



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

At the February meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board approved the termination of the Geology Department in the College of Arts and Sciences. Although the Senate did not vote directly on this action, this was the culmination of a number of reviews and actions that the Senate did take. In November, the Senate approved a name change of the Department of Geography to the Department of Geography and Geosciences and in December, the Senate approved a no-contest deactivation of the BA, BS and minor in Geology. These were done with the understanding that the Geology faculty would move to the newly renamed department after approval by the Board of Trustees of these changes. The Senate's procedures for the establishment, reorganization and elimination of a department state:

“Elimination of a Department requires Board of Trustees approval and would follow the required shared governance procedures required for either:

- a. The approval by the Board of Trustees of the academic reorganization of a College
- b. The elimination or movement out of the Department of all the programs offered by the Department.”

With the deactivation of the BA, BS and minors, the movement of the faculty to the newly named department at the end of the current academic and fiscal years, and the Board of Trustees approval, the closure of the Geology Department has followed the agreed upon procedures.

Although this was probably clear to most Senators, we (Vice President Eyler and I) thought it important to be state this clearly. The review of changes regarding the Geology Department came to the Senate (through the CAC) in sequential steps, rather than as a single comprehensive review such as the School of the Arts. However, this was a planned set of steps that followed CAC procedures.

Thomas Borchert
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Faculty Senate