December 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cheng-i Wei
    Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

    Don Kettl
    Dean, School of Public Policy

FROM: Elizabeth Beise
      Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Establish a Minor in Sustainability Studies (PCC log no. 11027)

At its meeting on December 2, 2011, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses approved your proposal to establish a minor in Sustainability Studies. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The minor is effective Spring 2012. Please ensure that the change is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

MDC/

Enclosure

cc: David Salness, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
    Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid
    Reka Montfort, University Senate
    Erin Howard, Office of Information Technology
    Donna Williams, Institutional Research & Planning
    Anne Turkos, University Archives
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
    Robert Gaines, Undergraduate Studies
    Leon Slaughter, Agriculture and Natural Resources
    William Powers, Public Policy
    Bruce James, Environmental Science and Policy
    Robert Sprinkle, Public Policy
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School: MSPP-Maryland School of Public Policy

Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01203700
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program:
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits:

Type of Action (choose one):

☐ Curriculum change (including informal specializations) ☐ New academic degree/award program
☐ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Professional Studies award iteration
☐ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Minor
☐ Suspend/delete program ☐ Other

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

The Environmental Science and Policy Program and the Maryland School of Public Policy propose the establishment of a new, undergraduate minor in Sustainability Studies. The minor will respond to widespread undergraduate interest in a trans-disciplinary educational opportunity that will complement any major on campus, and provide them course work and experiential learning opportunities in this area of increasing importance related to policy-making from the local to international levels. The minor will integrate issues related to environmental quality, economic viability, and cultural vitality. It will introduce the students to the concepts of social and ecological resilience, adaptive management, and social learning as ways to understand and address our obligations to future generations.

The curriculum for the Sustainability Studies minor will comprise one, three-credit course at the 300 level, Sustainability Studies, plus four other courses chosen from three lists of existing UMCP courses in the areas of Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, and Social and Human Dimensions. An experiential learning opportunity may be substituted for one of the four courses (e.g., internship, research, or study abroad).

The minor will be co-directed by Dr. Bruce R. James of ENSP and Dr. Robert Sprinkle of MSPP. A Graduate Administrative Assistant will provide academic advising, a web page will be maintained, and a Faculty Advisory Committee will review existing and new courses for the above three lists. A Graduate Teaching Assistant will assist with the teaching of the Sustainability Studies course, which will be taught during fall and spring semesters for an estimated enrollment of 100 students.
APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair

2. Department Chair

3. College/School PCC Chair
   Christopher H. Foreman
   Date: 3 Nov 2011

4. Dean
   Donald F. Keeril
   Date: 3 Nov 2011

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)

6. Chair, Senate PCC
   David Galloos
   Date: 12/13/11

7. University Senate Chair (if required)

8. Senior Vice President and Provost
   Elspeth Ferris
   Date: 12/14/2011
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

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• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School: AGNR-Dean

Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01202500
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hvpprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program: Environmental Science and Policy
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 1250104

Type of Action (choose one):

☐ Curriculum change (including informal specializations) ☐ New academic degree/award program
☐ Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Professional Studies award iteration
☐ Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration ☐ New Minor
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APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair
   [Signature]

2. Department Chair
   [Signature]

3. College/School PCC Chair
   [Signature]

4. Dean
   [Signature]
   11.3.11

5. Chair, Senate PCC

6. University Senate Chair (if required)

7. Senior Vice President and Provost

Sustainability Studies

Proposal for an Undergraduate Minor

University of Maryland, College Park

Contacts:

Dr. Bruce R. James
Professor and Director
Environmental Science and Policy Program
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

0220 Symons Hall
5-8573
brjames@umd.edu

and

Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director, Undergraduate Programs
School of Public Policy

1126 Taliaferro Building
5-0390
nharris@umd.edu

Sponsoring Units:

Environmental Science and Policy Program
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Maryland School of Public Policy

November 22, 2011
The Concept of Sustainability for Human Societies, Economies, and Their Supporting Natural Resources: Rationale for a Minor in Sustainability Studies for Undergraduates at the University of Maryland, College Park

Through a balance of conservation and preservation, humans forge modern complex societies while using ecosystem services and natural resources. In so doing, they affect the potential for future human cultures to meet their basic needs and for ecological systems to maintain their characteristic material cycles and energy flows. The concept of sustainability embodies these ideas and has become a central tenet of environmental science, policy, economics, and ethics in recent years; and it has evolved to have intellectual underpinnings in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities at the university level. It is an emerging and dynamic field that is trans-disciplinary and will refine our thinking, knowledge, and actions related to environmental responsibility, economic health, cultural vitality, and social equity.

In 1987, the World Commission on Environment and Development published Our Common Future, also known as the Brundtland Report (after its chair, Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway). Sustainable development is defined in this seminal report in this way:

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Questions and concerns about sustainability and future generations have been linked to many human activities in the biosphere, e.g., agriculture, forestry, urban development, energy use, and water management. In a minor on sustainability, students will have the opportunity to incorporate new thinking and learning related to this broad topic into their university education, practical experience, and intellectual growth. Course work and experiential learning opportunities will be the base of the minor, and there will be many opportunities for student input as they select courses, find internships, conduct research, and frame an individual minor program relevant to their major and to their post-graduate aspirations, careers, and study.

