

Consultation for Moratorium on General Business Administration Pre-law major and Feedback Received

Senior Administrators (chairs, director, assistant dean, associate deans, dean):

November 10, 2009

All 12 senior administrators were in attendance

Summary Feedback: The dean provided information and a rationale for discontinuation of the General Business Administration (GBA)-Prelaw major. The administrators understood the reasoning and supported the decision.

Undergraduate Students (Broad Undergraduate Student Senate Dean's Forum – regularly scheduled each fall and spring)

November 11, 2009

Approximately 85 students were in attendance

The dean and the associate dean for academic affairs and research were in attendance. Student Senate leaders made a special effort to promote this meeting, asking faculty to announce it in their classes and posting notices on bulletin boards and plasma screens.

Summary Feedback: The Undergraduate Student Senate had prepared questions, including questions about the possible elimination of the GBA-Prelaw major. After the dean provided information and a rationale for discontinuation of the GBA-Prelaw major, students were asked to respond to the information shared. There were no negative comments made about the pending elimination of the GBA-Prelaw program; there were three students who made positive, supportive comments about the decision and appreciated the Broad School for thinking of alternative paths to pursue prelaw across campus.

Business Law Faculty

November 12, 2009

All ongoing tenure stream business law faculty (1) and the associate dean for academic affairs and research were in attendance

Summary Feedback: There is only one ongoing tenure-track business law faculty member, and that person was not surprised by the decision to request a moratorium. The faculty member is disappointed and believes the prelaw program served Broad students well over the years and in many ways was innovative, but understands the financial realities surrounding the decision. The moratorium will not affect the courses that this person teaches or the research focus. One course will be eliminated. The fixed-term faculty member teaching the course is happy to teach another course to mitigate the impact of the two faculty in the program who will be retiring in the next year and a half.

College Advisory Council

November 13, 2009

5 of 6 faculty representatives, 1 of 2 undergraduate representatives, 1 of 1 graduate representatives, the associate dean for academic affairs and research, and the dean were in attendance

Summary Feedback: The dean provided information and a rationale for discontinuation of the GBA-Prelaw major. There was very little discussion by faculty and student committee members. They understood the reasoning and there was no dissent with the decision.

Undergraduate Programs Committee

November 17, 2009

9 of 9 faculty representatives, 2 of 3 undergraduate representatives, the associate dean for academic affairs and research, the dean, one Broad School senior IT faculty guest and one Communication Arts and Sciences faculty guest were in attendance

Summary Feedback: The associate dean responsible for undergraduate programs provided information and a rationale for discontinuation of the GBA-Prelaw major. The faculty representative in business law expressed disappointment that this unique program was targeted for discontinuation, but understood the necessity and rationale for it. There were no other comments by faculty or student committee members.

General Business Administration-Prelaw Alumni

November 19, 2009

Email letter sent to 449 of 1100 GBA-Prelaw alumni (400 good email addresses) – comments invited to TellTheDean@bus.msu.edu

Summary Feedback: As of December 14, 2009, five responses were received from alumni. Two of the respondents expressed disappointment and/or disagreement in the decision to discontinue the GBA-Prelaw major. Two others indicated they were sorry to hear about the cuts at MSU, but did not seem upset or opposed to the discontinuation of the major. One person did not comment on the issue of discontinuation of the major, but offered volunteer service to support the university.

Broad School Faculty

November 20, 2009

Information was provided to faculty as part of the dean's remarks and budget update

Summary Feedback: The dean provided information and a rationale for discontinuation of the GBA-Prelaw major and invited comments. There were no negative comments, and there was little discussion by faculty.