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Educational Policies Committee Minutes, December 6, 2012

Utah State University

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EDUCATIONAL POLICIES COMMITTEE MINUTES
6 December 2012

A meeting of the Educational Policies Committee was held on 6 December 2012 at 3 p.m. in Old Main 136 (Champ Hall Conference Room)

Present: Larry Smith, Chair
 Larry Smith, Curriculum Subcommittee Chair (representing Ed Reeve)
 Roger Coulombe, Jr., Agriculture (representing David Hole)
 Norm Jones, General Education Subcommittee Chair
 Nicholas Morrison, Caine College of the Arts
 Stacey Hills, Huntsman School of Business
 Scott Bates, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human
 Services
 Thom Fronk, Engineering
 Patricia Gantt, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (representing
 Eddy Berry)
 Nancy Mesner, College of Natural Resources
 Richard Mueller, College of Science
 Travis Peterson, Regional Campuses and Distance Education
 Wendy Holliday, Libraries
 Christian Thrapp, ASUSU President
 Roland Squire, Registrar's Office
 Cathy Gerber, Registrar's Office

Absent: Scott Henrie, USU-Eastern
 David Hole, Academic Standards Subcommittee Chair
 Scott DeBerard, Graduate Council
 Jordan Hunt, ASUSU Academic Senate President
 Zach Portman, Graduate Studies Vice-President

I. Approval of the minutes of the 1 November 2012 meeting

Nicholas Morrison moved to approve the minutes of the 1 November 2012 meeting. Wendy Holliday seconded; motion approved.

II. Subcommittee Reports

A. Curriculum Subcommittee (Larry Smith)

Larry Smith reviewed the Curriculum Subcommittee business.

All courses were approved.

The following department's request to restructure their PhD programs was approved. (see below)

Plants, Soils and Climate

2. Climate Science
3. Plant Science
4. Soil Science

5. The School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education's request to discontinue the Plan C in MS in Technology and Engineering Education (TEE) was approved. (see below)

6. The Department of Art and Design's request to add an Interior Design specialization (Plan B) within the MFA degree **AND** to discontinue the MS in Human Environments was approved. (see below)

7. The Department of Family, Consumer and Human Development's request to create a new emphasis (Human Development Lifespan Emphasis) was removed from the agenda for further revision.

Norm Jones moved to approve the business of the Curriculum Subcommittee. Stacey Hills seconded; motion approved.

B. Academic Standards Subcommittee (David Hole)

No Report

C. General Education Subcommittee (Norm Jones)

GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

**November 20, 2012 8:30 A.M.
Champ Hall Conference Room**

Present: Kathy Chudoba, Business; Norm Jones, Chair; Michele Hillard, Secretary; Wendy Holliday, Library; Charlie Huenemann, CHaSS; Christian Thrapp, ASUSU President; Craig Petersen, American Institutions; Scott Henrie, USU Eastern; Larry Smith, Provost's Office; Brock Dethier, English; Vince Lafferty, Regional Campuses; Dean Adams, Engineering; Rhonda Miller, Communications; Mary Leavitt, Advising; Lee Rickords, Agriculture; Dick Mueller, Science; Roberta Herzberg, Social Sciences; John Mortensen, Student Services; Brian McCuskey, English (teaching class);

Absent: Michelle Larson, Honors; Laura Gelfand, Art; Shelley Lindauer, FCHD; Nancy Mesner, Natural Resources; Cindy Dewey, Creative Arts; Stephanie Hamblin, University Advising; Dan Coster, Quantitative Intensive; Ryan Dupont, Life & Physical Sciences;

Call to Order - Norm Jones

Approval of Minutes - October 16, 2012

Motion to approve made by Kathy Chudoba, seconded by Richard Mueller

Course Approvals

ARTH 2640 (BCA) **PENDING** Cindy Dewey

ARTH 3850 (DHA/CI) **APPROVED** Brian McCuskey/Rhonda Miller
Motion to approve made by Charlie Huenemann, seconded by Richard Mueller

COMD 5100 (CI) **PENDING**Rhonda Miller

COMD 5210 (CI) **PENDING**Rhonda Miller

HIST 3489 (DHA/CI) **PENDING**..... Brian McCuskey/Rhonda Miller
Motion to approve DHA made by Charlie Huenemann, seconded by Richard Mueller

HIST 3490 (DHA/CI) CI **PENDING**..... Brian McCuskey/Rhonda Miller
Motion to approve DHA made by Charlie Huenemann, seconded by Richard Mueller

