

April 15, 2019

TO: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Steven Brint, Chair
SPP Executive Committee

RE: Medical and Health Humanities Minor

The SPP Executive Committee continues to express reservations about the third stream in this proposal. Although the proposers have developed a mechanism for identifying courses that can be counted, the review procedures do not guarantee that the course content will be related to medicine and health, only that the instructors will be associated with the minor. The following associated courses do not appear to bear a close relation to the minor: CRWT 130, CRWT 134, CRWT 150, CRWT 155, CRWT 176, DNCE 115, DNCE 133, DNCE 134, DNCE 181, MCS 135, TFDP 122, and TFDP 158. It is entirely possible that instructors associated with the program will teach courses that have little or no relation to the program.

In addition, it would seem beneficial to require that minors take at least one course in biomedical science, either in one of the life sciences departments or in psychology. This would allow for a truly interdisciplinary approach connecting science and the humanities.