

Memo to: Senate Curricular Policy Committee

From: Alex Mayer, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering & Sciences, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society

Subject: Support from Deans regarding Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Water Resources Systems

Date: October 12, 2009

CC: Jackie Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School

As requested by the Senate Curricular Policy Committee, I have asked for and received support from the Deans of the College of Engineering (COE), College of Sciences & Arts (CSA), School of Business and Economics (SBE), and School of Forest Resources & Environmental Science (SFRES) for our proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Water Resources Systems.

I have attached copies of email messages indicating approval from the following Deans and Department Chairs.

1) Tim Schulz, Dean of College of Engineering. Dean Schulz requested approval from the chairs of the two (COE) departments with faculty participating in CWS: Bill Bulleit of Civil & Environmental Engineering and John Gierke of Geological & Mining Engineering & Sciences. Emails from Chairs Bulleit and Gierke are attached.

2) Bruce Seely, CSA

3) Darrell Radson, SBE

4) Margaret Gale, SFRES

I have also attached a copy of the memo I sent to the Deans requesting their support for the certificate proposal.

Please let me know if you need any more information.

Subject: Fwd: support for new graduate certificate proposal

From: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>

Date: Wed, 30 Sep 2009 11:53:02 -0400

To: William M Bulleit <wmbullei@mtu.edu>, John Gierke <jsgierke@mtu.edu>

CC: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

John and Bill,

I suspect you are both familiar with this proposal to some degree. Can you send me a note or give me a call to let me know your willingness to support?

Bill: Let me or Alex know if you need a copy of the proposal.

John: Same for you, but I assume you have one.

Tim

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>
Date: September 30, 2009 11:40:29 AM GMT-04:00
To: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>
Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

Hi Tim-

Thanks for the support and willingness to consult with the respective department chairs.

The COE departments include

CEE - Bill Bulleit

GMES - John Gierke

Thanks,

Alex

Timothy Schulz wrote:

Alex,

As Bruce pointed out, teaching assignments within the colleges are managed by department chairs, not deans. Whereas I support the program and the introduction of this course, the commitment of faculty time needs input and approval from the respective department chairs. Can you identify the chairs who need to be consulted? (I believe I know the answer, but want to be sure I'm not overlooking something.)

Tim

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal
From: William Bulleit <wbullei@mtu.edu>
Date: Wed, 30 Sep 2009 13:09:46 -0400
To: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>
CC: John Gierke <jsgierke@mtu.edu>, Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

I support this certificate. A 1-credit colloquium will present no problems, and the small number of additional students who might enroll in CE courses can readily be handled.

Bill

William M. Bulleit, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor and Chair
Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Michigan Tech
Houghton, MI 49931-1295
ph: 906-487-2853
fax: 906-487-2943
wbullei@mtu.edu

On Sep 30, 2009, at 11:53 AM, Timothy Schulz wrote:

John and Bill,

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Bill: Let me or Alex know if you need a copy of the proposal.

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Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

Hi Tim-

Thanks for the support and willingness to consult with the respective department chairs.

The COE departments include

CEE - Bill Bulleit

GMES - John Gierke

Thanks,
Alex

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

From: John Gierke <jsgierke@mtu.edu>

Date: Wed, 30 Sep 2009 12:20:34 -0400 (EDT)

To: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>

CC: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>, William M Bulleit <wbullei@mtu.edu>, Wayne Pennington <wayne@mtu.edu>

Tim, since Wayne will re-inherit my willingness, I am cluing him into my take on this.

1) seems like much ado about nothing. We don't have a formal teaching credit load to the level of significant figures in GMES where this would end up being an important consideration in teaching assignments. Besides, this proposed course is only 1 credit and likely to be split anyways, so, ok, why not include it in the teaching credit load.

2) I witnessed this colloquium in its pilot stage and it was impressive intellectually speaking, so I think the faculty should get some sort of credit. It fills an important intellectual niche/need in the water programs.

