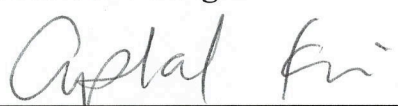



<b>Sport Studies Major Reinstatement and Relocation</b>		<b>Date Introduced:</b> 1/27/2014		
<b>1415-0002</b>	<b>Co-Sponsors: James</b>	<b>Date of Voting:</b>		
<b>Prime Sponsor: Breton</b>		<b>Final Vote:</b>		<b>Sens Present</b>
<b>Recommendation</b>		<b>Yea</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
<b>President's Signature</b> 		<b>VP Senate Affairs Signature</b> 		

**Whereas**, on April 22, 2014, Ithaca College's Interim Provost and Vice President of Educational Affairs and former Dean of the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance, Linda Petrosino announced the discontinuation of the Sport Studies (Bachelor of Arts) major to be completely terminated by Spring Semester 2018,

**Whereas**, any student looking to major in Sport Studies must complete paperwork to do so by the end of Fall Semester 2014,

**Whereas**, in the Sport Management and Media's department program review submitted in the Spring Semester of 2013, "An outside evaluation was conducted by Dr. Laurence Chalip of the University of Illinois. Dr. Chalip is widely considered to be a leader in the field, with expansive knowledge of both the genesis of departments, as well as future trends in the industry. The following is the department response to the outside evaluation, as well as action plan based on the program review document and data,"

**Whereas**, Dr. Chalip made a variety of recommendations such as:

- I:** The sport studies component of the Sport Management program should be retained, and students could be encouraged to choose other sport studies electives,"
- II:** "A marketing plan that capitalizes on the strong vision for Sport Studies should be formulated and implemented to attract students,"

**III:** "Industry experience should be built into the Sport Studies program,"

**Whereas,** the "department's" response to the recommendations are as follows in relation to each Roman numeral:

**I:** It is vital that the sport management curriculum integrate aspects of social, cultural and historical foundations of sport into the curriculum. The proposed curriculum includes an additional class on sport history, previously not required. Again, the issue comes down to staffing. We have maxed out our sport studies lecture classes. With the elimination of the sport studies major and revamp of the minor, we hope to explore opportunities for a concentration in sport studies aimed at management and media students.

**II:** With a recommendation to cease accepting students to the Sport Studies major, our focus can shift to marketing the minor and creating additional opportunities for a concentration in socio-cultural foundations of sport for existing sport management and sport media majors. The sport studies minor currently attracts many students and particularly supports the minor requirement for Physical Therapy. Staffing issues impact what we can offer and how inclusive our classes can be to non-majors.

**III:** The department has supported extending industry experiences for credit to exceptional sport studies students in relevant areas. The department could consider a track for minors who want to incorporate industry experience in areas such as historical archives, hall of fame institutions, international advocacy organizations, etc.

**Whereas,** no official inter-department vote was conducted in regards to discontinuing the Sport Studies major,

**Whereas,** the program review submitted to the Academic Policy Committee did not accurately reflect the department's views on the Sport Studies major,

**Whereas,** all required courses to obtain the Sport Studies major will still be offered to students in order to achieve the Sport Studies minor, including, History of Sport, Social Aspects of Sport, and Sport: Philosophical Perspectives,

**Whereas,** given the previous statement above, the statement made in the program review regarding staffing is invalid as the same courses

required by both the major and minor will still be available and taught by the same respective faculty members,

**Whereas**, the previous Vice President of Academic Affairs, Isuru Perera-Somasinghe met with former Provost and Vice President for Educational Affairs, Marisa Kelly to discuss the termination of the major and came away with the following,

“The recommendation to cut the program was an interdepartmental understanding that was posited via Program review that I believe every program undergoes. When I cited how there seemed to be increasing enrollment and whether this would be a cost issue, the response I received was that it was more about a strategic vision than it was about cost and enrollment.

**Whereas**, Despite the recommendations provided by Dr. Laurence Chalip, the Sport Management and Media department submitted to the Academic Policy Committee its own recommendations to do the following,

- . “Due to anticipated resources, ceasing admission to the Sport Studies major at the completion of the program review process
- . Redevelopment of the sport studies minor to possibly include courses across campus

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major creates, “Flexibility for minors and other areas of study. The Sport Studies major intentionally has 30 credits of sport studies classes, 30 credits of free electives, 30 credits of general education coursework that both fulfills the college requirements and intentionally guides students to the required minor. With careful planning, Sport Studies majors can (and have) completed up to four minors,”

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major has one of the highest diversity rate among all majors at Ithaca College with 47%, 37% self-identified as Black,

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major saw an increase in enrollment by 75% from the Spring 2013 semester to Spring of 2014 semester,

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major adds very little cost to the overall departmental and institutional budget,

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major creates, “A gateway to post-graduate education, the major serves those students who know early in their undergraduate career that they will most likely pursue advanced degrees. These students trend toward postgraduate programs in law, business, sport studies and sport management. Students have furthered

their study at Arizona State University, the University of Illinois, the University of Maryland, the University of Kansas, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Iowa and the University of Western Ontario.

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies program has, “yielded at least 11 students who have or are in the process of earning doctorates in sport studies: 6 have concentrated on sociology or cultural aspects of sport, 2 have concentrated on history of sport, 2 have concentrated on philosophy of sport, and 1 has concentrated on psychology of sport. All 11 are employed in higher education in their chosen field of study (3 are presently in the process of earning their doctoral degrees),

**Whereas**, “Feedback from the recently concluded feasibility study -- which included interviews with members of the board and other close alumni, parents, and friends -- informed the final resolution. Early solicitation discussions with campaign committee members have reaffirmed the resolution and recommendations.” One of those priorities in the campaign included, “Programs that encourage students to grow intellectually and socially, both on and off campus, and connect them with the global marketplace no matter where they are,”

**Whereas**, the Sport Studies major currently meets the previous statement’s priority,

**Whereas**, the elimination of the Sport Studies major would provide to be counterintuitive to the Integrative Core Curriculum initiative recently implemented,

**Whereas**, the deletion of the Sport Studies major sends a contradictory message to students, staff, faculty, and alumni as to what the institution’s plans are moving forward with its curriculum,

**Whereas**, this disconcerting message will eventually lead to potential donors to Ithaca College feeling reluctant to donate funds to support this institution,

**It is resolved that**, the Ithaca College Student Government Association formally recommends to the institution that the Sport Studies major be relocated to a different department following its elimination from the Department of Sport Management and Media,

**It is also resolved that**, upon relocation of the major, the institution shall put more emphasis on supporting the Sport Studies major via marketing to ensure the preservation of the major.