

## 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:** December 8, 2017  
**Re:** Approval of a uncontested request by the Graduate College to terminate the Certificate of Graduate Studies in Sustainable Transportation Systems and Planning

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At its meeting on December 8, 2017, the Curricular Affairs Committee approved the actions recommended in the following memo.

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The Curricular Affairs Committee approved an uncontested request by the Graduate College to terminate the Certificate of Graduate Studies in Sustainable Transportation Systems and Planning (CGS in STSP). The request to terminate this program was initiated by the program director, Professor Glen McRae, Associate Director, UVM Transportation Research Center. No students are currently enrolled in the program.

The Transportation Research Center (TRC) at UVM was created in as a matrix center in 2007. As a matrix center, the TRC could sponsor graduate curriculum through the Graduate College. The CGS in STSP was developed in 2010 as a cross-college interdisciplinary certificate. In 2015, the TRC was eliminated as a matrix center. The research components of the TRC were transferred to the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences (CEMS), but CEMS did not wish to move the CGS in STSP into their portfolio. TRC staff worked to identify another potential host for the CGS in STSP, but were not successful. Without the overarching structure and funding from the TRC matrix center, the program director indicates that it has been difficult to provide the curriculum required to maintain the CGS in STSP. Recently, discussions regarding developing a new CGS in Resilient Communities were initiated by faculty in the Department of Community Development and Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences with a broader scope than the CGS in STSP. Faculty and staff involved in STSP reviewed initial proposals for this new certificate, made suggestions, and feel that the new certificate can incorporate some of the key academic principles of STSP, serve a wider set of interests at UVM, and be more sustainable administratively. The faculty and staff involved in STSP will continue to support this new proposal as it is developed.