

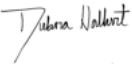


UNIVERSITY
of HAWAII®
SYSTEM

September 10, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council of Chief Academic Officers
Faculty Senates

FROM: Debora J. Halbert 
Associate Vice President for Academic Programs and Policy

SUBJECT: Consultation on Proposed Changes to EP 5.205 Academic Minors and
Certificates

Executive Policy 5.205 relating to academic minors and certificates is currently under review by administration. After engaging in substantive informal consultation, the proposed policy changes are hereby being submitted for formal consultation. **Please consult with your constituents and governing bodies and provide any comments on the attached form via email to ovpas@hawaii.edu by October 10, 2021.**

Justification for Policy Changes

Earlier versions of EP 5.205 did not include definitions for the myriad types of degrees offered at campuses throughout the UH System. Additionally, with the advent of microcredentials and growing interest in awarding these types of competency-based credentials at campuses throughout the system, a definition for a microcredential was needed. Thus, the policy has been updated to reflect the degrees awarded. These definitions have been located in a single policy so that they can be referenced by other policies.

Informal Consultation

Over the past several months, administration has engaged in informal consultation with a variety of individuals and groups across the System. These include providing draft copies of the policy revisions and receiving feedback from:

- UH Officers
- Council of Chief Academic Officers
- Council of Senior Student Affairs Officers
- All Campus Council of Faculty Senate Chairs

Bachman Hall 204
2444 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Telephone: (808) 956-6897
Fax: (808) 956-9119

Key Changes at a Glance

The following identifies key changes that are being proposed:

I. Purpose:

- Refined to include reference to degrees, academic minors, certificate credentials and concentrations/specializations.

II. Definitions:

- Added definitions for associate degrees, bachelor's degrees and graduate degrees.
- Expanded definition of academic minor; includes 15 to 18 hours of course work with 9 hours of upper division course work in an academic major.
- Added definitions for concentrations/specializations and microcredentials.

III. Executive Policy:

- Added reference to EP 5.201 for approval authority to create new degrees defined in this policy.
- Added reference to EP 5.101 for approval authority to confer degrees defined in this policy.
- Indicates approval authority for degrees which exceed the generally accepted credit hours in this policy.
- Removed current sections on academic minors and certificates.
- Including concentrations/specializations with certificates and academic minors as related to policy and reporting requirements for campuses.

Attached are a clean copy of the revised policy and a track changes version of the policy. The current policy is located at:

<https://www.hawaii.edu/policy/index.php?action=viewPolicy&policySection=ep&policyChapter=5&policyNumber=205&menuView=closed>

Please send comments or questions on the attached form to ovpas@hawaii.edu by **October 10, 2021**. Thank you.

Attachments