**Bachelor of University Studies (BUS) Program:**

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|  | **2015-16** | **2016-17** |
| Active Students | 51 | 68 |
| Approved Proposals | 20 | 23 |
| Graduations | 11 | 19 |

The BUS Program provides an opportunity for bright, imaginative, and motivated students to design and complete their own rigorous matriculation pathway through the University under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Year-to-year, the number of active students, approved proposals, and graduations have increased significantly from last year. All three, in fact, are at their highest levels ever, though it is very unlikely that these levels will persist, because two newly approved academic programs will provide pathways for BUS programs that have become quite popular in the last few years. And this is precisely how things should function: when a large number of students successfully propose similar programs over a short period of time, academic departments should develop programs to satisfy student demand.

One large group of current BUS students, about 20 of them, are based in the College of Engineering and pursuing some variant of an Entertainment Arts & Engineering (EAE) degree. In response to this, the School of Computing has proposed a Bachelor of Science in Games, which has to date been approved up through the Academic Senate, and which will be fully approved in the Fall, to be available to students for Spring 2017. The BS in Games should wholly capture all the students who would otherwise have pursued a BUS-EAE degree, so I do not expect to see any more such proposals.

We have, over the last eight years, annually approved several Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) proposals, and there are currently 18 BUS students doing this sort of program; this represents a three-fold increase from just last year. In response, the Department of Biology has proposed an emphasis in Anatomy and Physiology, which Biology students could add to their program of study. When fully approved, this should serve to reduce the flow of BUS-A&P students, but certainly not stop it entirely, as many current and prospective BUS-A&P students’ interests only partially overlap with Biology. We have also seen a recent surge in proposals for Wildlife Biology degrees – we’ve had 4 proposals in just the last two years. If interest continues on this level, then I will again approach with Biology regarding this group of students

I anticipate no major changes to the BUS program in 2017-18, though for the reasons set out above, I expect the number of proposals and active students to decline. Graduations should, however, remain somewhat elevated as the cluster of BUS-EAE and BUS-A&P students complete their programs of study.

approved by the Academic Senate in May.