



California
State
University,
Fresno

MEMORANDUM

March 16, 2011

To: Michael Caldwell, Chair
Academic Senate

From: Dennis Nef 
Associate Vice President and
Dean of Undergraduate Studies

The Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the College of Science and Mathematics have recommended that the Environmental Sciences Joint Program with the University of California, Riverside be discontinued. While Academic Policy Manual 214 identifies the "general standards and procedures for reviewing an undergraduate program to determine whether it should be discontinued", in this case no review is necessary since all parties have agreed to its discontinuation. Reasons for this action are contained in the attached memo from the dean of the college. You will note also that the department chair has identified the process that will be used to help the three remaining students complete their degrees.

I am forwarding the proposal to the Academic Senate at this point for consultation and your recommendation to the Provost. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

c: William Covino, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Andrew Rogerson, Dean, College of Science and Mathematics
Stephen Lewis, Chair, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Office of the Associate Vice
President and Dean of
Undergraduate Studies

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[www.csufresno.edu/academics/offices/
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CALIFORNIA
STATE
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FRESNO

MEMORANDUM

Date: February 1, 2011

To: Dr. Dennis L. Nef
Associate Vice President and Dean of Undergraduate Studies
California State University, Fresno

From: Dr. Stephen D. Lewis
Chair, Department of Earth & Environmental Science
California State University, Fresno

Subject: Accommodation of Students during UCR/CSUF Program
Discontinuation

Environmental Science majors currently enrolled in the UC Riverside/CSU Fresno Joint Program will be accommodated in two ways as the Joint Program is discontinued.

First, Joint Program students will have available to them the option of simply enrolling in the CSU Fresno "in-house" Environmental Science degree program. This is the easiest and most seamless way to accommodate Joint Program students, and is likely to be the option most students will select. This takes care of the most significant barrier that CSU Fresno students identified for their participation in the Joint Program, namely the financial cost and disruption of completing 2 quarters in residence at UC Riverside in their Senior year in the Joint Program.


Secondly, those CSU Fresno Joint Program students who wish to complete the Joint Program will be accommodated at UC Riverside as if the Joint Program were not being discontinued. As of January 13, 2011 there were three CSU Fresno Joint Program majors in Environmental Science.

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Science and Mathematics
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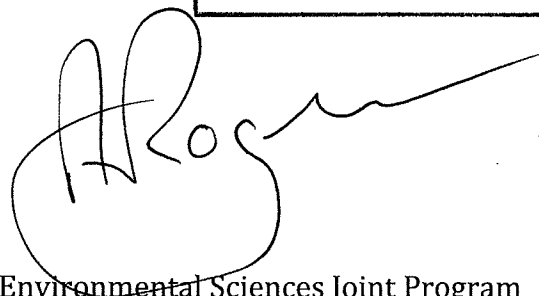
Approved:

 William A. Covino Date: 2/24/11
 Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



CALIFORNIA
 STATE
 UNIVERSITY,
 FRESNO

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 9, 2010
To: Provost Covino
From: Andrew Rogerson
Subject: Discontinuation of the Environmental Sciences Joint Program with University of California Riverside



At the request of the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, I am requesting that the Environmental Sciences Joint Program with the University of California Riverside be discontinued. While the Joint Program was conceived and implemented with the intention of providing an enriched program for CSU Fresno Environmental Science majors, both the need for such a program and the costs and confusion the program has engendered have made the Joint Program largely redundant.

Since the Joint Program was implemented, the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences has been able to hire two new faculty members that significantly strengthen the Environmental Sciences program on campus. These new faculty members, in conjunction with existing faculty in the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, the Department of Chemistry, and the Department of Biology are able to offer a very strong environmental sciences curriculum to our students without the need to send them to sister institutions. The CSU Fresno Environmental Science program has grown and matured significantly since it was first implemented, and is now a very healthy and strong stand-one program.

The CSU/UCR Joint Program never succeeded in attracting the number of majors that was anticipated when the program was implemented. Most Environmental Science majors chose the CSU Fresno program over the Joint Program since the beginning of both. The ratio of CSU Fresno Environmental Science majors to Joint Program majors for the Fall 2010 semester (38 CSU Fresno majors to 7 Joint Program majors; a ratio of more than 5:1) is historically typical. Also, many Joint Program students choose to transfer to the CSU Fresno program soon before they are scheduled to spend two quarters at UCR. The cost and disruption of temporarily relocating to UC Riverside becomes a significant barrier for most CSU Fresno students.

It is unlikely that discontinuation of the Joint Program will negatively impact enrollment in the Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, and will probably only strengthen a vibrant and growing CSU Fresno Environmental Science program. Thus, I respectfully request that you endorse my request to discontinue the Environmental Science Joint Program with UC Riverside.

College of
 Science and Mathematics
 Office of the Dean

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