

# Annual Report

## Committee on Student-Designed Majors

May 14, 2013

1. **Committee on Student-Designed Majors:** Annual Report for 2012-2013
2. **Submitted to:** Susan Abbotson, Chair, Curriculum Committee
3. **Prepared by:** Earl Simson, Chair, Committee on Student-Designed Majors
4. **Members of the Committee:**

Earl Simson, Dean, FAS  
Karen Castagno, Associate Dean, FSEHD  
David Blanchette, Dean, SOM  
Holly Dygert, faculty, FAS  
Charles McLaughlin, faculty, FSEHD  
Suchandra Basu, faculty, SOM  
No student representative appointed

5. **Meeting Dates:**

The Committee 'met' three times (electronically) during the academic year: December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, April 15, 2013 and May 10, 2013.

6. & 7. **Committee Actions and approvals:**

Taylor Barbosa	Childhood Growth – Language and Communication Development
Katrina Svenson	Wellness
Andrew Watson	Technological Studies
Natalia Patalano	Italian
Amanda Hannon	Childhood Learning/Special Needs
Andrea Martin	Performing Arts Management
Susan Mann	Elementary Mathematics Content
Alexander Lupica	Italian

8. **Significant Events:**

The Committee has become concerned that many of the majors we have approved over the last few years have been majors for students unable to complete their major in the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development. Indeed, of the 8 approved majors this year, 5 of these were for students who had completed most (or all) of their requirements for FSEHD except practicum and student teaching. They either chose not to continue or were unable to continue in their education major, and so applied for a Student-Designed Major. These are good students, having at least a 2.50 GPA to apply. But

our guidelines state that “Proposals from students with more than 75 credits will not normally be accepted.” The word ‘normally’ has allowed us to act on their proposals, but it is a concern that the Committee wished to bring to the attention of the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.