HIST 3560 (Pending CI/previously Approved DHA) **PENDING**Brian McCuskey/Rhonda Miller

MIS 5900 (CI) **PENDING**Rhonda Miller

MUS 1105 (BCA) **PENDING** Cindy Dewey

NDFS 5210 (CI) **APPROVED** Rhonda Miller

Motion to approve made by Rhonda Miller, seconded by Craig Petersen

NDFS 5410 (CI) **APPROVED** Rhonda Miller

Motion to approve made by Rhonda Miller, seconded by Craig Petersen

Course Removals

N/A

Syllabi Approvals

USU 1320 (Susan Cogan) **PENDING** Brian McCuskey

USU 1340 (Michael Petersen) **APPROVED** Roberta Herzberg

Motion to approve made by Roberta Herzberg, seconded by Vince Lafferty

Business

1.. USU 2610 – Students cannot use this course to fulfill the requirement of taking a USU course.

This item of business is informational only. The course was originally named Management 2610 and is a lower division internship. This course does not count as a gen ed requirement for graduation. We also have USU 1000 and 1010 that do not qualify as graduation credits.

2.Depth credits in the Arts

Caine College of the Arts is looking at changing the number of credits required in the depth category. Arts would like to offer an Art Symposium course for 3 credits thus alleviating the one credit problem. This issue can affect other colleges, i.e., Engineering. Would it be possible to have it changed from a 1- 2 credit course to a 1-3? This conversation will be tabled until we can bring in Nick Morrison and find out all details. Nick will be invited to the December 11 Gen Ed meeting.

Motion to table business item #2 was made by Roberta Herzberg, seconded by Lee Rickords.

Catalog Language Describing the Depth Courses.

The Catalog says: University Studies Depth Education Requirements

Beyond the General Education requirements, all students who receive a bachelor's degree must complete two Communications Intensive, one Quantitative Intensive, and 2 credits minimum in *each* of two of the three depth categories.

Here are the courses that allow less than 3 credits and may require multiple enrollments:

- [USU 3330 - Art Symposium \(DHA\) 1-2](#)
- [MSL 4610 - Military History Seminar \(DHA\) 1-3](#)
- [MUSC 3500 - Symphony Orchestra \(DHA\) 1](#)

- [MUSC 3790 - Symphonic Band \(DHA\) 1](#)
- [MUSC 4600 - University Chorale \(DHA\) 1](#)
- [MUSC 4650 - Chamber Singers \(DHA\) 1](#)
- [MUSC 4700 - Wind Orchestra \(DHA\) 1](#)

The Caine College of the Arts would propose that 3 credits be required in any of these courses to meet the depth requirement.

3. Depth Review

Norm Jones had a meeting with Nancy Mesner to discuss a proposed depth requirements review. It is policy that depth courses be reviewed every 5 years. Nancy Mesner had started to establish a time table, however, it seems like we are getting ahead of ourselves. It was proposed that we put off the depth review while we're working on the CI review. Once all this is sorted out it will be easier to focus on the Depth courses.

4. USU 13XX - Faculty Meeting Updates

USU-1300 American Institutions has not had a meeting yet. By state policy their content is already defined, but it will meet soon.

USU-1320 Humanities is always a lively discussion. It involves a large group of faculty with a great overlap on methodological issues. There is, however, disagreement on the content of course. Some believe it should have common content, while others believe it only needs common outcomes. The group is continuing to meet.

USU-1330 Creative Arts has been completely rebuilt under the leadership of David Wall from Art. It enrolls students in sections of 1000 or more. He is using undergraduate teaching fellows and reaching out to people who aren't graduate students, but who have MFAs to act as support faculty

USU-1340 Social Sciences is a smaller faculty group; however, they are having frustration over social sciences lack of common approaches in the social sciences. Very few of the departments are teaching this course and only a small number of students ever take it because most majors require other social science options.

USU 1350 Life Science is a small group teaching very large sections. They are concerned that enrollment pressures have stopped the tradition of field work that was recognized as a high impact practice in their pedagogy. They would like to explore ways of providing staffing for labs.

USU-1360 Physical Science group is doing very well redesigning the course outcomes. They are wrestling with what it is that a literate persons needs to know about physical science. Also find that math illiteracy is a problem for many of their students, even though the course is a 1000 level offering. They are interested in a co-scheduling effort with Math. They are distressed over enrollment pressures that keep them from doing assignments that require research. They continue to meet.

