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2014

Curricular Report No. 2013 - 14 - 5B from the Graduate Council to the Faculty Senate: Environmental Planning and Design Track in Masters of Environmental Science and Management (MESM).

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Serial Number #13-14—18

TO: President David Dooley  
FROM: David Byrd, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Curricular Report No. 2013-14-5B from the Graduate Council to the Faculty Senate: Environmental Planning and Design Track in Masters of Environmental Science and Management (MESM), is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on March 20, 2014.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective April 10, 2014, three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.



David Byrd  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

March 20, 2014

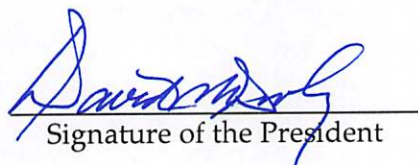
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ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved .
- b. Approved subject to Notice to the Board of Education \_\_\_\_.
- c. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Education \_\_\_\_ **APPROVED 11/19/14**
- d. Disapproved \_\_\_\_.



Signature of the President

4.15.14  
(date)

**Notice of Change for an addition of a new track, The Environmental Planning and Design track in the Masters of Environmental Science and Management (MESM) Program**

**Date:** April 3, 2014

**A. PROGRAM INFORMATION**

**1. Name of institution**

University of Rhode Island

**2. Name of department, division, school or college**

Division: Masters of Environmental Science and Management (MESM) College: CELS

**3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.**

Initiation date: Fall, 2014

First degree date: May, 2016

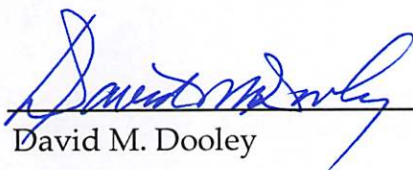
**4. Intended location of the program**

Kingston Campus

**5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages)**

See Attached

**6. Signature of the President**



David M. Dooley

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND DESIGN (EPD) MESM TRACK**

The Environmental Planning and Design track of MESM will provide graduate students advanced training, specialization and hands-on experience in environmental planning and design. It will allow students to work with faculty from landscape architecture, planning and other disciplines while developing the scientific foundation and applied design/planning skills for addressing a range of complex environmental problems. This track is intended to enhance student preparedness for exciting careers in the public and private sectors and creates a new option that expands opportunities for all students enrolled in MESM.

### **Requirements of the MESM EPD Track (36 credits)**

*Environmental planning and design:* 13 credits in planning and design, including at least 4 credits in design studio and at least 9 credits in planning;

*Natural sciences:* 9 credits from any of the following categories: geology, hydrology, soil science, ecology and management, or remote sensing and spatial analysis;

*Numerical methods:* 3 credits;

*Other requirements:* A 3 credit independent research project (EVS 598) that culminates in a substantial, high-quality, written report; at least 2 credits of graduate seminar, including a terminal oral presentation; written comprehensive examination on coursework. A minimum of 6 credits of electives which can include up to 3 credits of an internship (EVS 597) with an environmental agency, nongovernmental agency, or private consulting firm.

### **Planning and Design Track Course Offerings (13 credits)**

*Select at least 9 credits from the following planning courses:*

CPL 410 Fundamentals of Community Planning Practice (3)

CPL 450 Urban Design (3)

CPL 483 Land Development (3)

CPL 485 Environmental Planning (3)

CPL 538 Site Planning (3)

CPL 539 Environmental Law (3)

CPL 549 Seminar in Ecological Planning (3)

*Select at least 4 credits from the following studio courses:*

LAR 444 Landscape Architecture Design Studio III (4)

LAR 445 Landscape Architecture Design Studio IV (4)

**TO:** CELS Curriculum Review Committee  
Graduate Council

**FROM:** Arthur Gold, Peter August

**DATE:** August 22, 2013

**CC:** Professor Will Green

We are delighted to propose the addition of a new track -- "Environmental Planning and Design" (EPD) -- to the Masters of Environmental Science and Management (MESM) graduate program. The EPD track will be an exciting new addition to our portfolio of graduate programs in CELS and will attract students who wish advanced training in environmental planning and environmental design. The track meshes well with the overall structure of the MESM degree and does not require any modifications in the allocation of credits.

Professor Will Green in the Department of Landscape Architecture will serve as EPD track chair. The new track requires no new additional resources. Professor Green is currently expanding the scope and breadth of the courses LAR 444 and LAR 445 and is requesting that they count for graduate credit.

MESM had its Assessment Plan approved by the URI Office of Student Learning, Outcomes Assessment, and Accreditation in June 2013. The MESM assessment plan encompasses all tracks and the addition of the EPD option will not require any modification of the plan.

Nancy Neff in the Faculty Senate Office instructed us to advance this proposal as a "Notice of Change" and said that impact statements from the budget office and library would not be required.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND

COLLEGE OF  
THE ENVIRONMENT  
AND LIFE SCIENCES

THINK BIG WE DO



DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Rodman Hall, 94 West Alumni Avenue, Kingston, RI 02881 USA p: 401.874.2983 f: 401.874.4931 uri.edu/cels/lar

**MEMO**

**From:** Prof. Will Green

**To:** Pete August and Arthur Gold, MESM Co-Chairs

**RE:** Proposed new MESM Track in Environmental Planning and Design

**Date:** August 23, 2013

As Chair of the CELS Department of Landscape Architecture (LAR) and as the future track chair for the proposed MESM track in Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) I offer my full support for this proposed new program. My colleagues and I in LAR look forward to mentoring future MESM students interested in advanced studies in planning and design. All the classes required in the EPD track are within my department. We have sufficient capacity to accommodate the new graduate students who we hope the EPD track will attract.

As a means of preparing for new graduate students we have submitted Course Change Proposals to the CELS curriculum committee for 2 classes: LAR 444 – Design Studio III - Sustainable Design Studio and LAR 445 – Design Studio IV. Both courses have been modified so that they are eligible for grad credit.

We are excited to be a part of this new venture and look forward to working together on this.