

U.A. Resolution # 14

Review of all academic major CIP codes for possible reclassification under a STEM CIP code

March 13th, 2018

Sponsored by: Christopher Schott, Undergraduate; Chair, Campus Infrastructure Committee

On Behalf Of: International undergraduate students in the Economics department

Whereas, Cornell has successfully classified its undergraduate Architecture and Psychology majors under STEM-certified federal CIP codes;

Whereas, the Cornell Economics department is currently in the process of reclassifying the undergraduate Economics program as a STEM major;

Whereas, international graduates of STEM-certified majors can apply for a two-year extension of their OPT (Operational Practical Training) work authorization, granting them a total of three years of work authorization¹;

Whereas, non-STEM majors grant only one year of work authorization;²

Whereas, the opportunity of a three-year work authorization conveys enormous benefit upon the employment prospects of international students, including additional opportunities to apply for H1-B visas, increased employability and extended professional training;

Whereas, STEM-certified federal CIP codes closely mirror the quantitative and/or analytical nature of many undergraduate majors, as is the case with Cornell's undergraduate Economics program;

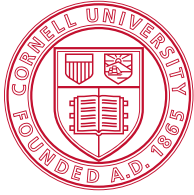
Whereas, to remain competitive among its peer institutions, Cornell should strive to provide international students with equal post-graduate employment opportunities;

Whereas, NYU's Communications, Journalism, Classical Civilization, Public Health, Urban Planning, Education and Archeology Majors are all STEM-certified;³

¹ According to the Department of Homeland Security

² Ibid

³ See Appendix C (Appendix p.4)



Cornell University University Assembly

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Whereas, the University of Wisconsin-Madison certified all graduate degrees in its Agricultural and Applied Economics program as “STEM” under the same 45.0603 CIP code Cornell’s Economics program is applying for;

Whereas, Cornell majors, including but not limited to Applied Economics and Management, Communications, Archeology and Classics might be eligible for CIP reclassification under a “STEM” certification without any changes to their curriculum, based on the current classification statuses of similar majors at other institutions;⁴

Be it therefore resolved, that President Martha Pollack, Provost Kotlikoff and Dean Ritter apply to the New York State Department of Education, in cooperation with Economics department faculty such as Professor Blume and Professor O’Donoghue, to initiate the recertification of the Cornell Economics program to CIP code 45.0603 (Econometrics and Quantitative Economics) as soon as possible,⁵

Be it further resolved, that the application to the New York State Department of Education for the reclassification of the Cornell Economics major be submitted within one month of the conveyance of this resolution,

Be it finally resolved, that the administrations of Cornell’s 12 Colleges, specifically Deans Gretchen Ritter (A&S), Kathryn J. Boor (CALs), Alan Mathios (HumEc), Lance R. Collins (Engineering), Kent Kleinman (AAP), Kate Walsh (Hotel), Kevin F. Hallock (ILR), Lynn Perry Wooten (Dyson) and Mark W. Nelson (Johnson Graduate School of Management) conduct a comprehensive review of all their respective academic departments to identify academic programs, both graduate and undergraduate, which might be classified under “STEM” CIP codes without or with minimal changes to their curriculum.

⁴ See Appendix C (Appendix p. 4)

⁵ For more detailed justification, please view SA Resolution 39