3) Alex has a 33% commitment to GMES, which includes teaching and service, all of which are easy enough to adjust to accommodate 0.33 to a 0.5 credit load out of on average, say, 3 cr. per year for Alex to contribute to GMES. It would take 3-9 yrs to bank enough credits to satisfy this commitment, and in the end, we should probably split this with CEE, so really we are looking at 6-18 yrs for replacing one 3-cr GMES obligation.

Strictly on the merits of the class we should agree to this. The amount of credits we are considering are inconsequential on an annual basis anyways.

jsg

p.s., note to Alex: why don't you allow ge3850 for the hydrology requirement? If you just listed CE3650, GMES wouldn't feel so left out, but you list the FW hydrology? I realize that ge3850 is an allowable elective, but it seems philosophically it could also meet an equivalent of CE3650. Not a big deal, just surprised.

----- "Timothy Schulz" <schulz@mtu.edu> wrote:

John and Bill,

I suspect you are both familiar with this proposal to some degree. Can you send me a note or give me a call to let me know your willingness to support?

Bill: Let me or Alex know if you need a copy of the proposal.

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

Date: September 30, 2009 11:40:29 AM GMT-04:00

To: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

From: Bruce Seely <bseely@mtu.edu>

Date: Mon, 12 Oct 2009 15:36:59 -0400

To: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

Hi Alex --

With the same caveats that IO mentioned to you, there are no objections to the certificate from CSA chairs.

Thanks for your efforts!

Bruce

Alex Mayer wrote:

Hi Bruce-

Just checking to see if you've heard back from your chairs regarding our certificate proposal.

Thanks,

Alex

Bruce Seely wrote:

Hi Alex --

You certainly have my support for this program -- and the way that the course is being proposed sounds as if it is quite do-able. I have to add two points, however.

First -- I suspect that no department in CSA will count a faculty member's involvement in this class, mainly because of the way that it is constructed and justified in your memo, as a full-credit toward their teaching responsibilities. This might not always be the case, but since most CSA departments have a 2-2 load (6 credits/term) as the faculty load, a straight substitution for your proposed course would be unlikely. During my experience as chair in Social Sciences, this task would have always been treated as an overload -- and faculty would need to realize this up front. We simply have too few 1-credit activities that could be used to create a full load if a faculty member were to be released from a 3-credit course in order to take on the certificate class.

Second -- the real choices about faculty participation fall not on me, but on the department chairs. They are the ones who have the responsibility of juggling the different courses and faculty commitments. I will be supportive, but would need to back chairs who found faculty not accepting the point made in number 1 above. I'll need to poll chairs about this before rendering final approval.

These are the kinds of practical concerns that can be irksome in implementation -- so it is important to be aware of these matters at the outset. I do not foresee these as difficult -- or burdensome. But these caveats ought to be in view.

Thanks for your efforts on this certificate.

Bruce

Alex Mayer wrote:

Dear Deans Schulz, Seely, Gale and Radson-

The Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society (CWS) is submitting a proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Water Resources Systems. As part

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

From: Darrell Radson <radson@mtu.edu>

Date: Wed, 07 Oct 2009 17:19:21 -0400

To: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

Alex,

We have discussed and can support this certificate.

Thanks,
Darrell

Darrell Radson, Ph.D.

Dean

School of Business and Economics

Michigan Technological University

103 Academic Office Building

1400 Townsend Drive

Houghton, MI 49931-1295

Phone: 906-487-2668

Fax: 906-487-1863

e-mail: radson@mtu.edu

Alex Mayer wrote:

Subject: Re: support for new graduate certificate proposal

From: Margaret Gale <mrgale@mtu.edu>

Date: Fri, 2 Oct 2009 18:34:09 -0400 (EDT)

To: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

CC: tgpyker <tgpyker@mtu.edu>

Hi Alex,

Sorry I have been in FL and saw the message but was not going to read it until this weekend. I read it and support it - also Tom had mentioned it to me. As far as teaching load, I will work that out with Tom - no concerns on my part.

And congratulations on your service award - so very well deserved!

