TO: The Academic Senate
FROM: Committee on Instruction and Curriculum
SUBJECT: Proposed new Certificate in Sustainable Resource Mgmt
PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the new Certificate in Sustainable Resource Mgmt; effective Fall 2010

All backup information for this policy is available for review on the CIC Sharepoint 05/04/09 meeting workspace. The web link for this meeting on Sharepoint is

https://sharepoint.csueastbay.edu/sites/AcademicSenate/CIC%20Meeting1/CIC%20Meeting/Lists/Agenda/DispForm.aspx?ID=118&Source=https://sharepoint.csueastbay.edu/sites/AcademicSenate/CIC%2520Meeting1/CIC%2520Meeting/default.aspx%3FInstanceID%3D20090406

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This proposal for the new Certificate in Sustainable Resource Mgmt was made via all appropriate University channels, and was presented to the CIC at its meeting on May 4, 2009. CIC unanimously approved this new option (8-0-0).
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF NEW CERTIFICATE
IN SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

1. Department: Geography and Environmental Studies

2. Full and exact title of Certificate, Credential, or Subject Matter Preparation:
Certificate in Sustainable Resource Management

3. Purpose of the proposed aggregate of courses:

**Background**

The disciplines of geography and environmental studies have long addressed issues of natural resource management. Natural resources are a traditional core subject of geography. With increased global recognition that the adverse impacts of poor resource management are undermining earth’s life support systems, geographers have shifted their focus increasingly to the sustainability of resource management practices. Environmental sustainability is at the heart of all environmental studies, and given that resource management practices are the primary source of that threat, sustainable resource management has been a major focus of the field since its inception in the early 1970s.

What has changed over time is both terminology and the emergence of a broad public commitment to create a more sustainable society. Wide recognition of the problem started in the 1980s with the United Nation’s World Commission on Environment and Development, out of which came the widely quoted Brundtland Report, which coined the term ‘sustainable development’. Since, the term sustainability has exploded in use. So has legislation to address the sustainability problem (most prominently in California with the legislature’s Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006), as have regional efforts to transform the Bay Area to a Green Economy. In the East and South Bay alone, the latter are reflected in a host of ‘green industry’ initiatives that have arisen from on-going sustainability meetings held by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the Oakland Partnership, and the East Bay Green Corridor (which includes the cities of Oakland, Berkeley, Emeryville, and Richmond). The conclusions of these groups are uniform and robust:

- Addressing the sustainability problem will be good for the economy,
- There is a large and growing unmet demand for educated workers in the green industries, the public sector, and the utilities.
Beyond that, the CSU system-wide, and CSU East Bay in particular, have made significant commitments to address the issue. The CSU, in partnership with the University of California and the California Community Colleges, held its 7th Annual Sustainability Conference in 2008 in San Luis Obispo to promote sustainability through teaching and improved operations and infrastructure on campuses statewide. Last year, CSU’s statewide 2008 Facilities Management Conference, “Create Tomorrow Together,” had sustainability as a central focus. The Academic Senate of Cal State East Bay adopted a Sustainability Resolution in Spring 2007, in which it committed “to make climate neutrality and sustainability a part of the curriculum” and “to support research and other efforts to achieve climate neutrality”.

CSUEB has also been a major actor in the East Bay Green Corridor’s Green Academy, and as such is looked to as a regional leader in the development of sustainability curriculum.

**Purpose**

The creation of the Certificate in Sustainable Resource Management serves several purposes: attracting new students (FTES for the four-year degree programs and Open Enrollment for professional development), supporting the University’s goal of increasing enrollments, helping to meet curriculum commitments under East Bay’s Sustainability Resolution and helping to meet similar commitments under CSU Strategic Plan (Access to Excellence), helping to meet the region’s goals for green workforce development. While the Certificate will consist of existing courses, it makes that course work more prominent and couches it in the prominent current terminology, facilitating the regional visibility for the program. Interestingly, while sustainable resource management has been a long-term focus of geography and environmental studies, and these programs routinely graduate students into the profession in both public and private sector jobs, prospective students wouldn’t necessarily think of these programs as the place to train for such work. A Certificate in Sustainable Resource Management also makes the coursework more accessible and marketable to regional professionals seeking to position themselves better in the new green economy. Because the certificate will also satisfy part of the requirements of the geography and environmental studies majors, it should make these programs more attractive to prospective students, by making their degrees more marketable and competitive.

