MOTION
Motion to Support Proposed Revision of the University B.A. Requirements
(Submitted by the Curriculum Committee)

Motion:
The Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee moves that Faculty Senate approve the proposal to revise the University’s B.A. requirements.

Rationale:
This proposal addresses three concerns: a stated RU goal is to produce more B.A. degrees; many students in disciplines traditionally associated with the B.A. degree are pursuing the B.S. degree; and enrolments in foreign language classes are low. The advocates of this proposal believe revising the university B.A. requirements so that they are parallel to the university B.S. requirements will help to alleviate each of those concerns. Because getting a B.A. will not require more coursework than getting a B.S., some students will stop opting for the B.S. simply because it seems easier. Because getting a B.A. will not necessarily be staked to a foreign language, students with an aversion to foreign language will not be scared away from the B.A. degree. Once the risk of scaring away students is reduced, programs commonly associated with the B.A. degree will be able to phase out their B.S. option. As a result, more students will get the B.A. degree, which will drive up enrolments in foreign language classes even if some students take advantage of the opportunity to get the B.A. degree without taking foreign language classes.