Other

Michael Torrens has been studying the data on the way students flow through Gen Ed. It is very complex to figure out how these students move through it. His findings will help with backlog and other issues. Our intention is to move to a more directed semester for students, allowing them to get the gen ed courses early in their freshman/sophomore years. Michael will attend the next meeting to present his findings

Wendy Holliday has been visually mapping information literacy through the majors. Subject librarians are assigned to each of the specific majors. They are working with concept mapping software and are attempting to establish when, where, and how students are receiving information literacy training.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am

Next Meeting

Tuesday, December 11, 2012
Champ Hall Conference Room
8:30 a.m.

Nancy Mesner moved to approve the business of the General Education Subcommittee.
Richard Mueller seconded; motion approved.

III. Other Business

Patricia Gantt moved to approve the Department of Plants, Soils and Climate's request to rename the Biometeorology (BMET) degree for both the MS and PhD degrees to Climate Science. Norm Jones seconded; motion approved. (see below)

Meeting adjourned 3:20 p.m.
Larry Smith conducted the meeting.
Cathy Gerber recorded the minutes.

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: *Utah State University*
 Proposed Title: *PhD in Climate Science*
 Currently Approved Title: *PhD in Climate Science*
 School or Division or Location: *College of Agriculture*
 Department(s) or Area(s) Location: *Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate*
 Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs): *1.1101*
 Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): *1.1101*
 Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): *01/01/2013*
 Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5			R401-6		
<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>			<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>		
Section #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item	Section #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item
4.1.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor*	6.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
5.1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Emphasis on an Existing Degree*	6.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Unit
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Proficiency Not Eligible for Financial Aid			
5.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs			
5.1.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer			
5.1.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Consolidation			
5.1.6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Creation			
5.1.7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Transfer			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center			
5.1.8	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau			
5.1.9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Certificate			

*Requires "Section VI: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date:

Printed Name:

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Institution Submitting Proposal: *Utah State University*

College, School or Division in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Agriculture*

Department(s) or Area(s) in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Plants, Soils, and Climate*

Program/Administrative Unit Title: *Climate Science*

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: *01.1101*

Certificate, and/or Degree(s) to Be Awarded: *PhD in Climate Science*

Proposed Beginning Date: *January 1, 2013*

Institutional Signatures (*as appropriate*):

Teryl Roper, Department Head, PSC

Noelle Cockett, Dean, College of Agriculture

*Mark R. McLellan, Vice President for Research
and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Date:

**R401.5.1.5-Program Restructure
Utah State University
PhD in Climate Science
10/15/2012**

Section I: Request

The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate proposes to restructure its PhD in Climate Science. Current credit hour requirements are 60 credits for students entering with a MS degree and 90 credits for those students entering without a MS degree. We propose reducing those credit requirements to 30 for students with a MS degree and 60 for students without a MS degree

Section II: Need

One of the hallmarks of the PhD in PSC, and many other programs, is flexibility in designing a program of study for students to allow focus in a particular area of expertise. Our department has one requirement for formal coursework in the PhD, which is the departmental seminar that is taken 2-3 times during the student's program. The remainder of the coursework is intended to fill gaps in the student's background and build research skillset. This is typically done through classroom instruction but also through personal study and through mentoring by the major advisor, others on the student's committee, and possibly other faculty at USU or elsewhere. But most important is the student's research work, addressing important questions for industry and science at large, and communicating that research through presentations at scientific meetings, industry group conferences, and publication. Making changes to the credit requirements for the PhD will have no impact on the academic and scientific rigor for the PhD students in Climate Science, but will reduce their burden from taking unnecessary classes even if they have shown sufficient progress in research.

We are requesting a credit reduction for students coming in with an MS and those without. Students without an MS degree typically take approximately 5 years to complete. Students who already have an MS degree typically finish more quickly, between 3-4 years. The longer period for a student without the MS reflects time spent learning the research process and more coursework that is typically needed.

There are very few climate programs in the nation that are comparable with the PSC program, other than traditional meteorology departments that usually require 60 credits (e.g., Iowa State University). Because of this and by following other PSC programs, we determined that a credit requirement of 60 credits (post B.S.) is reasonable and comparable.

Section III: Institutional Impact

This proposed change was included in our department's graduate program review 5-year goals. No change to administrative structure is expected from this restructure and we do not expect any changes in faculty or staff required.

Section IV: Finances

No additional costs are expected in this restructure. The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate receives more applications from high quality students than we have funding to support. By reducing the credit hour requirements, we expect our program to train students with flexibility and better focus, helping them become more competitive. Moreover, this change will potentially increase the number of students as resources allow.