**Impact of the Certificate on programs within the department**

The department’s programs consist of two undergraduate majors (one in geography and one in environmental studies) and a graduate program in geography. The impact, increasing enrollment, will be beneficial and will accrue primarily to the undergraduate programs. There are no anticipated negative impacts of the Certificate program on any programs within the department.

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1. See [http://sustainability.calpoly.edu/](http://sustainability.calpoly.edu/)
3. See link for 06-07 BEC 9 at [http://www.csueastbay.edu/senate/excom_docs.htm](http://www.csueastbay.edu/senate/excom_docs.htm)
4. List of all **requirements** including the **courses**, by catalog prefix number, title, and units of credit, as well as **total units** to be required under the proposed Certificate, Credential, or Subject Matter Preparation Program.

**COURSEWORK AND UNITS REQUIRED FOR THE CERTIFICATE**

**Prerequisites for the Certificate Program**

1) STAT 1000 (Elements of Probability and Statistics) or equivalent and 2) AA degree or equivalent or completion of lower division requirements for a four-year degree program.

**Total Units for the Certificate (28)**

The coursework requirements for the certificate are distributed as indicated below. The information in the parentheses indicates the number of units, and the rest indicates which quarters the courses are regularly taught: Fall (F), Winter (W), and Spring (Sp).

**Required Courses (16 units)**

- GEOG 3000 Sustainable Resource Management (4) (F, W, Sp)
- ENVT 3400 Environmental Resource Analysis (4) (F)
- ENVT 4100 Environmental Impact Analysis (4) (W)
- MGMT 3110 Project Management (4)

(MGMT 3110 currently requires 3100 as a prerequisite, or the permission of the instructor. The Chair of Engineering, Dr. Motavalli, has indicated that Certificate students could get blanket exemption on this.)

**Elective Courses (12 units)**

Select 3 courses from the following list

- GEOG/ENVT 3480 Applied Field Studies¹ (4) (F)
- GEOG/ENVT 4320 Energy and Society (4) (W, Sp)
- GEOG 4330 Sustainable Development (4) (W)
- GEOG 4350 Water Resources and Management (4) (F)
- GEOG 6780 Seminar in Environmental Planning (4)
- GEOG 6820 Seminar in Sustainable Cities (4) (Sp)
- MGMT 6460 Strategic Management for a Sustainable Society (4)

¹ Prerequisite: ENVT 3400 or consent of instructor.

5. **List of new courses** that were developed and existing **courses** that needed **modification** as a result of this new Option or Minor, if any, submitted along with this proposal:

No new courses are included in the Certificate.

6. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS** of the proposed new Option or Minor, if any:

Because all of these courses are taught regularly, there are no major resource implications unless the Certificate program draws major enrollment. If pursued for professional development the program could generate funds for the University and the Department through Open Enrollment. If it draws new FTES for degree programs, it would generate new funds through enrollment growth or at minimum contribute to meeting CSUEB enrollment targets. If the program only draws on existing students, it could imply a possible redistribution of existing funds. Because the Certificate will be advertised through the regional Green Academy and given the explosive growth in the green industry, we expect the program to result at least in part in FTES growth.
7. Relationship of proposed program to requirements for teaching credentials, accreditation, and/or licensing.

None

8. **CONSULTATION** with other affected departments and program committee:
   a) The following department(s) has (have) been consulted and raise **no objections**:

   - All Departments in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences were consulted and there were no objections.
   - The Department of Engineering, Earth and Environmental Sciences, and the College of Business and Economics were consulted and there were no objections.

   b) The following department(s) has (have) been consulted and **raise concerns**:

   - Department:
   - Concern:

9. Certification of **DEPARTMENT APPROVAL** by the chair and faculty.

   Chair: **David Larsen**    Date: 4/10/09

10. Certification of **COLLEGE APPROVAL** by the dean and college curriculum committee.

    Dean: **Diedre Badejo**    Date: 4/21/09