MEMORANDUM

TO: Stephen Halperin  
    Dean, College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences

FROM: Phyllis Peres  
    Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to modify the Minor in Earth History (PCC log no. 07067)

Your proposal to modify the curriculum of the Minor in Earth History has been administratively approved. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The changes are effective Fall 2008. The College should ensure that the changes are fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure
cc: Carmen Balthrop, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
    Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid  
    Laura Slavin, University Senate  
    Barbara Hope, Data Administration  
    Denise Nadase, Institutional Research & Planning  
    Anne Turkos, Archives  
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
    Scott Wolpert, Undergraduate Studies  
    David Lay, College of Computer, Mathematical and Physical Sciences
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS: Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one-page in length. Forms and appropriate attachments should be submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs, who will assign a Log Number to each proposal. Also submit an electronic version of as much of the proposal as is possible.

DATE SUBMITTED: 3/8/2008

COLLEGE/SCHOOL: CMPS

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM: GEOL

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD____ DELETES____ CHANGE_X____

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

This is a proposal for a change to the Minor in Earth History. See attached.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

To extend the Department of Geology's commitment to undergraduate research to the Earth History Minor by the incorporation of GEOL499 -- Special Problems in Geology to the list of its optional courses. See attached.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES

1. Department Committee Chair
   John Mark
   4/3/08

2. Department Chair
   Michael Brown
   4/4/08

3. College/School PCC Chair
   David Lee
   4/11/08

4. Dean
   David Lee
   4/11/08

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)

6. Chair, Senate PCC

7. Chair of Senate
   Chaiman Perez
   4/3/08

8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost

VPAAP Rev. 3/1/04
Proposal for a change in the Minor in Earth History

1. This is a proposal to change an existing minor.

2. Catalog Description is unchanged.

**Courses currently required for the minor are:**

Required:

- One of the following:
  - GEOL 100/110 Physical Geology/Physical Geology (4)
  - GEOL 120/110 Environmental Geology/Physical Geology Lab (4)
- GEOL 102 Historical Geology (4)

In addition, the student must choose two from the following:

- GEOL 331 Principles of Paleontology (4)
- GEOL 341 Structural Geology (4)
- GEOL 342 Sedimentation and Stratigraphy (4)
- GEOL 436 Biogeochemistry (3)
- GEOL 437 Global Climate Change: Past and Present (3)

**Courses to be required for the minor under the proposed revision are:**

Required:

One of the following:

- GEOL 100/110 Physical Geology/Physical Geology (4)
- GEOL 120/110 Environmental Geology/Physical Geology Lab (4)
- GEOL 102 Historical Geology (4)

In addition, the student must choose two from the following:

- GEOL 331 Principles of Paleontology (4)
- GEOL 341 Structural Geology (4)
- GEOL 342 Sedimentation and Stratigraphy (4)
- GEOL 436 Biogeochemistry (3)
- GEOL 437 Global Climate Change: Past and Present (3)
- GEOL 499 Special Problems in Geology (3 cr. Letter grade only)

3. In its major tracks, the Geology Department maintains the highest possible commitment to the undergraduate research experience, fostering the development of its majors into high-caliber scientific researchers through its required two-semester senior research track (GEOL393 and GEOL394). Geology now seeks to extend this
commitment and opportunity to its minors by giving them access to opportunities for independent study/research under faculty supervision. To this end, we propose the inclusion of the three-credit option of GEOL499 – Special Problems in Geology, in among optional courses for each minor track, including Earth History.