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: *Utah State University*
 Proposed Title: *PhD in Plant Science*
 Currently Approved Title: *PhD in Plant Science*
 School or Division or Location: *College of Agriculture*
 Department(s) or Area(s) Location: *Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate*
 Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs): *1.1101*
 Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): *1.1101*
 Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): *01/01/2013*
 Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5			R401-6		
<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>			<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>		
Section #		Item	Section #		Item
4.1.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor*	6.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
5.1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Emphasis on an Existing Degree*	6.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Unit
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Proficiency Not Eligible for Financial Aid			
5.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs			
5.1.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer			
5.1.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Consolidation			
5.1.6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Creation			
5.1.7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Transfer			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center			
5.1.8	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau			
5.1.9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Certificate			

*Requires "Section VI: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date:

Printed Name:

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Institution Submitting Proposal: *Utah State University*

College, School or Division in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Agriculture*

Department(s) or Area(s) in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Plants, Soils, and Climate*

Program/Administrative Unit Title: *Plant Science*

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: *01.1101*

Certificate, and/or Degree(s) to Be Awarded: *PhD in Plant Science*

Proposed Beginning Date: *January 1, 2013*

Institutional Signatures (*as appropriate*):

Teryl Roper, Department Head, PSC

Noelle Cockett, Dean, College of Agriculture

*Mark R. McLellan, Vice President for Research
and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Date:

**R401.5.1.5-Program Restructure
Utah State University
PhD in Plant Science
10/15/2012**

Section I: Request

The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate proposes to restructure its PhD in Plant Science. Current credit hour requirements are 60 credits for students entering with a MS degree and 90 credits for those students entering without a MS degree. We propose reducing those credit requirements to 30 for students with a MS degree and 60 for students without a MS degree.

Section II: Need

One of the hallmarks of the PhD in the PSC Department, and many other programs, is flexibility in designing a program of study for students to allow focus in a particular area of expertise. Our department has one requirement for formal coursework in the PhD, which is the departmental seminar that is taken 2-3 times during the student's program. The remainder of the coursework is intended to fill gaps in the student's background. This is typically done through classroom instruction but also through personal study and through mentoring by the major advisor, others on the student's committee, and possibly other faculty at USU or elsewhere. But most important is the student's research work, addressing important questions for industry and science at large, and communicating that research through presentations at scientific meetings, industry group conferences, and publication. Making changes to the credit requirements for the PhD will have no impact on these most important practices. In other words, academic and scientific rigor for the PhD in Plant Science will not be impacted by reducing credits for the degree. Instead the change will enhance the competitiveness of our program to attract better and brighter graduate students.

We are requesting a credit reduction for students coming in with a MS and those without. Students without a MS degree typically take approximately 5 years to complete. Students who already have a MS degree typically finish more quickly, often between 3-4 years. The longer period for a student without the MS reflects time spent learning the research process and more coursework that is typically needed.

In an analysis of other land-grant institutions, we determined that a credit requirement of 60 credits (post B.S.) is reasonable and comparable. The range of credits required was 0 to 90 with a mean of 66 (Appendix). Two institutions (Clemson and New Mexico State University) do not have credit requirements and two institutions (Univ. of Nebraska-Lincoln and Kansas State University) require 90 credits.

Section III: Institutional Impact

We expect that reducing the required credit hours for the PhD will improve our ability to recruit high quality talent into our graduate program and keep those students. This restructure will make our program more competitive compared to other research institutions. This change was included in our department's graduate program review 5-year goals. No change to administrative structure is expected from this restructure and we do not expect any changes in faculty or staff required.

Section IV: Finances

No additional costs are expected in this restructure. The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate receives more applications from high quality students than we have funding to support. By reducing the credit hour requirements, we expect our program to educate our students with greater flexibility and better focus, attract higher quality students by being more competitive with other institutions and potentially increase the number of students as resources allow.

