

**Central Connecticut State University**  
UNIVERSITY SENATE ACTION

**Senate Motion Number FS 20.21.028B**

TO: President Zulma Toro

FROM: President of the University Senate

1. The attached motion of the University Senate, dealing with: **Academic Standards Committee report, Spring 2021**, is presented to you for your consideration.
2. This motion was adopted by the University Senate on **05/03/2021**.
3. After considering this motion, please indicate your action on this form, and return it together with the original copy to the President of the University Senate.
4. Under the By-Laws of the University Senate, Section 3.7, the following schedule of action is to be observed.
  - a) By **05/28/2021**, Senate action reported to the President of the University. (Within five school days of the session in which they are adopted).
  - b) By **06/14/2021**, the President of the University to return the motion to the President of the Senate. (Within ten school days of its receipt).

**05/28/2021**

Date

*Frederic Latour*

Frederic Latour, President, University Senate

ENDORSEMENT:

TO: President of the University Senate

FROM: President Zulma Toro

1. Motion Approved : \_\_\_\_\_ ✓
2. Motion Disapproved: \_\_\_\_\_ (Explanatory statement must be appended).
3. Action "is deferred": \_\_\_\_\_
4. Resolution Noted: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

*6/25/2021*

Date

*Zulma Toro*  
President Zulma Toro

## Academic Standards

Report from meeting April 20, 2021

- I. A proposal for double counting between two majors (see below).
  - *Passed Unanimously.*
- II. A proposal to reduce credits necessary for graduation honors.
  - Tabled; committee will develop proposal for distinction for students who don't complete 60 credits at CCSU.
- III. Chair election
  - Eric Leonidas voted AS Chair for 2021-22

### Proposal to allow double counting of credits between two majors.

1. [Link to current policy](#)
2. Proposed Catalogue Language (new text in red)

As part of their undergraduate degree programs, students may complete a second major. To have a second major notation on the official transcript, students must complete a "Second Major Request Form", available on the [Registrar's Website](#) or in the Office of the Registrar. This form requires the declaration of the primary major, the student's degree program, the requested second major, and signatures from the department chairperson of the primary major, as well as the department chairperson of the secondary major. Students seeking teaching certification must earn a B.S.Ed. degree and list their teacher education subject matter as their primary major. **Up to twelve (12.0) credits may apply simultaneously to both majors where curricular requirements overlap. This limit does not apply to the Common Business Core courses in the School of Business.** No minor is required for students completing a double major.

### 3. Rationale

- a. Currently, there exists no policy that directly addresses double-counting courses for credit toward two majors in a single degree. The result has been some uncertainty and ad hoc decisions. The above policy would clarify the number of credits attributable simultaneously toward two majors.
- b. It supports CCSU's Strategic Plan
  - Goal 1: Enhancing Academic Excellence and Preparing Graduates to Thrive in a Changing Economy
    - Provide students with a strong foundation in general education with discipline-specific knowledge to prepare them for career success and life-long learning. This will encourage students who wish to go beyond the level of knowledge of the

minor to have more in-depth engagement with more than one specific discipline of study. (1B)

- Increase interdisciplinary collaborations and degree options for students so that they can more readily adapt to both workforce professional needs and personal enrichment goals. (1F)
- Support faculty wishes to explore interdisciplinary collaborations and design partnerships between majors to support student success and current community needs (4A)
- Allow learning across disciplines and drive academic transformations (5A)
- Goal 2: Increasing Access to Higher Education and Ensuring Student Success
  - Prepare our students for successful careers. This will allow students to design complementary majors in light of changes in the workforce or career goals. (2A)
  - Expand student horizons and expose them to new challenges (3A)
- Goal 5: Assuring Sustainability for the Future
  - Capitalize on existing policies and practices to expand high-demand educational courses and programs in alternative ways (1A). This will allow students to apply some of their previous coursework towards completing a secondary major, and thus freeing up additional academic resources.
  - Provide an ecosystem that fosters student, faculty, and staff innovation and creativity (1D). This would allow programs to focus on reducing redundancies and/or collaborations with resources.

c. Double counting between two majors is common as other institutions, including our "peer" group.

- ECSU, WCSU, and UCONN all permit double counting after students have reached a set number of unique credits in each major. (Our system would not allow automatic tracking and real-time updating of progress toward degrees with such a limit.)
- Of our peer institutions, Bloomsburg, Cal State Bakersfield, SUNY Buffalo State, SUNY Oswego, U Mich Flint, U Mich Dearborn, and U of North Florida permit double counting between two majors.