THE COMMITTEE AGREES WITH THE DELETION AND THE ADDITION OF A MINOR PROGRAM.
The "Academic Program Review Results and Recommendations" suggests the following change:

⇒ Terminate the Bachelor's degree in **French** and offer courses as part of the new World Languages Program.

The College Curriculum Committee recommends that the University:

⇒ Terminate the Bachelor's degree in French and offer it as a Minor
⇒ Rename the new World Languages Program to World Languages and Culture Program.

This recommendation emerges from the Committee's consideration of the following: the aforementioned program review results, a memo submitted by the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences supporting the termination, a report from the chairman of the Department of Languages & Communication Disorders supporting the termination and reconstitution, and heard testimony from the faculty on April 3, 2011.
MEMORANDUM

TO: CAS Curriculum Committee
FROM: Prof. Maxine A. LeGall
RE: Chair’s Response to Deletion of Baccalaureate Programs
DATE: April 11, 2011

In response to the French Program’s request for the deletion of the French major: The Chair supports their request because the enrollment and graduation rates do not support a major at this time.

Further, the Chair supports the French Program’s plans to offer students a minor/concentration in French with the long range objective of reforming the program and offering a major at such time that there is sufficient enrollment to support a baccalaureate in French.
Proposed Program Deletion (Termination)
Bachelor of Arts (BA French)
Bachelor of Arts (BA Spanish)
Introduction and Background

This proposal recommends deletion of the Bachelor of Arts degree programs in French and Spanish. These programs are currently offered in the Department of Languages and Communication Disorders, College of Arts and Sciences. Program review findings have identified a number of areas needing improvement in the College’s current foreign language programs (small faculty size requires high use of adjuncts this affects program quality, low student enrollment and graduation rates limit course options and additional investment, inadequate use of technology dates the curriculum). The University’s final program review recommendations include: 1) discontinuation of major programs in both French and Spanish and 2) creation of a new World Languages Program that provides intensive language study to augment the skills of students enrolled in more career-focused programs (business, health care, education, engineering, social services, etc.). The World Languages Program will offer coursework, concentrations and minors in French, Spanish and other languages of interest to students. The Program will also collaborate with Global Studies and other programs to internationalize the curriculum.

At a time of dramatic change and diminishing resources at the University, a higher priority must be investment in the strongest programs and enhancing capacity in areas of high student demand. The recommendation for termination of major program in foreign languages emerged from the University’s academic program review process that focused on every academic program in each school/college of the University. The review process involved:

- Preparation of formal Program Review reports by faculty;
- Site visits by a team of external and internal reviewers which resulted in summary reports and recommendations;
- Examination of internal and external reports and recommendations and assignment of qualitative ratings and recommendations for each program by CAS department chairpersons and deans;
- A quantitative assessment of degree program performance over the past five (5) years including measures of enrollment, retention, degree attainment and staffing efficiency;
- An analysis conducted by Noel-Levitz of demand for UDC’s degree programs and UDC’s market share of demand amongst 20 competitive institutions as well as an analysis of demand data collected from surveys of 600 prospective students from the Washington Metropolitan Region;
- An analysis of occupational and industry competency expectations and employment trends, including employment growth forecasts, for the Capital Region and nation from data provided by the US Department of Labor and the DC Department of Employment Services;
- A review of the academic structure, degree programs and curriculum of ten regional competitor institutions;
- Sharing of this data and preliminary recommendations with department chairs and program directors and;
CURRICULUM PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN FRENCH PROGRAM

ISSUANCE OF THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM REVIEW RESULTS
During the fall semester 2010 the University of the District of Columbia proceeded to conduct a review of academic programs. As a result of that review several program modifications have been recommended, such as, the creation of new programs, the deletion of certain programs and the elimination of others. According to the recommendations some degree programs were to be eliminated, including the French Major Program and its incorporation into a newly created World Language Program.

RESPONSE TO ISSUANCE:

During the academic year 2009-2010 the French Language Program in the Department of Languages and Communication Disorders undertook a self study which pinpointed several shortcomings in the Program’s staffing, infrastructure (language laboratory, smart classrooms, with internet connections), low enrollment and low number of graduates. The Office of Academic Affairs’ decision to eliminate the Major Program is primarily based on low enrollment and not in the quality of the program or its capacity to fulfill its mission. In an ever shrinking world, and as knowledge becomes more and more interdisciplinary, in higher education in particular, it is paramount to ensure that language learning be a part of that internationalization and the symbiotic relations existing among various branches of human knowledge.

NEW MISSION: It is in keeping with the University of the District of Columbia’s avowed mission, and the new trend toward the internationalization of its curriculum through studies of cultures and acquisition of expanded knowledge, and to bring new relevancy to the learning of French at the University of the District of Columbia that the French faculty of the Department of Languages and Communication Disorders is presenting this new proposal for the modification of the French language major into a “Minor in French Language and Global Studies”.

1. STATEMENT OF NEEDS:

The Minor in French and Global Studies will provide an opportunity for students majoring in career-oriented disciplines and other fields of study at the University of the District of Columbia to strengthen their career options.
This Minor in French Language and Global Studies will open job opportunities for our students in national and international companies and corporations.
It will also offer students from the District of Columbia Public and Charter Schools, and from other public and private secondary schools in the Washington Metropolitan Area and the nation at large the opportunity to continue their study of French at a higher level and to acquire more knowledge and advanced skills in a major international language that will broaden their perspectives, enhance their career choices, and increase their chances to succeed in the globalized world of the 21st Century.
2. CONGRUENCE WITH ACADEMIC UNIT OBJECTIVES AND UNIVERSITY’S MISSION

The Minor in French Language and Global Studies provides students the opportunity to develop French language skills that increase the marketability of knowledge gained in other disciplines. The curriculum prepares students to strengthen their analytical skills through the study of French and to apply the knowledge gained for careers in business, industry, international organizations, civil and foreign services, the arts and public service.

In preparing theses changes and setting new program goals, we have attempted on the one hand to respond to the program’s shortcomings in terms of low enrollment and graduation rate, while on the other researching and pursuing new trends observed in area universities’ French programs.

The orientation we have devised for the French Program at the University of the District of Columbia wants to be comprehensive while incorporating specializations that are appropriate to our student population and attune to new development in the market place. The Minor in French Language and Global Studies responds to the University of the District of Columbia stated mission: to “offer a broad variety of programs … that provide reasonable choice for post secondary education to the residents of the District of Columbia, “to be innovative” in carrying out its mission, to be responsive to new and emerging job market, to “advance knowledge at the local, national, and international levels through various innovative levels through various strategies ….”

MINOR PROGRAM IN FRENCH AND GLOBAL STUDIES
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

The Minor Program offers courses leading to a Minor certificate in French language and Global Studies which focuses on areas such as Business, Health, Political Sciences, and the Humanities.

- 24 credits are required to obtain a Minor in French language and Global Studies, that include:
- A Core of Language courses in French that include:
  18 credit hours in French language and culture at the 200 level and above, PLUS 6 credit hours in subject related to students’ declared major at the 300 level and above, (i.e., Business French,
11. ESTIMATED COSTS, AVAILABLE FUNDS, AND PROBABLE FUNDING SOURCES:

The unit will actively research grant possibilities to fund some components of the program such as study abroad program, and other internships. Probable funding sources are the US Department of Education, National Endowment for the Humanities, International Corporations.

12. ADEQUACY OF SUPPORTIVE LIBRARY AND TECHNICAL RESOURCES:

UDC library and the Washington Consortium of Universities, Howard University, The Library of Congress and other regional universities respond adequately to our students needs for research