

REPORT OF ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Report #F2016-3; Dec 2016

In this report the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) brings to Senate its evaluation and recommendation on the following item:

- **Cancellation of EID 500 and the Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

A) CANCELLATION OF EID 500 AND THE OPTIONAL SPECIALIZATION IN DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

The Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation requires the completion of the following:

REQUIRED:

EID 100 Digital Skills and Innovation for the Global Economy

EID 500 Experiential Semester in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation

The Dean-of-Record (FCAD) for the Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation proposes the dissolution of the non-credit EID 500 Experiential Semester in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation and the Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation. The Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation (OPDEI) was created in 2012 to address the need to expose interdisciplinary undergraduate students in the fields of digital entrepreneurship and innovation in a Zone-like learning environment.

EID 500 ran as a test pilot in the summer of 2012 that consisted of 7 students. Based on a course weight of five, EID 500 had a cost of approximately \$4000.00. Students were led through an intensive 1 week boot-camp and then mentored 36.5 hours per week for 11 weeks, in two self-selected groups, within a just-in-time experiential learning environment, as they researched, developed and implemented their final digital media service, product or company. Of the 7 students who participated, 5 completed all requirements to receive their "Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation", which was neither a degree or a certificate, but a mention on their official transcripts.

Due primarily to the high tuition costs and the adverse effect of only running EID 500 during the Spring/Summer terms when students are normally working summer jobs, interest from the student population has been approximately 3 inquiries since 2013. Additionally, most of EID 500's innovative programming has now migrated to Zone Learning, Startup School, Launch Zone Base Camp, the Master in Digital Media (MDM), the Master of Engineering Innovation and Entrepreneurship (MEIE) and other departmental and University based entrepreneurial enrichment offerings. Thus the relevance of EID 500 as a single source for digital media entrepreneurship and innovation training has greatly diminished.

Since 2012, the Dean of FCAD has been the Dean-of-Record for the Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation. However FCAD has in reality only managed EID 100 as EID500 was a pilot in the summer of 2012 and thus managed directly by the Office of the Vice Provost Academic. The cancellation of EID 500 and the OPDEI will have no financial impact. There are no students currently pursuing the specialization and therefore no special arrangements are required to phase out EID 500.

EID 100 is a prerequisite credit based course open to all undergraduate students whether they are enrolled in the OPDEI or not. Its primary role is to introduce students to the theory, method and practical application of digital media within the student's declared undergraduate field of study. EID 100 has been a resounding success and continues to grow in popularity among the student body as a Professionally Related elective course. Going forward, the credit based course EID 100 Digital Skills and Innovation for

the Global Economy will be retained and transferred to an appropriate school within FCAD as an additional elective course offering.

Recommendation

- Having satisfied itself of the merit of this proposal, ASC recommends: *That Senate approve the Cancellation of EID 500 and the Optional Specialization in Digital Entrepreneurship and Innovation*

Respectfully Submitted,



Marcia Moshé, Chair for the Committee

ASC Members:

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