

## Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate

### MEMO

**To:** The UVM Faculty Senate  
**From:** Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, Laura Almstead, Chair  
**Date:** February 3, 2017  
**Re:** Approval of a request submitted by the Directors of the Environmental Science Program to terminate the Environmental Sciences: Biology Minor and Environmental Sciences: Geology Minor

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At its meeting on February 2, 2017, the Curricular Affairs Committee unanimously approved the actions recommended in the following memo.

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The Curricular Affairs Committee unanimously approved the termination of the Environmental Sciences: Biology Minor and the Environmental Sciences: Geology Minor submitted by the Directors of the Environmental Sciences Program. The request for the uncontested termination was submitted by the Directors of the Environmental Sciences Program, Charlotte Mehrtens from the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), Donald Ross from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs), and Jennifer Pontius from the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources (RSENr).

Currently, Environmental Sciences (ENSC) is a cross-college program that spans CAS, CALs, and RSENr. At the time the ENSC: Biology and ENSC: Geology Minors were established, the Environmental Sciences program was housed only in CAS. These are the only two ENSC minors and the curricula do not include any ENSC courses. Additionally, the coursework for the two ENSC minors duplicates existing coursework in the Biology and Geology Minors. There are no students currently enrolled in either minor. Over the past five years, roughly two students have inquired about the ENSC: Biology Minor, and there have been no inquiries regarding the ENSC: Geology Minor.

The termination requests were put forth by the Directors of the Environmental Sciences and approved by the curriculum committees and faculty of all three colleges (CAS, CALs, RSENr).