Commitment of the University of Maryland to a Campus Culture of Sustainability

The University of Maryland has made an enduring commitment to sustainability. The University is a signatory to the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment. Our Climate Action Plan presents a goal of carbon neutrality by 2050. The University Sustainability Council provides leadership in campus initiatives on sustainability issues. Expanding research and education initiatives on sustainability is an important part of this mission; and faculty, students, and staff have promoted these activities. Our students expressed a strong interest that the University impose an annual student sustainability fee, which is now being collected. It finances initiatives recommended by a student review committee. A minor in Sustainability Studies would be a valuable addition to our educational offerings and would attract a significant number of students, perhaps 100 per year.
In addition to the commitment of the administration, faculty, staff, and students at the University, our location in the National Capital region provides opportunities related to sustainability unmatched by other large research and teaching universities. This is especially true when considering the breadth, depth, and diversity of the academic disciplines and staff efforts related to sustainability at the University of Maryland. For example, the Office of Sustainability has initiated the Chesapeake Project to infuse the undergraduate experience with learning and thinking surrounding sustainability at many levels, from individual courses to program curricula, campus life, regional issues, and global concerns. Numerous government agencies at the federal and state levels are or will be considering sustainability a key dimension of their research and policy-making (e.g., USDA, EPA, and DOE at the federal level; and DNR, MDA, and MDE in Maryland). For example, the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences has just published (Sept., 2011) Sustainability and the U.S. EPA. This book lays out a framework for EPA to re-orient its rationale for environmental regulation from human health and risk assessment to sustainability. This represents a major shift in this important agency, and a symposium is taking place in September to find ways for other federal agencies to make a similar shift to sustainability. The new Sustainability Studies minor can be a part of this initiative in Washington, and it surely will afford opportunities for internships for our undergraduates.

The University of Maryland has been an engaged and successful competitor in the biannual, international Solar Decathlon, plus other student-centered conferences and initiatives (e.g., PowerShift). The Sustainability Studies minor could foster similar activities and competitions in the National Capital region, and beyond. Our undergraduates will take advantage of such opportunities from the local to the international level.

Framework and Rationale for a Minor in Sustainability Studies

The Sustainability Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to learn how human relationships with natural resources and diverse environments can be understood and used to address creatively and positively myriad global challenges that will affect future human populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations. The stability of the natural systems and environment, economic progress, and promoting social justice are all important sustainability goals. Promoting these goals involves choices among competing ends. New ideas from ecology and the study of complex natural and human systems have shown the key roles played by the concept of resilience in response to perturbations as core supporting ideas underlying our environmental ethics. In addition, these disciplines have identified the importance of adaptive management and social learning as keys to making decisions and taking actions in light of concerns surrounding human-nature relationships today and in the future. A perspective and new thinking on this has come from Bryan Norton, an environmental ethicist, and was published in Sustainability: A Philosophy of Adaptive Ecosystem Management in 2005.
Characteristics of the Curriculum

The curriculum of the Sustainability Studies Minor will be:

- Trans-disciplinary; incorporating on- and off-campus learning opportunities in the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities
- Flexible; serving students with a wide range of interests and majors, with flexibility in course selection
- Practical; exposing students to real-world sustainability challenges, and how they can be addressed.

Requirements

Fifteen credits (5 courses) including at least three courses at the 300-400 level, and distributed as follows:

Introduction to Sustainability (AGNR/PUAF 300, 3 credits, offered spring and fall)

This course anchors the University’s Sustainability Minor which is designed for students whose academic majors would be enhanced by the complementary study of a widely shared but hard-to-operationalize aspiration: that present choices should preserve or improve future options rather than foreclose or degrade them.

This aspiration — sustainability — is at once enigmatic and personal, practical and political. It is asserted to be, if not accepted as, a goal of programs and policies ranging vastly in purpose, method, and scope, from subsistence agriculture, community development, and household efficiency to habitat maintenance, biodiversity conservation, industrial ecology, and global energy transition. How should we understand sustainability? How might we achieve it? How would we know if we had achieved it? And how could sustainability activists of a rising generation lead by example?

This course will introduce students to the normative concepts and new thinking surrounding sustainability; using readings, lectures, writing exercises, and small group exercises that address how environmental responsibility, economic health, social equity, and cultural vitality are defined and considered in the sustainability context. The roles of resilience and adaptive management will be examined as key pragmatic dimensions of sustainability and as challenging concepts shaping our environmental ethics today. Guest speakers from the Washington region with research and policy expertise will discuss current policy issues.
Supporting Courses (12 credits)

Four supporting courses must include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study:

Science and Technology
Policy and Institutions
Social and Human Dimensions

One experiential learning course may be included.

Examples of current course offerings at the University from these areas are listed at the end of the proposal. These courses will compose an approved, but dynamic, list of courses in each area. The lists will be updated regularly by a Sustainability Faculty Advisory Committee that will comprise UM faculty members who have completed the Chesapeake Project and are engaged in building sustainability themes into their courses. Other faculty also will be welcome to join this advisory committee. The supporting course lists will change as sustainability challenges of current interest, scholarship in the field, and pedagogy in relevant courses evolve over time. A major task for the Sustainability Studies minor faculty advisory committee will be to keep the course lists up-to-date, including encouraging the development of new courses. The minor may stimulate the development and teaching of new courses specifically for the students completing the program.

The Experiential Learning Option

Students will be encouraged to engage in experiential learning for one of their courses in the supporting course requirements. This experience could include a relevant internship, study abroad, a service learning experience, or an experience addressing a current sustainability problem or initiative. Initially, the program will focus on providing interested students with assistance in identifying internships, including projects with local organizations and agencies. The Office of Sustainability will contribute valuable support by helping students make connections with the many projects and activities in the area in which they can participate and receive course credit. This could include projects developed and supported through the Student Sustainability Fund, the University Sustainability Council, or the Office of Sustainability.
Learning Outcome Goals for the Sustainability Studies Minor

Learning Outcome 1:
- Sustainability Studies students will be able to demonstrate intellectual competence in understanding sustainability and its trans-disciplinary pillars of inquiry related to environment, economics, and culture.

Learning Outcome 2:
- Sustainability Studies students will understand the environmental ethics concepts of caring for future generations and how these concepts arise in public policy debate and decision-making.

Learning Outcome 3:
- Sustainability Studies students will be able to use the tools and concepts related to resilience, adaptive management, and social learning to address emerging issues related to sustainability and sustainable development.

Learning Outcome 4:
- Sustainability Studies students will demonstrate how sustainability concepts will complement their post-graduate studies and professional work.

