



ACADEMIC PROGRAM ELIMINATION FORM

DIRECTIONS: Use this form when proposing to eliminate an academic program, degree, major, or primary field of study.

DATE OF REQUEST: June 3, 2013

Date of AAC Approval:
December 4, 2013

INSTITUTION: UNLV

Date of Board Approval:

TITLE OF PROGRAM TO BE ELIMINATED:

Bachelor of Science

Major: Environmental Geology

EFFECTIVE DATE OF ELIMINATION: Fall 2013

A. Reason for proposed elimination of the program

The Geoscience Department restructured its degree program offerings and curriculum to bring them up-to-date with current practices in Geoscience education. Previously, we had offered three undergraduate degree programs: BS Geology, BS Earth Science, BS Environmental Geology. We now offer two undergraduate degree programs: BS Geology and BS Earth and Environmental Science. The latter was designed with a more flexible curriculum to serve a broader spectrum of students.

B. Specify plan to phase out the program, including description of how the needs of currently enrolled students will be met

The Geoscience Department has continued to offer required courses for the Environmental Geology Major as well as a sufficient number of elective courses to enable completion for students currently enrolled in the major. Beginning in Fall 2011, we stopped accepting students into the Environmental Geology major, and redirected them either to the Geology or Earth and Environmental Science majors.

C. Impact of closure on faculty and staff, and related academic programs

There was no impact on faculty or staff in the elimination of the Environmental Geology degree program. The impact to related academic programs -- the two other BS programs offered by the Department of Geoscience -- is to increase their enrollments.

D. Describe any impact the program elimination will have on accreditation and note any discussions as such that have occurred with the accrediting agency

There are no concerns with regard to accreditation. There is no accreditation specific to Geology degree programs.

E. Describe the process of notifying other institutions regarding impact of the program closure on transfer and articulation

An emphasis in Environmental Geology can currently be pursued within the flexible curriculum of the Earth and Environmental Science degree. All courses which applied towards the Environmental

Geology degree program currently can be applied to the Earth and Environmental Science BS program. Therefore, the changes were not sufficiently substantive to warrant notification to other institutions.

F. Fiscal Impact Statement – describe the fiscal impact, if any, that will result from the elimination of the program

There will be no significant fiscal impact incurred with elimination of the BS Environmental Geology. The number of undergraduate courses that need to be offered by Department faculty will be unaffected. Regarding students, the degree program and curriculum revision resulted in a significant increase in the total number of undergraduate majors in Geoscience. There is a slight efficiency gained in overseeing two rather than three undergraduate degree programs.

Please attach any supporting documentation (i.e. support letters from community, industry).