

CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

WHEREAS, combining the knowledge and skills acquired in undergraduate education into a climactic final year experience protects and solidifies what students have learned in their undergraduate studies, and;

WHEREAS, a capstone experience provides students with opportunities to combine course work and real-world experience in their selected majors, and;

WHEREAS, a capstone experience can be a bridge to graduate school and/or the workforce by providing experience in analysis, team-building, problem-solving, and communication skills which most professional situations demand, and;

WHEREAS, a capstone experience could be in the form of a final seminar course, thesis, project, or field-work, and;

WHEREAS, faculty of individual disciplines are best able to determine the nature and appropriateness of a capstone experience, and;

WHEREAS, a formal capstone course can be used as a means of outcomes assessment for the curriculum, and;

WHEREAS, capstone experiences have been shown to provide more opportunities and interactions that were relevant to initial professional positions, and;

WHEREAS, employers and graduate schools desire individuals who can communicate effectively and apply the knowledge gained through undergraduate education to real-world situations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Student Advisory Board and the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education:

1. That the State Regents encourage institutions to create their own capstone experiences where appropriate and according to the philosophy of the faculty that will teach the course or guide the project.

Jennifer Barnett, Chairman
Student Advisory Board

David Buchanan, Chairman
Faculty Advisory Committee

Meeting in joint session January 22, 2000