The assessment of these learning outcomes will be in the form of an optional, individual portfolio from each student. This portfolio will include a reflection paper related to his or her experiences in the minor, an example of the student’s best writing from a course or experiential learning option, and a resume.

Administration of the Sustainability Studies Minor

The Director of the Environmental Science and Policy Program (ENSP, the major supported by AGNR, BSOS, and CMNS), Dr. Bruce James, and Dr. Robert Sprinkle of the Maryland School of Public Policy will serve as the administrative co-directors of the Sustainability Studies minor. The distribution of duties and responsibilities will be divided between MSPP and ENSP/AGNR, per the attached sheet. Between the two units, they will advise students in the minor, arrange for the teaching of the gateway course, and keep the three lists of restricted electives current and relevant. They will also develop on- and off-campus experiential learning opportunities for the students in the minor. An annual seminar series also will be developed.

At the present time, the Director of ENSP is also the supervisor of the Director of the College Park Scholars Program in Environment, Technology, and Economy (the living-learning program). Having the multi-college, interdisciplinary environmental major; the living-learning program; and this new minor in the same administrative unit will be efficient in the use of scarce monetary resources. It will also provide “one-stop-shopping” for students interested in studying
the environment and sustainability without encountering confusing overlap and competition among programs in these fields, as often happens to “environment” programs on college campuses. The ENSP program has developed an administrative structure for working effectively with its supporting colleges and departments, and it now has more than 350 students. The model developed for and by ENSP can be effective for the new Sustainability Studies minor.

The faculty of the Maryland School of Public Policy boasts scholars of economics, political science, international relations, physics, law, philosophy, engineering, management, and medicine. Yet, reflecting its multi-disciplinary heritage and mandate, the School is organized together, not by discipline, but by policy areas. Economists, political scientists, and physicists, among others, come together in “program areas” and research centers to jointly study and seek ways to address particular social problems, international development, international security, and, most relevant to this proposal, environmental problems. These are exactly the approaches students will need to gain a nuanced understanding of sustainability and ways of achieving it.

A Ph.D. graduate student knowledgeable in one or more of the supporting fields of sustainability will be hired on a 9-month Graduate Administrative Assistantship to advise the students in the minor each semester and to select courses from the supporting areas. This individual would be pivotal in shaping the educational experience of each student so that it is coordinated with the student’s major and prepares him or her to be able to link the study of sustainability with other interests and abilities. This individual would require a small office for advising, and it should be near Rm. 0220 Symons Hall, the offices of ENSP.

A full-time (20 hours/week) Graduate Teaching Assistant would be hired to assist with AGNR/PUAF 300 each semester. This important course will enroll 75-100 students. The learning and teaching in the discussion sections will be an essential complement to the lectures of the course, and they will be based on innovative case studies, small group work, and quantitative lessons.

A Program Management Specialist, or comparable staff position, will manage the minor on a daily basis, dedicating approximately 30% of his or her time to communicating with the students in the minor, faculty associated with the program, administrators in different colleges and departments, and off-campus individuals and institutions with which the minor program has working relationships. The person in this position will be the same individual supporting the Director of ENSP on a 70% time commitment for the ENSP program (currently vacant).

Dr. Nina Harris, Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs, and other programming staff members in the MSPP will develop and run the experiential learning activities components and public events for the minor. This includes assisting students in locating relevant internship opportunities and maintaining experiential learning opportunity records such as learning contracts, evaluations, course registration, and final papers.
Benefits to the University of Maryland/Global Community and Unique Qualities of a Sustainability Minor at UMCP

University Benefits

● Attract strong undergraduate students to the campus, if mentioned in recruitment materials and campus tours. It could be particularly effective in attracting international students to our campus near Washington, DC.

● Improve the campus social environment, cross-disciplinary communication, and cross-cultural understanding.

● Provide more trained and engaged students to lead sustainability initiatives on campus, attract positive media attention to the University, help reduce campus emissions and energy costs, and engage in state, regional, national, and international communities.

Benefits to Maryland/Global Community

● Add to the local and global workforce a cadre of students who are educated and experienced in sustainability, and ready to lead in such sectors as alternative energy technology, community development, and education. A recent article published online by the Carey School of Business at Arizona State University (June 15, 2011) found that 65 percent of small-company respondents, 87 percent of large-firm respondents, and a whopping 97.5 percent of large-firm executives, in particular, would consider a sustainability concentration when making a hiring decision.

● Connect alumni from different disciplines to work effectively together to address key environmental issues.

Unique Qualities of a Sustainable Studies minor at UMCP

● The large variety of academic disciplinary approaches available to students studying sustainability.

● The extensive faculty expertise on sustainability drawn to the campus by its proximity to D.C.

● The extensive and rapidly growing array of sustainability initiatives on our campus providing students with research and experiential education opportunities.

● The abundance of internship opportunities related to sustainability in the D.C. area.

● A balance of intellectual insight and advocacy orientations on campus versus the more singularly advocacy and normative approaches of many other university programs.
Selected Examples of Possible Courses in the Three Supporting Areas of Study