Appendix

Land-grant institutions included in analysis

Institution	Min. Credits Required
University of Arizona	45
Auburn	60
Colorado State University	72
University of Idaho	78
Iowa State University	72
Kansas State University	90
University of Minnesota	30
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	90
New Mexico State University	0
North Carolina State University	72
Pennsylvania State University	55
Washington State University	72
University of Wyoming	60
Mean	66.3

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: *Utah State University*
 Proposed Title: *PhD in Soil Science*
 Currently Approved Title: *PhD in Soil Science*
 School or Division or Location: *College of Agriculture*
 Department(s) or Area(s) Location: *Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate*
 Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs): *1.1101*
 Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): *1.1101*
 Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): *01/01/2013*
 Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5			R401-6		
<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>			<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>		
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5.1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Emphasis on an Existing Degree*	6.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Unit
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Proficiency Not Eligible for Financial Aid			
5.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs			
5.1.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center			
5.1.8	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau			
5.1.9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Certificate			

*Requires "Section VI: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date:

Printed Name:

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Institution Submitting Proposal: *Utah State University*

College, School or Division in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Agriculture*

Department(s) or Area(s) in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Plants, Soils, and Climate*

Program/Administrative Unit Title: *Soil Science*

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: *01.1101*

Certificate, and/or Degree(s) to Be Awarded: *PhD in Soil Science*

Proposed Beginning Date: *January 1, 2013*

Institutional Signatures (*as appropriate*):

Teryl Roper, Department Head, PSC

Noelle Cockett, Dean, College of Agriculture

*Mark R. McLellan, Vice President for Research
and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Date:

**R401.5.1.5-Program Restructure
Utah State University
PhD in Soil Science
10/15/2012**

Section I: Request

The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate proposes to restructure its PhD in Soil Science. Current credit hour requirements are 60 credits for students entering with a MS degree and 90 credits for those students entering without a MS degree. We propose reducing those credit requirements to 30 for students with a MS degree and 60 for students without a MS degree.

Section II: Need

One of the hallmarks of the PhD in the PSC Department, and many other programs, is flexibility in designing a program of study for students to allow focus in a particular area of expertise. Our department has one requirement for formal coursework in the PhD, which is the departmental seminar that is taken 2-3 times during the student's program. The remainder of the coursework is intended to fill gaps in the student's background. This is typically done through classroom instruction but also through personal study and through mentoring by the major advisor, others on the student's committee, and possibly other faculty at USU or elsewhere. But most important is the student's research work, addressing important questions for industry and science at large, and communicating that research through presentations at scientific meetings, industry group conferences, and publication. Making changes to the credit requirements for the PhD will have no impact on these most important practices. In other words, academic and scientific rigor for the PhD in Soil Science will not be impacted by reducing credits for the degree. Instead the change will enhance the competitiveness of our program to attract better and brighter graduate students.

We are requesting a credit reduction for students coming in with a MS and those without. Students without a MS degree typically take approximately 5 years to complete. Students who already have a MS degree typically finish more quickly, often between 3-4 years. The longer period for a student without the MS reflects time spent learning the research process and more coursework that is typically needed. The requested change would also be consistent with the two other PhD programs in the PSC Department.

Section III: Institutional Impact

We expect that reducing the required credit hours for the PhD will improve our ability to recruit high quality talent into our graduate program and keep those students. This restructure will make our program more competitive compared to other regional institutions. For example at Colorado State University, 62 credits are required post BS. Likewise, the University of Arizona requires 66 credits post-BS. At both the University of Wyoming and Washington State University, 72 credits are required post-BS. This proposed change was included in our department's graduate program review 5-year goals. No change to administrative structure is expected from this restructure and we do not expect any changes in faculty or staff required.

Section IV: Finances

No additional costs are expected in this restructure. The Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate receives more applications from high quality students than we have funding to support. By reducing the credit hour requirements, we expect our program to attract higher quality students by being more competitive with other institutions and potentially increase the number of students as resources allow.

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University

Proposed Title: Discontinuation of Plan C in Technology and Engineering Education (TEE)

Currently Approved Title:

School or Division or Location: School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education (ASTE)

Department(s) or Area(s) Location: Technology and Engineering Education

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs):

Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): 13.1309

Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs):

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5		R401-6	
<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>		<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>	
Section #	Item	Section #	Item
4.1.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor*	6.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
5.1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/> New Emphasis on an Existing Degree*	6.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Unit
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Proficiency Not Eligible for Financial Aid		
5.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/> Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs		
5.1.4	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Change of Existing Programs		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Transfer		
5.1.5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program Restructure		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Consolidation		
5.1.6	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Discontinuation		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Program Suspension		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Unit Creation		
5.1.7	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Unit Transfer		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Unit Consolidation		
	<input type="checkbox"/> New Center		
5.1.8	<input type="checkbox"/> New Institute		
	<input type="checkbox"/> New Bureau		
5.1.9	<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Certificate		

*Requires "Section VI: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date:

Printed Name: Dr. Larry Smith

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Institution Submitting Proposal: Utah State University

College, School or Division in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located:
School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education (ASTE)

Department(s) or Area(s) in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located:
Technology and Engineering Education

Program/Administrative Unit Title:

