

## Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: Ronald Elsenbaumer

Chancellor

**Carl Drummond** 

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management

From: Terri Swim

Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Programs

Date: May 6, 2021

RE: Spanish for the Professions Minor

This proposed Spanish for the Professions minor program will help the ICLS department fill a demonstrated Spanish language skills gap in the labor market. This gap is difficult for employers to "train up." This program seeks to contribute to closing that skills gap in new ways.

The Spanish for the Professions requirements focus on teaching students about using the Spanish language in professional contexts where language and culture knowledge can enhance and improve an employer's meeting of their mission. This new minor will help a new group of students we do not currently serve (students with a more specific focus on applied uses of the Spanish language) to see how their language learning can benefit them and help them meet their career and professional goals. By connecting students to this new minor, we can extend the reach of our department's teaching mission by increasing the number of students graduating with language proficiency, critical thinking, analytical ability, global awareness and intercultural competence.