

Resolution 2014-15.I

Resolution to approve New Major, Family and Consumer Sciences, in Bachelor of Science Degree in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies:

First Reading: April 13, 2015

Second Reading:

Approved by University Council:

Approved by the President:

First Effective Date to Declare Major: Fall 2015

First Effective Date to Graduate: Spring 2017

WHEREAS, the field of Family and Consumer Sciences is a comprehensive body of skills, research, and knowledge that helps people make informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the undergraduate Major in Family and Consumer Sciences will prepare graduates for careers related to family and consumer sciences, including jobs in community services, Cooperative Extension, business, and industry; and

WHEREAS, there is a nationwide shortage of Family and Consumer Sciences secondary educators (Werhan, 2013) and an ongoing shortage of Career and Technical Education (which includes FCS) teachers in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the undergraduate Major in Family and Consumer Sciences will provide relevant coursework for licensing as a secondary teacher in Family and Consumer Sciences and qualified students will be able to enter the Master's degree in Career and Technical Education in the School of Education at Virginia Tech; and

WHEREAS, the Major in Family and Consumer Sciences is interdisciplinary and supported by the Departments of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management and Human Development, and the graduate program in Career and Technical Education, in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, and the Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management has offered a Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) option in the past year and the Major in Family and Consumer Sciences incorporates the courses and content of the FCS option; and

WHEREAS, the Major in Family and Consumer Sciences will provide better visibility of the program and support enrollment management of incoming and transfer students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Major in Family and Consumer Sciences be approved for addition to the Bachelor of Science in Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management effective Fall 2015 and the proposal be forwarded to President for approval.

Werhan, C.R. (2013). Family and consumer sciences secondary programs: National survey shows continued demand for FCS teachers. *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*. 150 (4), 41-45.