Title of the proposed minor: Graduate Minor in Finance

Sponsoring unit(s): Finance

Date: 12/15/05

Provide a brief description of the program of study. In particular, please explain how the proposed graduate minor requires some depth in the subject, but not as extensive as the requirements of the major.

The graduate minor is designed to allow students in other curricula to obtain a substantive competency in the field of Finance. Counting the prerequisite requirement, the graduate minor is the equivalent of four graduate courses. A graduate masters in Finance requires ten graduate courses.

Requirements: List the credit and course requirements for the proposed minor. The minor should consist of 12 to 16 graduate hours of course work within the sponsoring department or unit. At least 8 graduate hours of the minor should be at the 400 level (500 in Banner system). If the proposed minor fails to meet these criteria, please provide strong justification.

The Finance minor would consist of:

- Fin 521 (Advanced Corporate Finance) 4 hours
- Fin 511 (Investments) 4 hours
- Fin 512 (Financial Derivatives) 4 hours

or substitutions as approved by the Department of Finance. Fin 511 is sometimes split between semesters, with 2 hours in summer and 2 hours in fall; both halves would have to be taken to satisfy the requirement.

Prerequisites for the minor: Describe the prerequisites (if any) for the proposed minor. How will enrollment in courses required for the minor be managed? If the department intends to limit enrollment in the minor, explain how this will be done.

Either (Fin 221 (Corporate Finance) and Fin 300 (Financial Markets)) or Fin 520 (Financial Management) would be set as a prerequisite requirement. If a student has not taken Fin 520, the student would have to take both Fin 221 and Fin 300 to satisfy the prerequisite.

The Department of Finance will limit enrollment partly by intake. First, the Department of Finance controls admission to the prerequisite courses. Both Fin 520 (Financial Management) and Fin 300 (Financial Markets) have strict course controls. We will use this as one element to limit enrollment. In addition, there is a written admission application.

Expected enrollment in the minor: What is the total number of students expected in the minor once it achieves its full enrollment?

The Department of Finance must limit enrollment to the minor to 40-50 students, so that it can be serviced by one extra section of each of the three courses listed above.

Admission to the minor: Describe the admission process, including the procedure for obtaining approval from the student's adviser and graduate program director. What is the position of the person within the department who will monitor the admission process for the minor?
Students will make written application to the Department of Finance. If admitted, we will notify the student’s graduate program director and adviser. 

The person who will initially monitor the admission process is both an assistant professor and an academic adviser. Other faculty will be appointed to oversee the process by the chair of the Department of Finance if this person’s assignment changes.

The graduate minor would not be available to students in the Department of Finance. Since the courses required by the minor are not part of the defined degree requirements for any other program on campus, overlap should be minimal.

**Minor adviser:** What is the position of the person within the department who will be assigned responsibility for advising students enrolled in the minor?

The current adviser is both an assistant professor and an academic adviser. Other faculty will be appointed as overseers of the program by the chair of the Department of Finance if this person’s assignment changes.

**Certification of successful completion:** What system has been set up within the sponsoring unit for certifying successful completion of the minor?

Since the program will only consist of 40-50 students, the adviser will check for completion of the requirements and forward results to the Graduate College.

**Budgetary and staff implications: What, if any**

- Additional staff and dollars are needed? Three additional graduate sections will need to be offered each year by the Department of Finance. The College of Business will fund these additional classes using revenue generated by the Accountancy BS/MS program. No additional dollars are requested from outside the College.

- Internal reallocations are necessary (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ration, ?). None.

- Effect will there be on course enrollment in other departments and what discussions have taken place with representatives of those departments? The availability of the minor is expected to increase enrollment in the 5-year BS/MS program offered by the Department of Accountancy. The Department of Accountancy has specifically requested this graduate minor as a way of enhancing their program.

- Impact there will be on library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, and so forth? None
Statement for the catalog: Provide a brief statement for the program catalog.

The graduate minor in Finance is designed to allow students in a complementary degree program to demonstrate substantive competency in the field of Finance. The program requires initial completion of either Finance 520 (Financial management) or the two-course sequence Finance 221 (Corporate Finance) and Finance 300 (Financial Markets) as a prerequisite requirement. Students wishing to be admitted to the minor should make written application to the Department of Finance. Students are required to complete twelve hours of graduate courses in Finance: four hours each of Finance 511 (Investments), Finance 512 (Financial Derivatives), and Finance 521 (Advanced Corporate Finance). Substitutions are only permitted by written approval of the Department of Finance.

CLEARANCES:

[Signature] 8/4/06
Head/chair of the sponsoring department or unit
Date

[Signature] 8/2/06
Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unit
Date

Dean of the Graduate College
Date

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee
Date