Subject: Health and Sports Science/Recreational Sports Classes**

After the 1996-1997 academic year, the HSS 130 courses which offered 1-2 credits to students for courses in such activities as Aerobics, CPR/First-Aid, Karate, Lifeguard Training, Self-Defense for Women, Yoga, Golf and Tennis were discontinued for all students except HSS majors. Recreational Sports, a division of Student Development began to offer a much smaller number of courses for no credit and with somewhat higher fees. Students have not registered for those courses, with the result that in Fall 1997 only one course out of 16 courses offered had enough students to be taught. Both faculty and students have expressed dissatisfaction with this situation. Members of the Senate have been concerned that this change, which has widespread impact on students, was made without consultation with the Senate. The Student Academic Policies Committee was asked to work with SGA to investigate this issue.

The SAPC met four times with representatives from an SGA committee formed to look into this issue, and SAPC committee members had discussions with the chair of the HSS department, other faculty and students. Both Dean Patricia First of the School of Education and Dr. Tom Lasley, who will be the new dean, were asked to provide information about the reasoning behind the change. While Dr. Lasley said that he was interested in solving the problem and would be looking into it, no information was obtained about the reasons the changes were made. Some of the information gained and insights gathered are presented below:

1. Both the College of Arts and Sciences and the School of Business Administration allowed their students to apply a maximum of 2 credits of physical activities courses to the minimum credits required for graduation.
2. Students found that the ability to earn up to 2 credits from the HSS 130 courses enabled them to fill out their course schedules in a way which made it easier to earn the required credits for graduation in 4 years. Their quality of life was improved by the physical activity and instruction provided by these courses. They very much want these courses to be offered for credit as they were before.
3. Faculty on the committee also strongly supported the idea of offering the courses for credit and found that the 1 or 2 extra credits were sometimes important to their advisees.

4. The SGA committee surveyed students by having representatives pass out surveys to their constituencies and by having a table at lunch in KU for 2 days. The survey results are attached. 470 students responded with 98% preferring that the courses be offered for credit, 95% saying they would take the courses for credit and only 18% saying they would take them for no credit. If courses were offered for credit but only under grading option 2, 84% of those surveyed said they would take them.
5. The SGA committee investigated the policies on physical activities classes at a group of comparable universities. The results of that investigation are attached and they show that 11 of the 16 schools contacted offered credit for such courses.
6. Faculty teaching courses in religions of the east have complained that the yoga classes which used to complement their courses are no longer available.
7. The chair of the Health and Sports Science Department would like to offer the courses again. One impediment which has been cited is that many of these courses used to be taught in room 45 of the field house, but that room is now a conditioning room for inter-collegiate athletes; the old conditioning room was turned into coaches offices.
8. The chair of the Health and Sports Science Department reports that funding for the courses was not a problem because the old fees charged covered the cost.
9. While HSS 130 courses are still being offered, they are currently listed as open to HSS majors only.

**Recommendation:**

The former HSS 130 courses should be offered for credit and should be open to all university students. In keeping with past practice, individual schools should decide how many such credits a student may count toward the minimum credit hours required for graduation.

# HSS Survey Results

Total Respondent Count: 470

Number/Percent responding "Yes"

Would you prefer Activity Classes to be offered for credit? 461 (98%)

Would you take Activity Classes if offered for credit? 448 (95%)

Would you take the classes, if offered for credit, pass/fail? 395 (84%)

Would you register for the classes now, receiving no credit? 85 (18%)

Which Activity Classes would you be most interested in?

Aerobics: 223

Ballroom Dancing: 190

Yoga: 151

Swimming: 135

Golf: 206

Women's Self-Defense: 176

Basketball: 128

Other:

Archery (2)

Ballet (2)

Baseball

Billiards (14)

Bowling (2)

Boxing (3)

Fencing

Fishing

Floor Hockey (2)

Karate (4)

Kick Boxing (2)

Lacrosse

Life Guard Training (4)

Line Dancing (2)

Massage Therapy (6)

Racquetball (18)

Scuba (6)

Sharp Shooting

Soccer (5)

Softball (4)

Tae Kwon Do (3)

Tennis (14)

Volleyball (5)

Water Ballet

# UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON COMPARISON DATA HSS COMMITTEE

## COMPARABLE/ASPIRATIONAL SCHOOLS

Institution	Credit Offered	Other Information
Boston College	no	
Bowling Green University	yes	
Georgetown University	no	
Indiana University	yes	
John Carroll University	yes	
Marquette University	no	
Miami University	yes	
University of Notre Dame	yes	Required freshman year for Graduation
Ohio State University	yes	
Ohio University		Pending on response
Purdue University	yes	Depending on major and class
St. Louis University	no	
University of Cincinnati	yes	
Villanova	no	No classes required
Wittenberg University	yes	Required for graduation ( 2 classes)
Wright State University		
Xavier University	yes	
Toledo	yes	