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: 13.1309

Certificate, and/or Degree(s) to Be Awarded:

Proposed Beginning Date: August 15, 2013 (fall semester)

Institutional Signatures (*as appropriate*):

Department Chair

Dean or Division Chair

Bruce Miller

Noelle Cockett

Career and Technical Education Director

Graduate School Dean

*Mark R. McLellan, Vice President for Research
and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Council on Teacher Education

Date: October 10, 2012

Program Request - Abbreviated Template
Utah State University
School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education (ASTE)

Discontinuation of Plan C in Technology and Engineering Education (TEE)
(10/10/2012)

Section I: Request

The area of Technology and Engineering Education (*TEE*) in the School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education (ASTE) offers students the opportunity to obtain a Master's of Science (MS) degree in Technology and Engineering Education. In this program, students currently have three options to complete the degree: Plan A (30 Credits - Thesis), Plan B (33 Credits - Master's Project) or Plan C (36 Credits - Coursework Only). This request calls for discontinuing the Plan C Option.

Section II: Need

The area of *TEE* has recently moved into the School of Applied Sciences, Technology, and Education (ASTE) and has been revising and upgrading its MS graduate program. The Plan C Option does not meet the rigors of the revised MS program.

Section III: Institutional Impact

The proposed program change will have little affect on student enrollments since students will still have two other program options to choose from. The proposed change will also not affect existing administrative structures, changes in faculty and staff requirements, or to existing facilities.

Section IV: Finances

No costs or savings are anticipated to result from this change.

Program Request – Abbreviated Template
Utah State University
Art & Design Department, Caine College of the Arts

Request to add an Interior Design specialization to MFA degree, and discontinuation of MS in Human Environments

Section I: Request

The Utah State University Department of Art and Design seeks approval to offer an Interior Design specialization (Plan B) within the Master of Fine Arts degree beginning Fall 2013. We also wish to discontinue the Master of Science degree in Human Environments that is currently offered by the Department of Art and Design.

Section II: Need

The Department of Art and Design currently offers two graduate degrees: the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) with specializations in Ceramics, Graphic Design, Painting and Drawing, Photography, Printmaking, and Sculpture, and the Master of Science (MS) degree in Human Environments, which is in actuality a degree in Interior Design. We propose to offer the MFA degree with a specialization in Interior Design and discontinue the MS degree in Human Environments. This new degree offering will achieve a number of things: it will create greater uniformity in the graduate offerings of the Department of Art and Design, it will create a degree with a name that more appropriately reflects its content, and, most importantly, it will enable USU to offer a terminal degree for students wishing to pursue a career teaching interior design.

It is important to recognize that the MFA with a specialization in Interior Design is considered the terminal degree in the discipline. For students who wish to pursue a career teaching in higher education, the MFA is an essential qualification.

The Master of Science in Human Environments is a non-terminal, first professional degree that does not qualify graduates for teaching positions in higher education. Because of the degree's limited utility, the program has attracted relatively few graduate students and graduate classes/studios have often been under-enrolled. It is our desire to terminate the Master of Science in Human Environments degree and focus our resources and energy on the new MFA degree.

The demand for education in interior design has increased significantly over the past decade. Denise Guerin, 2010-2011 president of the Interior Design Education Council (IDEC), described this demand in a white paper entitled "Path from Practitioner to Professor," in which she wrote:

"There is a shortage of qualified interior design instructors, and in order to address and solve this problem we must first ask ourselves how we got to this point. From our perspective, there are three reasons that explain how this shortage came about:

- First, the interior design profession has grown in popularity; therefore, we are seeing more applicants for interior design programs in schools and universities.
- Second, the business world is recognizing the importance of syncing design with company goals and objectives.
- Third, as many Baby Boomers begin to retire, the number of qualified professionals, those with a master's degree, is shrinking, yet the number of programs is growing. Additionally, many institutions are shifting interior design from two-year to four-year programs, which have increased the need for teachers in both public and private institutions."

The issue was also addressed in an article titled "Sustaining Interior Design Education: The Shortage of Qualified Interior Design Educators" in the *eNewsletter of the Interior Designers of Canada*.

"Interior Design education is facing a severe shortage of qualified interior design educators. Each year, there are over 120 interior design faculty positions open across North America; most of these positions go unfilled. Reasons for this shortage include the increasing number of interior design students, the increasing number of interior design programs, the aging and retirement of current faculty, and the lack of graduate degrees among interior design practitioners, which is generally required for full-time faculty positions."