Peg

Margaret R. Gale
Dean, School of Forest Resources & Environmental Science
Michigan Technological University
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931
906-487-2352

----- Original Message -----

From: "Alex Mayer" <asmayer@mtu.edu>

To: "Margaret R. Gale" <mrgale@mtu.edu>

Sent: Friday, October 2, 2009 2:45:06 PM GMT -05:00 US/Canada Eastern

Subject: support for new graduate certificate proposal

Hi Peg-

Earlier this week, I sent the following message to you and the Deans of the College of Sciences and Arts, College of Engineering and School of Business and Economics.

I wanted to make sure that you were aware that I requested your support of our graduate certificate proposal because some of your faculty are Center for Water & Society (CWS) participants. Tom Pypker, for example is the SBE representative on the CWS advisory committee. There are seven other SFRES faculty who are CWS participants.

These are all faculty who might direct their students to pursue our proposed certificate and who might participate in the proposed, one-credit course, UN5XXX, "Center for Water and Society Colloquium."

I would appreciate it if you could please read the attached memo and consider our request for your support. I would be happy to answer any questions.

I hope all is well for you. I hope you see this proposal as a sign that the Center you helped found is making progress!

Thanks,
Alex

----- Original Message -----

Subject: support for new graduate certificate proposal

Date: Tue, 29 Sep 2009 15:02:21 -0400

From: Alex Mayer <asmayer@mtu.edu>

To: Timothy Schulz <schulz@mtu.edu>, Bruce Seely <bseely@mtu.edu>,
"Margaret R. Gale" <mrgale@mtu.edu>, Darrell Radson <radson@mtu.edu>

CC: Kathleen Halvorsen <kehalvor@mtu.edu>, Craig Waddell <cwaddell@mtu.edu>, Mary Ann Beckwith <mabeckwi@mtu.edu>, "Chris S. Anderson" <csanders@mtu.edu>, Joan Schumaker-Chadde <jchadde@mtu.edu>, Noel Urban <nurban@mtu.edu>, "Sarah A. Green" <sgreen@mtu.edu>, Nancy

Memo to: Tim Schulz, Dean, College of Engineering
Bruce Seely, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Darrell Radson, School of Business and Economics
Margaret Gale, Dean, School of Forest Resources and Environmental
Science

From: Alex Mayer, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering &
Sciences, Director of Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society

Subject: Support for Proposed Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Water Resources
Systems

Date: September 29, 2009

CC: Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society Advisory Committee
Jackie Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School

The Michigan Tech Center for Water & Society (CWS) is submitting a proposal to establish a Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Water Resources Systems. The current version of the proposal is attached.

As part of the proposal, we will be creating a new one-credit (recitation) course, UN 5XXX, "Center for Water and Society Colloquium." We have submitted a course add proposal for this course (see attached). This seminar-based class will cover relevant, current topics in water resources and will be offered every spring. We expect that different (CWS) faculty will be involved every year and that the overall topic will change from year to year. We also expect that the course will be led by at least two faculty and that the FTEs for the course would be split equally among those faculty. For example, Tom Pypker (SFRES), Kathy Halvorsen (SS) and myself offered this course under UN5930 last year and were each assigned 0.33 FTE. The topic was "Climate Change and Water Resources."

The course demands on the faculty leading the course are minimal. The faculty leading the course select a dozen or so journal papers or scientific reports before the term. Each week, the students read one of these papers or reports in preparation of weekly discussion sessions. Discussion sessions are lead by a group of students, moderated by faculty. Students also produce and present a poster on a relevant topic and write and submit a short reflection paper due at the end of the term. Students are graded on (a) attendance, (b) participation in discussions, (c) quality of discussion leadership, (d) quality of poster, and (e) quality of reflection paper

In order to have the graduate certificate and course add proposals approved, we need to verify that the course will be funded. CWS includes faculty participants from 10 academic units at Michigan Tech. Since these faculty come from units covered by each of your colleges and schools, **we are asking that you agree to allow faculty who might be involved in this course to include the course in their teaching load** by signing this memo. The signed memo would be attached to the certificate and course add proposals.

Please let me know if you have any questions.