June 11, 2013

To:       Mike Bailey  
           Chair  
           OSU Curriculum Council

From:    Gary Beach  
           Curriculum Coordinator  
           Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation

Subject: PROPOSAL:  
BS in Natural Resources; Urban Forest Landscape Option, to be Extended to Distant Locations Online by OSU’s Extended Campus

The Department of Forest Ecosystems and Society in the College of Forestry has submitted to Extended Campus a proposal to offer a new option of their existing BS in Natural Resources degree program that is currently offered online. Following a review by Ecampus, including budget considerations, the proposal was subsequently submitted to the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation for review of the curriculum.

The proposed option consists of 22-23 credit hours of Urban Forest Foundation courses, and 20-21 credit hours of Social/Political/Community Integration courses (a total of 42-44 credit hours). Following a thorough evaluation of the proposal, the course table was sent back for minor revisions and questions regarding face-to-face versus online delivery were investigated and resolved. The table was subsequently revised.

The program and the courses associated with the proposed option have been judged to be equivalent with the campus-based program. The attached table indicates which courses are offered on-campus and which are offered online. It is the judgment of the Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation that the proposed addition of the Urban Forest Landscape Option meets all of the requirements for review as specified in the “Review Process / Procedures for ECampus Proposals.”

I am recommending that the Curriculum Council consider the approval of this proposal – to “extend” the Urban Forest Landscape Option of the BS in Natural Resources degree program both online, and in hybrid form (face-to-face and online), to distant locations via OSU’s Office of Extended Campus.

c:  Alfonso Bradoch, Director, Department and Student Services, Extended Campus  
    Paul Doescher, Director, Natural Resources Program  
    Connie Patterson, Coordinator, Natural Resources Program  
    Bill Bogley, Director, Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation

Attached:  
Memo: from Paul Doescher and Connie Patterson to Alfonso Bradoch (May 22, 2013)  
Table: Urban Forest Landscapes Option – Natural Resources Program  
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