



Date: November 8, 2021

To: University Senate

German Studies Faculty

Barbara A. Bichelmeyer, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

From: Karen Moeller, Chair Academic Policies and Procedure committee

Re: Program Discontinuance in the Department of German Studies

In Accordance with University Senate Rules and Regulations USRR 8.2, the Academic Policies and Procedure committee (AP&P) has reviewed the documentation and held an open public hearing on October 14, 2021 regarding the recommendation to discontinue the following active programs in the Department of German Studies (GS) in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas:

- BA in German Studies
- MA in German Studies - inactive
- PhD in German Studies - inactive
- World Business Culture UG Certificate

In the submitted documentation titled “Recommendations for Discontinuance of an Active Academic Program”, the Department of German Studies outlines its plans to merge undergraduate degree programs within the Department of Slavic and Eurasian Languages and Literatures (SELL) and offer a concentration in German Studies. The concentration in GS is currently proceeding through the University’s approval process and should be available in Spring or Summer of 2022. There will still be a minor in German Studies in the new department. This merger was in response to Kansas Board of Regents desire for program efficiency. Faculty (tenure and tenure-track) in the SELL department and GS department have both voted and approved the merger with the new name of Slavic, German and Eurasian Studies (SGES). The MA and PhD programs in GS have been inactive for five years and will be permanently discontinued. The document does not discuss plans for the World Business Culture UG Certificate program; however, the information shows low enrollment and low number of graduates over the last five years.

At the public hearing on October 14, 2021, one faculty member spoke in favor of the proposed changes and the opportunities to merge GS into SELL. No written statements were submitted for committee review.

On October 22, 2021, the AP&P Committee met to discuss the submitted documentation and the hearing. AP&P recommends by a majority vote that the BA, MA, PhD and World Business Culture UG

Certificate in GS be discontinued. The recommendation to discontinue is made with the understanding that students currently enrolled in the program will be allowed to complete their degrees and that a concentration in German Studies will be allowed within the department's BA (SGES - to be renamed in accordance with the new department name.) The minor in German Studies remains available to students and will be moved to the SGES. Additionally, no faculty or staff will be terminated by this action. The committee agrees the planned changes are in the best academic interests of the University and adequate provisions have been made for present students and for the rights of faculty and staff in the program.

Documentation Reviewed by the Committee:

1. Recommendation for Discontinuance of an Active Academic Program, August 25, 2021
2. Department of German Studies Program Review, February 2020