Note: There are many other UM courses (existing and to-be-developed) that will go onto a final list; these are provided principally for the proposal review process. The course lists will be reviewed and updated annually by a Faculty Advisory Committee, and students will have the opportunity to propose other courses not currently listed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science and Technology:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AOSC 123 Causes and Implications of Global Change</td>
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<td>AOSC401 Climate Dynamics and Earth System Science</td>
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<td>AOSC 434 Air Pollution</td>
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<td>AOSC 446 Earth, Life and Sustainability</td>
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<td>BSCI 124 Plant Biology for non-Science Majors</td>
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<td>BSCI 361 Principles of Ecology</td>
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<td>BSCI 363 Conservation Biology</td>
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<td>BSCI 462 Population Biology</td>
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<td>CHEM 403 Radiochemistry</td>
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<td>ENSP 101 Introduction to Environmental Science</td>
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<td>ENST 440 Crops, Soils, and Civilization</td>
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<td>ENST 436 Emerging Environmental Threats</td>
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<td>INAG 123 Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture</td>
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<td>PLSC 226 Plant Diversity</td>
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<td>PLSC 425 Green Roofs and Urban Sustainability</td>
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<td>PLSC 481 Vegetation Assessment and Analysis</td>
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<th>Policy and Institutions:</th>
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<tr>
<td>AOSC 200 Weather and Climate</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMGT 289A Social Enterprise: Changing the World through Innovation &amp; Transformative Action</td>
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<tr>
<td>BMGT 496 Business Ethics and Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENSP 330 Introduction to Environmental Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENSP 340 Special Topics: Science, Ethics and law of Water</td>
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<th>Social and Human Dimensions:</th>
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<tr>
<td>ARCH 461 Sustainability in Architecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 398V Writing About the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 140 Coastal Environments</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 202 Introduction to Human Geography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEOG 330 As the World Turns: Society and Sustainability in a Time of Great Change</td>
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<td>Course Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEOG 332</td>
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<td>GEOG 373</td>
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<td>GEOG 415</td>
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<td>GEOG 431</td>
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<td>HIST 289B</td>
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<td>LARC 451</td>
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<td>PHIL 261</td>
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<td>SPHL 400</td>
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<td>URSP250</td>
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<td>AMST 418</td>
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### Budget: Sustainability Minor

#### Oct. 24, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PERSONNEL</th>
<th>AGNR</th>
<th>PUAF</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Administrative stipend to B. James</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic advisor (Grad. Admin. Asst.)</td>
<td>$18,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.5 FTE, 9-month, 20-hr/wk position supervised by B. James</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad. Teaching Asst.</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>$18,000*</td>
<td>One, 0.5 FTE, 9-month TA shared by PUAF &amp; ENSP instructors of course. *Salary for 9.5 mo. TA in ENSP is $17-20 K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grad. Research Asst.</td>
<td>$22,000*</td>
<td>$14,000**</td>
<td>*One GRA for B. James's research program (0.5 FTE, 12 month, 20-hr/wk position) **PUAF-Two 9-month, First Year GA's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prog. Mngt. Specialist</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>30% of $40,000 1.0 FTE salary (estimate depending on the classification of the position) in ENSP. Supervised by B. James; record keeping and web page for minor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experiential Learning Coordinator</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
<td>Nina Harris of PUAF (develop and manage experiential education opportunities; public events planning); program accountability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>$10,000*</td>
<td>$18,919**</td>
<td>*PUAF/ENSP 300 (2 semesters/year); shared teaching by PUAF and ENSP staff each semester -- overload pay for faculty members from ENSP **20% of Rob Sprinkle's FTE</td>
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#### OPERATING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGNR</th>
<th>PUAF</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tr>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$4,000**</td>
<td>**Experiential Learning support and activities</td>
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**TOTAL BUDGET**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGNR</th>
<th>PUAF</th>
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<tr>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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**TOTAL BUDGET FOR MINOR**

- AGNR Contribution: $25,000
- PUAF Contribution: $36,919
- PROVOST Contribution: $90,000
Dear All,

We are very supportive of the addition of the Sustainability Minor. After consultation with ENST undergraduate advisors and the Director, we are supportive of the addition of ENST 440 and ENST 436 to the Minor. However, we can not support additional students in ENST 305. It is a specialty course currently oversubscribed and is being taught by an Assistant Professor in her last few years prior to her application for tenure and promotion. We can’t ask her to take on an additional section at this point in her career. It may be available to be added to the minor in a few years, after she has received tenure. Thank you for understanding.

Bill

Dr. William W. Bowerman
Professor and Chair
Department of Environmental Science & Technology
1109 H J Patterson Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742-5825

301.405.1306 (O) 301.314.2763 (F)
Email: wbowerma@umd.edu

http://www.enst.umd.edu

From: "Leon H. Slaughter" <lslaugh@umd.edu>
Date: Sun, 23 Oct 2011 09:01:15 -0400
To: Liangli Yu <lyu5@umd.edu>, "Lars J. Olson" <ljolson@umd.edu>, "Bruce R. James" <brjames@umd.edu>, "Dr. William W. Bowerman" <wbowerma@umd.edu>, "William J. Kenworthy" <wkenwort@umd.edu>
Cc: Cheng-I Wei <wei@umd.edu>, "Leon H. Slaughter" <lslaugh@umd.edu>, "Loretta P. Carstens" <lcarsten@umd.edu>
Subject: FW: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Dear All,

Below is a list of supporting courses for the proposed Sustainability Studies Minor. Dean Wei fully supports the proposal. Please let me know if your program/course will be able to handle the additional seats required for student minors?

Please reply to this email before November 1.

Thank you.

Leon
Leon Slaughter, Associate Dean
Agriculture & Natural Resources

Dear Leon:

As you know, The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:

- AREC200 The Chesapeake Bay Eco-System: Intersection of Science, Economics & Policy
- AREC240 Introduction to Economics and the Environment
- AREC365 World Hunger, Population, and Food Supplies
- AREC433 Food and Agricultural Policy
- ENSP101 Introduction to Environmental Science
- ENSP330 Introduction to Environmental Law
- ENSP340 Special Topics: Science, Ethics and law of Water
- ENST305 Alternative Energy
- ENST440 Crops, Soils, and Civilization
- ENST436 Emerging Environmental Threats
- LARC451 Sustainable Communities
- NFSC470 Community Nutrition
- PLSC303 International Crop Production
- PLSC425 Green Roofs and Urban Sustainability

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The proposed curriculum of the Sustainability Studies Minor will be:

- Trans-disciplinary; incorporating on- and off-campus learning opportunities in the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities
- Flexible; serving students with a wide range of interests and majors, with flexibility in course selection
- Practical; exposing students to real-world sustainability challenges, and how they can be addressed.

