

AACR 2

Office of the President
September 13, 2011

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Chinese Language and Literature (CIP Code: 16.0301, PROG: AS BA CHLL) in the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the fall 2011 semester.

Background: Interest in China throughout the state and among University of Kentucky students has grown rapidly. According to the Kentucky China Trade Center, Kentucky exports to China topped \$600 million in 2008, an increase of over 800 percent since 2000. Across the state, these economic realities have been met by a growing interest in Chinese language. Each year about 40 teachers come to Kentucky from China to teach Chinese in K-12 schools through an agreement between the Kentucky Department of Education and Hanban, the executive body of the Chinese Language Council International.

An undergraduate major in Chinese does not exist at any public or private university in Kentucky. As the flagship institution, the University of Kentucky is the appropriate place to initiate this program. The major will allow UK to prepare teachers for certification by the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board to teach Chinese in Kentucky schools. The proposed program will also prepare students for a variety of postbaccalaureate options, serving as preparation both for graduate training in fields requiring advanced Chinese language competence and for Chinese-related career choices. Creating this program will contribute to satisfying the imperative of helping our constituents function successfully in this age of globalization.

This program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate and has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____