**Terms and Definitions**

(APS 1621.10)

**Current Definition: Minor**

The lesser set of discipline-specific (or multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary) requirements in an undergraduate program of study. The minor typically consists of a minimum of 15 hours or more in a designated discipline.

**Proposed Definition: Academic Minor**

An academic minor is an optional, secondary program of study offered by a department or interdisciplinary program for degree seeking students. Academic minors are designed to provide a degree of content mastery and/or essential skills in an area of academic specialization that will complement the student’s academic major. Minors must be pursued in conjunction with an approved degree program, a minor may not be completed by itself. All undergraduate minors shall consist of a minimum of 15 and a maximum of 24 semester hours, of which a minimum of 6 semester hours must be at the 3000 or 4000 level. Academic minors should have a foundational component, which covers the required body of knowledge and/or essential skills and a breadth component that allows for some specialization. If prerequisite courses are required to pursue the course work within an academic minor, the total required coursework, including pre-requisites, should not exceed 33 credit hours. Coursework required for a minor cannot be taken on a pass/fail basis and students must achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.0 for all coursework in the minor to be awarded the minor. Courses in the minor may overlap with the major or other minors, but there must be at least 6 semester hours of coursework that is unique between minors. Minors are awarded at the same time the bachelor’s degree is awarded.

Minors are initiated and administered by a home unit; the unit that provides the majority of the required coursework needed to complete the minor or an administrative unit designated by the college(s) to administer the minor. However, all units outside of the home unit’s college that provide required or elective coursework within the minor will be included in the approval process for changes to existing minors or requesting of new minors. Acceptance into the minor and approval of any exceptions to the stated requirements of the minor will be approved by the home unit.