The US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment projections for jobs in Interior Design shows an expected increase in employment by 2020 of more than 28,000 new job openings. See http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_table_102.htm. Growth in the next decade for Interior Design professionals overall is projected to be 19.3% and in Higher Education it is projected at 12.6%. (See US Dept. of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics National Employment Matrix <http://data.bls.gov/oepl/neoem>)

The majority of searches for tenure-track positions in interior design at universities indicate a preference for those who have terminal degrees in interior design. Dozens of current and former students have indicated that they would be interested in pursuing this degree at USU if it were offered. Additionally, faculty in the program have been strongly encouraged to offer the degree by professionals in the field. Surveys taken of seniors graduating in interior design from Utah State University over the last two years indicate that nearly 30% of these students would pursue an MFA with a specialization in interior design given the opportunity.

San Diego State University is the only other public institution in the western United States that offers an MFA with a specialization in interior design. Upon the degree's approval, USU will be the only institution between the Mississippi and the west coast to offer the MFA / Interior Design specialization.

Section III: Institutional Impact

Using the existing graduate resources already well established within the Department of Art and Design, the interior design program will have the personnel and facilities to offer this degree specialization with no significant impact to the institution.

The creation of the MFA specialization in Interior Design can be accomplished with no additional financial commitment by the institution. Interior Design graduate students will take graduate courses already offered by the Department of Art and Design. Only one additional studio class (ID 6730 – Advanced Interior Design Studio) will need to be offered each semester. All interior design graduate students pursuing the MFA will take this course each of the six semesters they are enrolled. This course will provide an in-depth examination of a focused interior design topic that will change each semester and repeat on a three-year rotation, enabling every ID graduate student the opportunity to cover the same material in a graduate course. Recent changes to the ID undergraduate program have been instituted so that each of the five full-time interior design faculty will be able to take turns teaching this course.

We anticipate that the MFA specialization will have a positive financial impact on the institution by increasing the number of Interior Design graduate students enrolled. Within their first year we anticipate that most of these students will be able to teach courses allowing the Department to offer more on-line and summer courses.

It is also anticipated that adding MFA students specializing in Interior Design to the long-established MFA program in the Department of Art and Design will have a positive impact on the institution by adding diverse skills and new types of experience and creativity. The new MFA specialization will enrich the interaction of graduate students specializing in a variety of art and design disciplines. We anticipate Interior Design students collaborating with art students to explore how art and space interact, and fine art students learning from interior design students about working in

three-dimensional space in creative new ways. We look forward to interior design students and graphic design students collaborating on issues such as building signage, way finding and branding.

Section IV: Finances

All classes for the proposed new degree are funded through existing resources. No budgetary impact is anticipated for any other programs or units. If the MFA with a specialization in Interior Design grows, as we anticipate it might, then there will be a need for an additional faculty member but there are no needs for the foreseeable future.

Program Requirements – Interior Design

Master of Fine Arts with a specialization in Interior Design
 Post Professional Degree
 Three-Year Program

A three-year course of study allows students with an undergraduate degree in interior design to obtain a Master of Fine Arts with a specialization in interior design. The MFA is the terminal degree. Its primary emphasis is on the creative aspects of the student's work. The MFA requires a minimum of five semesters of intensive study and 60 semester hours of credit.

Credit Hours

Students must earn 60 credits, to include:

42 credits of graduate-level studio art as determined by the student in consultation with his or her major professor, including a minimum of:

- 6 credits studio art outside of the declared emphasis area
- 3 Credits of ART 6900 Graduate Seminar: Professional Practices
- 3 Credits of ARTH 6900 Graduate Seminar: Issues in Contemporary Art
- 3 credits of Graduate Interdisciplinary Critique
- 6 credits outside the art department as specified by the supervisory committee
- 3 credits of Plan "B" Project, which concludes with an MFA plan "B" project exhibition and an oral defense. The MFA plan "B" project is a visual presentation, the equivalent of a written dissertation in other disciplines. The plan "B" project exhibition is the single most important feature of the MFA program; the culmination of at least two years, and often three or more years, of intensive study in a single discipline. In conjunction with the plan "B" project exhibition, students must submit visual documentation of the graduate project, in the form of a digital image portfolio.

