

Graduate Council Program Review Summary

Prepared by: Agamemnon Crassidis, Chair, Graduate Council

Program Title	Sustainable Systems	
Originating College	GIS	
Program Contact	Paul Stiebitz	
Degree Type	Masters of Science, M.S.	
SCH New Program	30	
QCH Old Program	48	
NYSED IRP Code:	34078	
HEGIS Code:	4904.00	
Conversion Type	Type 1 Conversion: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Type 2 Conversion: <input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendation	Graduate Council recommends approval of this program	
Responsible Sub-Group	Graduate Council Group A	
Meeting Date/Time	Monday, March 28 th , 2011/10 am – 11 am	
Meeting Attendance	Agamemnon Crassidis (KGOE); Don Wilson (SCB); Joel Kastner (COS); Kevin Gold (GCCIS); Jennifer Schneider (CAST); Chip Sheffield (CIAS, At Large); Andrew Moore (Dean of Graduate Studies); Linda Underhill (CAST); Paul Stiebitz (GIS)	
Meeting Location	CST Rm 82-1150	
Checklist Complete?	Yes	
Concerns?	No major concerns sited. Introductory M.S. course number required updating (currently at 800 level, suggested to make them 700 level). The M.S. Thesis course number is incorrect and should be 790.	
Discussion	<p>The proposed semester-based program is a near direct conversion from the current quarter-based model (48 QCH to 30 SCH). The current M.S. program is comprised of 6 core courses (24 QCH), 4 elective type courses (16 QCH), and 8 QCH of a research component for a total of 48 QCH required. The new proposed program is comprised of 6 core courses (18 SCH), 2 elective type courses (6 SCH), and 6 SCH of a research component for a total of 30 SCH required. The new proposed M.S. program is a two-year program nominally. Two core courses and an elective course is taken in the Fall semester of Year 1; three core courses in the Spring semester of Year 1; one core course and 3 SCH of research (thesis or capstone) is taken in Fall semester of Year 2; and one elective course and 3 SCH of research (thesis or capstone) is taken in Fall semester of Year 2. Two courses (Systems Health Management and Remanufacturing Processes) along with a 5001-701 Special Topics were deleted from the new proposed program (an existing 5001-700 Special Topics course was converted). Three new elective type courses (ISUS-821 Applied Life Cycle Assessment, ISUS-819 Tools for Graduate Research, ISUS-821 Material Cycling) were added as new courses for the converted program. A 0 SCH graduate seminar is (ISUS-819 Graduate Seminar) is required for the students every semester. The culminating element is either a thesis or a capstone project.</p>	

-Joel Kastner: asked if the graduate seminar is counted as credit?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: it may be counted as part of the research credits. However, the M.S. program has 6 SCH research component associated with it. The 6 SCH research is typically a 6 SCH thesis. A non-thesis option is available with a 3 SCH capstone plus 3 SCH research. The 3 SCH research is there to give students some solid research component and experience in the proposed new program.

-Andrew Moore: wondered how the students are prepared for research in the M.S. program?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: the course **GIS-ISUS-802 Fundamentals of Sustainability Science** taken in Fall of Year 1 covers those issues.
 -Don Wilson: wondered what is the capstone research component?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: a project type course with specific objectives that must be met and agreed to achieve. The course/project is supervised by a faculty member.
 -Andrew Moore: wondered what was performed in the graduate seminar course?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: the seminar has speakers who are faculty members and outside guests. Some students present their research work as well are critiqued with feedback on their presentation prior to defending.
 -Agamemnon Crassidis: wondered why all the course numbers for the core courses of the M.S. program were at the 800 level?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: the Ph.D. program uses them as well and introductory courses.
 -Agamemnon Crassidis: probably better list them as 700 level courses? The Ph.D. program can still use these courses all well since the 800 level designations are reserved for Ph.D. type courses.
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: ensured that Graduate Council membership the course numbers would be updated.
 -Agamemnon Crassidis: also, the M.S. Thesis course should be 790 and the dissertation designation should be 890?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: ensured that Graduate Council membership these course numbers would be updated as well.
 -Joel Kastner: asked what the current enrollment is for the M.S. and Ph.D. programs?
 -Ans from Paul Stiebitz: currently have 12 Ph.D. students with 35 applications for the program, not too many M.S. students since approval for the M.S. program was just given. Also, the first Ph.D. student is graduating this year.

Vote Tally	Approve: 9	Not Approve: 0	Abstain: 0
Signature	Agamemnon Crassidis	<i>Agamemnon Crassidis</i>	