



News Release

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Finance Studies at USD Becomes Stand-alone Major

BROOKINGS – The South Dakota Board of Regents gave its approval Friday for The University of South Dakota to convert its finance specialization in business to a full-fledged finance major.

“USD has offered a finance specialization within its business major for many years, but decided to convert it to a major in finance after examining curricula at other universities,” said Regents President Harvey C. Jewett. “This proposed major is very similar to finance majors at other institutions.”

"We're very appreciative of the board's approval of our request," said USD Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald C. Dahlin. "In the business world of today, both in South Dakota and beyond, expertise in the financial realm is of critical importance for any successful business. Converting the finance specialization to a stand-alone finance major will enable us to do a better job of letting prospective students know of the rich range of educational opportunities in business provided at the U. It also will enable us to do a better job of helping prospective employers understand how well prepared our students are in this area."

The required business courses and existing finance specialization at USD essentially meet the requirements of a finance major comparable to what is offered at other universities, so additional credit hours in finance will not be needed under the new major, said Tad Perry, executive director for the Board of Regents. Perry noted that no new state funds were requested to implement this change.

“We expect the number of students interested in the study of finance to increase after the specialization is converted to a major,” Perry said. Officials at the university project 88 finance majors will be enrolled this fall, with that number increasing to 100 by fall 2005. There were 35 graduates with the finance specialization in 2003, and 73 juniors and seniors were pursuing the specialization as of last fall.