To successfully complete the Minor, students will be required to take fifteen credits (5 courses)
including at least three courses at the 300-400 level, and distributed as follows:

- Introduction to Sustainability (AGNR/PUAF 300, 3 credits, offered spring and fall); and
- Four supporting courses to include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study: Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, Social and Human Dimensions

A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax. 301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu
Bruce:

INAG 110: Oral Communication has been approved as a Gen Ed course, and an AREC student is taking INAG 123 this semester. Most of the INAG courses are considered lower level electives. Leon and I met with Associate Registrar Jackie Vander Velden in March and IAA courses are to be considered as resident credit.

Given the increased student interest in community gardens and locally-grown products, I think the intro to sustainable agriculture course will be a popular and beneficial course to add to the list of science and technology courses.

Thanks,
Glori

On 10/27/2011 8:01 AM, Bruce R. James wrote:

Hi Glori,

Can INAG courses be taken by UMCP undergraduates in one of our minors? I am not familiar with how INAG courses articulate with four-year programs.

Thanks,
Bruce

Bruce:

Great job pulling this together. Would it be possible to add INAG 123: Introduction to Sustainable Agriculture to the list of courses? I attached a copy of the syllabus.

Let me know if you need additional information.

Thanks,
Glori
On 10/19/2011 2:34 PM, Bruce R. James wrote:

Dear all,

Here is the Sustainability Studies minor proposal. It will be reviewed by the AGNR PCC in Nov., and the Senate PCC in Dec.

Thanks,
Bruce

=Glori Hyman
Director
Institute of Applied Agriculture
University of Maryland, College Park
http://iaa.umd.edu
301-405-4685

=Glori Hyman
Director
Institute of Applied Agriculture
University of Maryland, College Park
http://iaa.umd.edu
301-405-4685
Here is the syllabus for your information. It is good to know that you are considering the attached course as one of your proposed minors in Sustainability Studies. Thanks

On 11/21/2011 10:44 AM, Nina P. Harris wrote:

Dear Professor Haider--
Please see my email below to Dean Farmer. If you are interested, please confirm your willingness to allow us to list SPHL 400 among the supporting courses for the proposed minor in Sustainability Studies.
Thank you.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph.301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu

Colleen Farmer, Assistant Dean
School of Public Health
Dear Coke:

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following course among the list of supporting courses:

• SPHL400 Introduction to Global Health
The Sustainability Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to learn how human relationships with natural resources and diverse environments can be understood and used to address creatively and positively myriad global challenges that will affect future human populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations.

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- Four supporting courses to include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study: Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, Social and Human Dimensions

A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax. 301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu
Dr. Harris:

It is OK to include the two classes listed below as potential sustainability minor electives.

Carl

Bovill@umd.edu

From: Nina P. Harris
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2011 4:28 PM
To: Carl H. Bovill
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Carl Bovill, Associate Professor
School of Architecture, Planning, & Preservation

Dear Carl:

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:

- ARCH461 Sustainability in Architecture
- URSP250 The Sustainable City: Exploring Opportunities and Challenges

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The proposed curriculum of the Sustainability Studies Minor will be:

- Trans-disciplinary; incorporating on- and off-campus learning opportunities in the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities
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To successfully complete the Minor, students will be required to take fifteen credits (5 courses) including at least three courses at the 300-400 level, and distributed as follows:
Introduction to Sustainability (AGNR/PUAF 300, 3 credits, offered spring and fall); and

Four supporting courses to include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study:
Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, Social and Human Dimensions

A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph.301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Colleagues, as you can read below in this message, or in more detail in the attached overview, the campus has established a new undergraduate minor in sustainability studies. The program’s sponsors are now trying to list relevant course work to the themes outlined to be encompassed by the minor’s broad potential reach.

Please review the list of courses below for your unit, and respond to Dr. Harris (cc me) to address the following:

- If the course is not regularly offered, please indicate to remove it from the list.

- If there are appropriate/relevant courses in your curriculum to ADD to the list, please do so.

I encourage you not to worry too much if a course is already full/under enrollment pressure. I raised this issue when this minor program was under development. In addition to broadening students education through a new foundational course and other courses, students will be allowed to double count up to six credits of overlap with their major course requirements. What this might mean is that students already seated in our courses will broaden their education through other course not on this list (but, perhaps, as general education offerings, for example) to thread together their path to satisfying the minor. The minor program will NOT list all the required prerequisites, but students will be required to fulfill the prerequisites in order to take the courses.

Thanks for your help.
Bob

Robert L. Infantino, Ph.D.
Associate Dean
College of Computer, Mathematical, and Natural Sciences
2300 Symons Hall
University of Maryland College Park, MD 20742-5511
Phone: (301) 405-2908 FAX: (301) 314-9949
email: rinfant@umd.edu
http://biology.umd.edu/faculty/robertinfantino

From: "Nina P. Harris" <nharris@umd.edu>
Date: October 21, 2011 4:36:43 PM EDT
To: "Lisa D. Bradley-Klemko" <lbradley@umd.edu>
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:
The Sustainability Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to learn how human relationships with natural resources and diverse environments can be understood and used to address creatively and positively myriad global challenges that will affect future human populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations.

The proposed curriculum of the Sustainability Studies Minor will be:

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  - Four supporting courses to include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study: Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, Social and Human Dimensions

A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.
Dear Nina,

I forgot to ADD some courses that would be relevant to the minor:

- **BSCI215** - Global Sustainability: A Biologist's Perspective. Offered Fall semesters
- **BSCI361** - Principles of Ecology. Offered every semester
- **BSCI363** - Conservation Biology. Offered spring term only
- **BSCI462** - Population Biology. Offered spring term only.

BSCI215 and 361 also have summer and/or winter term offerings.

Jeff

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jeffrey S. Jensen" <jensen@umd.edu>
Date: October 30, 2011 10:46:21 AM EDT
To: "Nina P. Harris" <nharris@umd.edu>, "Jeffrey S. Jensen" <jensen@umd.edu>, "Robert L. Infantino" <rinfanti@umd.edu>
Subject: Re: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Dear Nina,

Here’s the status of the Sustainability Minor relevant courses overseen by the biology department.