Sample Program of Study

Year One				Undergrad. Credit	Grad. Credit
Fall Semester					
ART 6900	Graduate Seminar	F			3 Elective
	Elective	F		3	
ID 6730	Advanced I.D. Studio	F			6
Spring Semester					
ARTH 6900	Graduate Seminar	S			3
Art Elective	Art Elective	S			3
ID 6730	Advanced I.D. Studio	S			6

24 credits

Year Two			Undergrad. Credit	Grad. Credit
Fall Semester				
ART	Inter. Critique	F		3 Elective
	Elective	F		3
ID 6730	Advanced I.D. Studio	F		6
Spring Semester				
ID Elective	ID Elective	S		3
Art Elective	Art Elective	S		3
ID 6730	Advanced I.D. Studio	S		6
				24 credits

Year Three			Undergrad. Credit	Grad. Credit
Fall Semester				
ID 6730	Advanced I.D. Studio	F		3
ID Elective	I.D. Elective	F		3
Spring Semester				
ID Elective	I.D. Elective	S		3
ID 6970	Thesis Research	S		3
				12 credits

Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate – Biometeorology Program
Proposed Title: Climate Science (for M.S./Ph.D. degree)
Currently Approved Title: Biometeorology
School or Division or Location: College of Agriculture
Department(s) or Area(s) Location: Plants, Soils, and Climate
Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs): 40.0499
Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): 01.9999
Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): 01/01/2013
Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5			R401-6		
<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>			<i>Items submitted will be reviewed by OCHE. If there are any issues, the proposal will be returned for clarification/correction. If no issues, the proposal will be returned with a note of approval and the request will be placed on the General Consent Calendar of the next Regents' agenda.</i>		
Section #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item	Section #	<input type="checkbox"/>	Item
4.1.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor*	6.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
5.1.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Emphasis on an Existing Degree*	6.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Unit
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Proficiency Not Eligible for Financial Aid			
5.1.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs			
5.1.4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer			
5.1.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Consolidation			
5.1.6	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension			
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center			
5.1.8	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau			
5.1.9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Certificate			

*Requires "Section VI: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Signature

Date: MM/DD/YEAR

Printed Name: Name of CAO or Designee

¹ CIP codes must be recommended by the submitting institution. For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

Institution Submitting Proposal: *Department of Plants, Soils, and Climate*

College, School or Division in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *College of Agriculture*

Department(s) or Area(s) in Which Program/Administrative Unit Will Be Located: *Plants, Soils, and Climate*

Program/Administrative Unit Title: *Climate Science*

Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code: *40.0499*

Certificate, and/or Degree(s) to Be Awarded: *M.S. & Ph.D. in Climate Science*

Proposed Beginning Date: *January 1, 2013*

Institutional Signatures (*as appropriate*):

Teryl Roper, Department Head, PSC

Noelle Cockett, Dean, College of Agriculture

*Mark R. McLellan, Vice President for Research
and Dean of Graduate Studies*

Date:

Program Request - Abbreviated Template
Department of Plants, Soils and Climate
M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Climate Sciences
10/15/2012

Section I: Request

The PSC department requests to rename the Biometerology (BMET) degree programs for both its MS and PhD degrees to Climate Science in parallel to the existing Plant Science and Soil Science programs. BMET has undergone a transition since 2007, which is now complete, as two new faculty members have been hired (one in 2008 and one in 2010). The proposed name change covers a broader aspect of climate/meteorology in both research and teaching. The institutional impact of the name change is minimal as newly hired faculty members can cope with the current instructional needs.

Section II: Need

A degree program in Climate Sciences will more thoroughly reflect the ongoing research and teaching scopes conducted by the faculty and their background. Though the four faculty members of BMET only have a combined research FTE of 2.0, they have worked hard in obtaining an average publication number of 7 for each faculty member since 2010. A substantial increase in these publications took place in the areas of climate dynamics and modeling. The climate emphasis of BMET has gained national and international recognition; for instance, the faculty has obtained foreign grants (Taiwan and Nepal) and was invited to host a national climate science workshop in 2013. The numbers of graduate students seeking a climate degree and early-career researchers coming to study climate have grown significantly. The number of government and private agencies acquiring climate information and seeking climate education has also increased noticeably. Currently there are few climate science degree programs in the U.S., most of which reside in conventional meteorology, atmospheric sciences, geography, environmental or Earth science departments. Thus, renaming BMET to Climate Science will help attract high-quality, physics-background students. The program in Climate Science will also increase competitiveness in securing the ever-increasing climate change-focused grants.

Section III: Institutional Impact

No change to administrative structure is expected for renaming the degree program. While the prospective Climate Science is currently understaffed, as was the case in BMET, we do not expect any changes in faculty or staff requirement at this point in time given that the currently offered courses remain the same.

Section IV: Finances

No additional costs are expected in this renaming.