

TRANSMITTAL for UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS: Changes or Proposals

INFORMATION

1. **Program title:** Community Planning Major
2. **Department(s):** Plant And Earth Science
3. **College(s):** Agriculture, Food And Environmental Sciences
4. **Proposal prepared by:** Eric Sanden **Date:** 11/2/2012

5. **Check all that apply:**

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New program | <input type="checkbox"/> Existing program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course name | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in number of credits |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in Major | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Minor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course content | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Emphasis/Option |

6. **Other Programs/Departments Consulted** (Requires letters of support from all Departments or Programs substantially affected):

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

7. **Date of Implementation:** Fall Semester 2013 Year

8. **Have all courses in this program been approved?** Yes ☐ No ☐
If "No," which ones? N/A

9. **Attach Request Narrative.** (Include description of program before and after proposed changes).

UNIT APPROVALS: Requires signatures of all Departments Chairs and Deans whose programs will be affected by the changes or proposal. Signature lines for the affected Departments and Colleges (Noted in 6 above), are on the back of this form. These signatures should be obtained prior to review by all other shared governance levels.

	Signature	Date
Department Chair	<u>Donavon H. Taylor</u>	<u>2 Nov 2012</u>
College Curriculum Cmtt. Chair	<u>Donavon H. Taylor</u>	<u>16 Nov 2012</u>
Dean of College	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>NOV 19 2012</u>
University Curriculum Cmtt. Chair	<u>Alexandra Tupper</u>	<u>Jan 28 2013</u>
Academic Policy & Programs Cmtt. Chair	_____	_____
Faculty Senate Chair	_____	_____
Provost / Vice Chancellor	_____	_____
Chancellor	_____	_____

NOTE: The master copy of this transmittal and accompanying documents must be filed in the Provost's office upon final approval. The Provost's office will notify all appropriate administrative offices [Registrar, Dean(s), and Department Chair(s)] of approvals and necessary actions to implement changes.

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DEPARTMENT & COLLEGE APPROVAL SIGNATURES

Signature

Date

Department Chair _____

College Curriculum Cmtd. Chair _____

Dean of College _____

Signature

Date

Department Chair _____

College Curriculum Cmtd. Chair _____

Dean of College _____

Signature

Date

Department Chair _____

College Curriculum Cmtd. Chair _____

Dean of College _____

Narrative for Suspension of
Community Planning Program
Department of Plant and Earth Science
College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science
University of Wisconsin – River Falls

The Department of Plant and Earth Science proposes that the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Suspend the Community Planning Program.

- Rationale for suspension of the program

Recent budget constraints have prevented the replacement of a community planning faculty position, left open due to a recent resignation. The program, then, would be supported by less than 1 FTE. Current and future budget uncertainties require us to plan in the event that this position remains vacant indefinitely. The number of students in the program, as shown below, has been relatively low when compared to other programs in the College, further reducing the probability that additional faculty resources will be forthcoming in the near future:

Year	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
Community Planning Majors	26	25	26	27	22

- The potential impact of suspension on students (e.g., where will students interested in the major go? Are there other campuses offering similar programs, etc.)

There are few universities in the US offering planning programs at the baccalaureate level, particularly in community planning. UW-Green Bay offers an Environmental Policy and Planning Program with a Planning Emphasis, along with an Urban and Regional Studies Program with one emphasis in Community Development and another in Urban and Regional Planning. UW-Stevens Point offers a Land Use Planning Program, focused on environmental issues. The University of Minnesota offers a Geography Program, with an Urban World sub-plan.

Our intent is to offer an Environmental Planning Option in a newly developed Conservation and Environmental Planning program, consisting of many of the core planning courses of the major but with a greater emphasis on environmental issues involved with development. This option will prepare students wishing to go on to study planning at a graduate level. Because a Master's degree is the typical terminal degree for planners, this approach will still serve those students interested in this career option.

- Potential impact on faculty

Moving from a major to an option, with the associated reduction in course offerings, will free up faculty resources to better address on-going and future needs within the department.

- Consultation with governance, as appropriately determined by campus by-laws

We have, or will, seek advice from affected programs on campus and this change will be considered by relevant campus committees and administration officials.

- Transition period (e.g., what steps will be taken to lessen the impact on students and faculty during the transition? Allotted time for those finishing the major)

Upon approval of this suspension request, students will no longer be admitted into the Community Planning program. To serve the students currently enrolled in the program, ad hoc faculty will be hired to teach three of the required courses. Another required course will be satisfied with substitutions. All remaining courses will continue to be taught on an on-going basis to serve other programs, including the Environmental Planning option. Given that students are continuing to sign up for the program as of the Fall 2012-2013 semester, the entire transition is expected to be completed in four years.