- **BSCI373** Natural History of the Chesapeake Bay: NOTE - this is no longer scheduled by Biology. The sponsoring department is ENST.
- **BSCI460** Plant Ecology - This is currently a Biology Dept. course, but the faculty member involved has recently moved to PSLA - they will be in charge of the course beginning Fall12. Recent offerings of this course have been every other Fall, and it is currently being offered. If the same rotation continues it would next be offered Fall13.

Jeff

Dr. Jeffrey S. Jensen
Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Biology
Biology/Psychology Building
Dr. Jeffrey S. Jensen  
Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Department of Biology  
Biology/Psychology Building  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742  

email: jensen@umd.edu  
phone: 301-405-5912
Subject: FW: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies
Date: Thursday, October 27, 2011 6:58:24 PM ET
From: Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux
To: Nina P. Harris

Dear Nina,

AMST, HIST and PHIL are all glad to have their courses listed in the new Sustainability minor (and I should say that we are very pleased to see this minor being offered). The English Department has some hesitations because of resources. Please see the email below from Bill Cohen, Associate Chair of English. Feel free to contact Bill directly.

All best,
Beth

Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux
Associate Dean
Professor of English
College of Arts and Humanities
1102 Francis Scott Key Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
phone: 301-405-5646
fax: 301-314-9148

From: William A. Cohen [wcohen@umd.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2011 4:41 PM
To: Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux
Cc: Kent Cartwright
Subject: Fwd: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Dear Beth,

Kent asked me to write back to you about this. The one ENGL course included, Writing About the Environment, is listed as ENGL393V, although it is actually 398V. This is a Professional Writing course, of which we have usually offered three sections per semester in recent years.

In principle, English would like to contribute to this new minor, but given the current pressures on PWP, I don’t think we can offer any additional or specially dedicated sections of this course unless they are supported by the campus. Advisors for the minor are welcome to recommend this particular section of PWP as the one that students should take to fulfill their University writing requirement, though there is no way to guarantee that students will get into a specific class.

I have spoken to Professor Scott Wible, the Director of PWP, about it, and he expressed a willingness to discuss aspects of scheduling the course that might be of greater benefit to their students. And if, as the minor grows, they want to support adding additional sections, we are also open to that discussion.

Best wishes,
Bill

From: Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux <ebl@umd.edu>
Dear Nancy, Kent, Richard and Chris,

Would you please take a look below and let me know if you're willing to have these courses listed for the new Minor in Sustainability Studies that AGNR is proposing. I'd love to have ARHU visible in such an effort, but not if it causes difficulty for you.

Thanks,

Beth

-------- Original Message --------
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies
Date: Fri, 21 Oct 2011 16:30:42 -0400
From: Nina P. Harris <nharris@umd.edu>
To: Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux <ebl@umd.edu>

Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux, Associate Dean**

College of Arts & Humanities

Dear Elizabeth:**

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:

• AMST418 Cultural Themes in America: American Suburbia
• ENGL393V Writing About the Environment
• HIST205 Environmental History
• HIST289B Carbon: Element at the Center of History
• PHIL261 Philosophy of the Environment

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populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations.

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A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu

--
Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux
Associate Dean
Professor of English
College of Arts and Humanities
1102 Francis Scott Key Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Phone: 301-405-5646
Fax: 301-314-9148
--
William A. Cohen
Subject: Re: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Date: Thursday, October 27, 2011 11:11:10 AM ET

From: bhorick-contact
To: Nina P. Harris

Nina,

We approve listing BMGT289A as a supporting course for your proposed minor. However, we wanted to make sure that you were aware that there is no guarantee that we will continue to deliver this course after the instructor has met the I-series obligation of offering the course for three semesters.

Thanks,
Brian Horick

Brian Horick
Assistant Dean
Undergraduate Studies Office
Robert H. Smith School of Business
1570V Van Munching Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-1815
301-405-2293 TEL
301-314-1990 FAX
bhorick@rhsmith.umd.edu
http://www.rhsmith.umd.edu

---

"Nina P. Harris" ---10/21/2011 04:39:18 PM---Brian Horick, Assistant Dean The Robert H. Smith School of Business

From: "Nina P. Harris" <nharris@umd.edu>
To: bhorick-contact <bhorick@rhsmith.umd.edu>
Date: 10/21/2011 04:39 PM
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Brian Horick, Assistant Dean

The Robert H. Smith School of Business

Dear Brian:

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following course among the list of supporting courses:

- BMGT289A Social Enterprise: Changing the World through Innovation & Transformative Action

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A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax. 301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu
[attachment "FinalSusMinorProp 10-18-2011.doc" deleted by Brian Horick/Bmgt]
Subject: Re: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies
Date: Friday, November 18, 2011 9:25:06 AM ET
From: David C. Straney
To: Nina P. Harris

Nina,

I can approve the BSCI124 inclusion for the minor. However, BSCI373 and BSCI460 are administratively handled by the Department of Biology. You would want to contact Dr. Jensen at jensen@umd.edu. He would know the future of both courses as well.

