The faculty of the Physics and Astronomy Department propose to revise the minor in Physics so that it is consistent with the major in physics. Specifically, the major in physics allows students to choose courses from other programs in the university that are heavily physics-based to count toward their electives. We do this because we recognize that not all physics courses in a university as big and diverse as Vanderbilt are taught within the disciplinary boundaries defined by a single department and the single PHYS label. With this proposal, we are revising the rules of the minor to add this flexibility for Physics minors. The departmental vote of the faculty was 10 in favor, 0 against.
Old Catalog copy with proposed changes:

*Departmental Minors*

The physics or astronomy minor is suitable for students who wish to supplement a related discipline or simply have a general interest in the field. Note that the Independent and Directed Study portion of the physics minor is not a requirement but may count toward the minor under certain circumstances. Seek departmental approval before enrolling in either of these classes.

*Minor in Physics*

The minor requires a minimum of 19 credit hours of course work, distributed as follows:

- Any first-semester calculus-based physics class with lab (113a and 114a, 116a and 118a, 121a) 4-5
- Any second-semester calculus-based physics class with lab (113b and 114b, 116b and 118b, 121b) 4-5
- Physics 225, 225W, 226 or 226W 4
- Physics 250 1

Two 200-level and/or 300-level physics courses, one of which may be a 3-credit hour one semester directed study course (289) or a 3-credit hour one semester independent study course (291) 6

Two 200-level and/or 300-level physics courses. One of these may be a 3-credit hour one semester directed study course (289), a 3-credit hour one semester independent study course (291), or a 3-credit hour, non-PHYS course, the latter if approved by the Undergraduate Program Committee. 6

Physics 250 1

Total credit Hours 19-21
Catalog-ready copy:

*Departmental Minors*

The physics or astronomy minor is suitable for students who wish to supplement a related discipline or simply have a general interest in the field. Note that the Independent and Directed Study portion of the physics minor is not a requirement but may count toward the minor under certain circumstances. Seek departmental approval before enrolling in either of these classes.

*Minor in Physics*

The minor requires a minimum of 19 credit hours of course work, distributed as follows:

- Any first-semester calculus-based physics class with lab (113a and 114a, 116a and 118a, 121a) 4-5
- Any second-semester calculus-based physics class with lab (113b and 114b, 116b and 118b, 121b) 4-5
- Physics 225, 225W, 226 or 226W 4
- Physics 250 1
- Two 200-level and/or 300-level physics courses. One of these may be a 3-credit hour one semester directed study course (289), a 3-credit hour one semester independent study course (291), or a 3-credit hour, non-PHYS course, the latter if approved by the Undergraduate Program Committee. 6

Total Credit Hours 19-21
RE: Revision of Minor in Physics

Dear Professor Weintraub,

The Committee on Educational Programs convened on January 15 to review your proposal for revision of the Minor in Physics. The catalog copy was approved (6 voting in favor) with no revisions needed. I will forward your corrected proposal to Faculty Council after which, pending their approval, your proposal will proceed to A&S Faculty vote. Please let me know if I may be of any assistance.

Best Regards,

Brian O. Bachmann
cc: Karen Campbell