RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate recommend the adoption of the following Academic Certificates to be housed in the department of Philosophy:

Certificate in Consciousness, Cognition, and Self;

Certificate in Ethics: Moral Reasoning and Practical Engagement; and

Certificate in Pre-Law; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the certificate programs be implemented for fall semester 2016.

RATIONALE: The Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies seeks to transform their programs by adding three Academic Certificate Programs. Each certificate program offers students across the campus an opportunity to add depth and breadth to their major or minor program of study through interdisciplinary interaction with faculty.

The Certificate in CCS is an 18 unit program designed to increase understanding of the nature of the mind and consciousness, explore cognitive and affective capacities, and developing research in the essence of “self”.

The Certificate in Ethics is 15 unit program and involves skill building in reasoning and engagement in exploring ethical implications in a range of disciplines and topics of social and political significance. Central to this program is an internship and service learning experiences.
The Certificate in Pre-Law is a 18 unit program designed to prepare students for a variety of careers in the legal field and offering advising in testing, additional educational preparation, and the exploration of career opportunities.

The Department has developed academic standards, defined Learning Outcomes, consulted with interested and effected faculty in other departments, and developed a plan for an Advisory Committee for each program. The Department plans to develop a Director Position for the Pre-Law program using existing Department resources.

The School of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee and the Curriculum Conversion Committee have approved the three certificate programs, and the Chair of the AS Budget and Planning Committee has review the proposal.

Distribution List:

Approved by the Academic Senate on October 30, 2014
Sent to the President for approval on November 5, 2014
Approved by the President on December 15, 2014