-Dave Straney

David Straney Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Director of Undergraduate Programs
Department of Cell Biology & Molecular Genetics
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
Ph:301 405-1622
FAX:301 314-9082

On 11/17/2011 6:20 PM, Nina P. Harris wrote:

Dear All:

PLSC 303 has been removed. The proposal attached contained the original list. I'm now seeking approval/feedback on the following:

- BSCI124 Plant Biology for non-Science Majors
- BSCI373 Natural History of the Chesapeake Bay
- BSCI460 Plant Ecology

Thank you again for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph.301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu

From: "William J. Kenworthy" <wkenwort@umd.edu>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 2011 17:40:45 -0500
To: Microsoft Office User <nharris@umd.edu>, William W Bowerman <wbowerma@umd.edu>, "David C. Straney" <straney@umd.edu>
Cc: "Islaugh@umd.edu" <Islaugh@umd.edu>
Subject: RE: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Hello Nina,

We had requested that PLSC 303- International Crop Production, be dropped from the list in the proposal as we are not currently offering this course.
Thank you,
Bill Kenworthy, Professor and Chair, Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

From: Nina P. Harris
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 9:53 AM
To: William W Bowerman; William J. Kenworthy; David C. Straney
Subject: FW: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Dear Faculty-

Please see the email below and the attached proposal. Leon Slaughter may have already reached out to you all but I wanted to follow up to confirm your willingness to allow your course to be listed as a supporting course for the proposed minor in Sustainability Studies. Although housed in CMNS, I was re-directed to you because your faculty are actually teaching the courses listed below. I look forward to hearing back from you soon as we are taking the proposal to the Senate PCC on December 2nd.

Thank you.

- BSCI124 Plant Biology for non-Science Majors
- BSCI373 Natural History of the Chesapeake Bay
- BSCI460 Plant Ecology

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax. 301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu

From: "Nina P. Harris" <nharris@umd.edu>
Date: October 21, 2011 4:36:43 PM EDT
To: "Lisa D. Bradley-Klemko" <lbradley@umd.edu>
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:

- AOSC123 Causes and Implications of Global Change
- AOSC200 Weather and Climate
- AOSC375 Introduction to the Blue Ocean
- AOSC434 Air Pollution
- BSCI124 Plant Biology for non-Science Majors
The Sustainability Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to learn how human relationships with natural resources and diverse environments can be understood and used to address creatively and positively myriad global challenges that will affect future human populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations.

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A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph. 301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu
Hi Brian,

Thanks for this insight and background on your course. I will cc Nina Harris, and ask her to put it on the list. I was pleased to see you again, and learn of your continuing interest in bringing sustainability to our students.

Bruce

Brian Nelson
Tyser Teaching Fellow
Department of Logistics, Business and Public Policy
Robert H. Smith School of Business
3422 Van Munching Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-1815
(301) 405-2196 TEL
bnelson@rhsmith.umd.edu
Hi Maile,

It was good to see you at the Chesapeake Project luncheon today, and I will forward these courses to Nina Harris. Thanks for your support and compliments on the minor. I believe that it will thrive due to student and faculty passion for this topic.

Nina, would you like to meet on Friday to discuss the lists of courses we need to submit to Mike? I could also meet Monday before 10 and from 1-3. We might also be able to do our review by email...I am flexible.

Thanks,
Bruce

-----Original Message-----
From: Maile C Neel
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2011 4:40 PM
To: Bruce R. James
Subject: Sustainability minor course suggestions

Hi Bruce -

I think PSLA already sent a list of courses that would be appropriate for the minor. I wanted to ensure that mine were included because there are a fair number of people here who do not think of my courses.

PLSC 226 (will become 426 in spring 2013) Plant Diversity. In this course I cover identification and relationships of plant families, genera, and species that are important in Mid-Atlantic. I teach it with a strong foundation in systematics and taxonomy while applying the knowledge to field identification. We also cover plant biogeography and a bit of Maryland vegetation.

PLSC481 Vegetation Assessment and Analysis. Joe Sullivan and I team teach this course. We have the students collect vegetation data in 'natural' forest stands (sampling plots on the hillock) and in the built environment (this year we added 219 plants to the campus tree inventory GIS coverage). Then we teach them to analyze the data to describe the diversity and structure quantitatively. They are required to write the results up in formal scientific reports and oral presentations. Both components of the course deal with sustainability issues, but I am particularly proud of the links we forged with the arboretum. We are having them think about sustainability goals for campus landscaping (including goals stated already by campus) and then they are analyzing the data on tree abundance, diversity, and structure to see how close or far we are from meeting the goals they identify. The students have gotten to work with the facilities people, learn the field techniques used by professionals, and contribute data to the inventory. They tell
us it is their first time collecting their own data, analyzing it and interpreting and communicating the results. This is our first time through the course and next year we will be even more effective at making the sampling efforts tie back into 'authentic' contributions to campus sustainability.

Both of these courses would be on the 'sciencey' end of the spectrum rather than being interdisciplinary themselves. The vegetation course appears to be a bit statistics heavy for the students although I think of it as being light to moderate. However, science competency still is necessary in an interdisciplinary world so I hope there is a place for these courses as options in the minor.

Thanks for all the creative thought and work you have put into developing the minor. It is really exciting to see what you have pulled together.

Maile

---

Maile Neel
Associate Professor
Director, Norton-Brown Herbarium
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
Department of Entomology
2116 Plant Sciences Building
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742
USA

Office Phone (301) 405-9780
Cellular Phone (301) 395-0403
Fax: (301) 314-9308
email: mneel@umd.edu

Lab Website: http://alyxia.umd.edu
Subject: Re: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2011 9:49:22 AM ET

From: Michael P Montague-Smith
To: Nina P. Harris

Listing CHEM 403 as a possible elective shouldn't be a problem.

Michael P. Montague-Smith, Ph.D.
Senior Lecturer
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
2102 Chemistry Building (091)
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-2021

Voice: 301 405 1791
FAX: 301 314 9121

On Nov 17, 2011, at 9:21 AM, Nina P. Harris wrote:

Dear Faculty-

I'm writing as a follow-up to Bob's email below. Please let me know if you are willing to allow your courses to be listed as a supporting course for the proposed Minor in Sustainability Studies.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Regards,

Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph.301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu

From: "Robert L. Infantino" <rinfanti@umd.edu>
Date: Thu, 27 Oct 2011 12:46:42 -0400
To: "Bretton W. Kent" <bkent@umd.edu>, "David C. Straney" <straney@umd.edu>, "Jeffrey S. Jensen" <jensen@umd.edu>, Ning Zeng <zeng@umd.edu>, "Jeffrey W. Stehr" <stehr@umd.edu>, "John W. Jr. Merck" <jmerck@umd.edu>, Michael P Montague-Smith <mpms@umd.edu>, "Richard F. Ellis" <rfellis@umd.edu>
Cc: Microsoft Office User <nharris@umd.edu>
Subject: Course support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

Please reply to Dr. Nina Harris (nharris@umd.edu) with a cc to me by November 11, 2011
Colleagues, as you can read below in this message, or in more detail in the attached overview, the campus has established a new undergraduate minor in sustainability studies. The program’s sponsors are now trying to list relevant course work to the themes outlined to be encompassed by the minor’s broad potential reach.

Please review the list of courses below for your unit, and respond to Dr. Harris (cc me) to address the following:

- If the course is not regularly offered, please indicate to remove it from the list.
- If there are appropriate/relevant courses in your curriculum to ADD to the list, please do so

I encourage you not to worry too much if a course is already full/under enrollment pressure. I raised this issue when this minor program was under development. In addition to broadening students education through a new foundational course and other courses, students will be allowed to double count up to six credits of overlap with their major course requirements. What this might mean is that students already seated in our courses will broaden their education through other course not on this list (but, perhaps as general education offerings, for example) to thread together their path to satisfying the minor. The minor program will NOT list all the required prerequisites, but students will be required to fulfill the prerequisites in order to take the courses.

Thanks for your help.
Bob

Robert L. Infantino, Ph.D.
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http://biology.umd.edu/faculty/robertinfantino

From: "Nina P. Harris" <nharris@umd.edu>
Date: October 21, 2011 4:36:43 PM EDT
To: "Lisa D. Bradley-Klemko" <lbradley@umd.edu>
Subject: Support for the Minor in Sustainability Studies

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Maryland School of Public Policy have recently submitted a proposal for a Minor in Sustainability Studies.

I am writing to ask your approval to list the following courses among the list of supporting courses:

- AOSC123 Causes and Implications of Global Change
- AOSC200 Weather and Climate
The Sustainability Studies minor will provide students the opportunity to learn how human relationships with natural resources and diverse environments can be understood and used to address creativity and positively myriad global challenges that will affect future human populations and cultures. The study of sustainability examines each generation’s commitment to protect and preserve the quality of the natural environment for the benefit of succeeding generations.

The proposed curriculum of the Sustainability Studies Minor will be:

- Trans-disciplinary; incorporating on- and off-campus learning opportunities in the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities
- Flexible; serving students with a wide range of interests and majors, with flexibility in course selection
- Practical; exposing students to real-world sustainability challenges, and how they can be addressed.

To successfully complete the Minor, students will be required to take fifteen credits (5 courses) including at least three courses at the 300-400 level, and distributed as follows:

- Introduction to Sustainability (AGNR/PUAF 300, 3 credits, offered spring and fall); and
- Four supporting courses to include at least one course from each of three disciplinary areas of study: Science and Technology, Policy and Institutions, Social and Human Dimensions

A copy of the full proposal is attached for your review. A reply to this message by November 11th with your intent to support would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions. We thank you for your consideration.

Regards,
Dr. Nina P. Harris
Director of Undergraduate and Leadership Programs
School of Public Policy
1126A Taliaferro Building
Ph.301.405.0390/Fax.301.314.1406
Nharris@umd.edu
October 31, 2011

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Leon Slaughter
From: Dr. William J. Kenworthy
RE: PLSC and LARC courses in the sustainability minor

I met with Dr. Joe Sullivan and Mr. Dennis Nola, undergraduate coordinators for our PLSC and LARC programs, respectively, concerning the PLSC and LARC courses in the proposal for an undergraduate minor in Sustainability Studies. Our consensus is that two of the three courses can accommodate the additional seats required for students in the proposed minor, and one course is not currently offered and needs to be dropped from the list. Our designation for each of the three courses is listed below.

Courses in the proposal and their classification:

PLSC 303- International Crop Production. NOT CURRENTLY BEING OFFERED and needs to be dropped from the list.

PLSC 425- Green Roofs and Urban Sustainability. Yes, able to accommodate the additional students.

LARC 451- Sustainable Communities. Yes, able to accommodate the additional students.

We have other courses in our curricula which we feel are appropriate for the minor in Sustainability Studies. These courses were submitted in our original response for course consideration. We hope to have them included in the course selection in the future.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

cc: J Sullivan
    D. Nola
Hi Nina,

Did you get this?

Thanks,

Bruce

-----Original Message-----
From: Martha E. Geores  
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 2:39 PM  
Cc: kbeard-contact; Bruce R. James  
Subject: GEOG courses for Sustainability Minor

Nina,
Bruce and I have talked about GEOG inclusion in the minor. I misunderstood what was being asked for.

Please include the following courses for the Minor.

GEOG140 Natural Hazards: Earthquake, Floods and Fires

   • GEOG202 Introduction to Human Geography
   • GEOG330 As the World Turns: Society and Sustainability in a Time of Great Change.
   • GEOG332 Economic Geography
   • GEOG373 Geographic Information Systems (need a TA for additional student load)
   • GEOG415 Land Use, Climate Change, and Sustainability
   • GEOG431 Culture and Natural Resource Management

Thank you for your assistance.
Best regards,
Martha

--
Martha E. Geores  
Associate Chair and Associate Professor  
Department of Geography  
ENSP Land Use Concentration Advisor  
Affiliate Faculty American Studies and Women’s Studies  
University of Maryland  
2181F Lefrak Hall  
College Park MD 20742-8225  
Office 310.405.4064
Notes from Bruce James:

ENSP101 Introduction to Environmental Science (still waiting to hear from Leon) **This is approved, my course**

ENSP330 Introduction to Environmental Law (still waiting to hear from Leon) **This is OK, per my permission**, although restricted to ENSP majors initially

ENSP340 Special Topics: Science, Ethics and law of Water (still waiting to hear from Leon) **This is OK, per my permission**, although restricted to ENSP majors initially