

Minutes
for the 425th Meeting
of the
SENATE OF KEENE STATE COLLEGE
Wednesday, December 12, 2012
4 p.m., Mountain View Room, Student Center

I. Call to Order 4:11

II. Roll Call

Excused: Senator Blatchly, Senator Stemp, Senator Fleegeer, Senator Lucey, Senator Williams, Senator Bedell, Senator Marshall

III. Secretary's Report

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 424th meeting of the Keene State College Senate.

Vote: Motion passes

IV. Courtesy Period

President Kahn - I am sorry that my attendance this semester hasn't been that consistent. My apologies and I am glad I can join you on the last meeting of the semester. I am thankful for a really good semester and I appreciate all of the work that the faculty and students have poured into this and I think we are having terrific outcomes. Students are feeling challenged, faculty are being worked hard and staff are contributing in many ways that are reaching deep so it is all good. I am grateful for the work that has resulted in a Collective Bargaining Agreement. The faculty has met and voted to approve the agreement and we will communicate further to the campus in the next day hopefully. I am grateful in that and it is an outcome of this semester. Grateful too for the gift that we announced yesterday from the Main Street America Group that would enable the college to follow through with its needs to provide a practical site, a recreation and intercollegiate site for indoor activities on Gilbo Avenue. The Health and Wellness Center will take programmatic shape over the next semester during the master planning process but there is great potential for helping the campus in different ways in our academic programs, recreational student life programs, and intercollegiate athletics and community partnerships. It really just hits a lot of these for the college and holds a great deal of promise for us. There is no approval of a specific program but the Board of Trustees did allow us to go forward and accept this gift at this time. I am grateful for that. The season of things to be grateful for but we have much to look forward to in the coming year. I want to extend to you again the invitation to the all campus holiday greetings next Tuesday at the President's house at 2:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there with your colleagues and the rest of our friends around campus. To all of you I wish you a very happy restful holiday.

V. Subcommittee Reports

Senator Stanish - I know we have a number of guests here for curriculum and various proposals and thank you for being here. We have a rather long agenda so I appreciate your patience in waiting until whenever your particular department comes up. We are going to start with the Executive Committee as it is listed on the agenda.

• **Executive Committee**

Senator Stanish - If you look on the Executive Committee report which is [SD 12/13-17] Page 8 in your packet I am actually going to start towards the end where we have a motion about the Parliamentarian.

Our regular Parliamentarian Chuck Weed let us all know that he wouldn't be here tonight so we asked Patrick Dolenc and he kindly agreed to serve as parliamentarian for this one Senate meeting.

Motion: The SEC moves that the Senate approve Patrick Dolenc as parliamentarian for the 425th Senate meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Vote: Motion carries

Senator Stanish - That was our only motion we are bringing forward. We will save any other motions the SEC is looking for until next semester. You can read through what's here but just to give you a couple of updates. We did update the policy on the Senate absences to Senator Welsh's suggested timeline of a 7 day turnaround for a Senator who had been absent to respond to the Senate Chair. We will bring that proposal for a motion probably in February or whenever we get time in a meeting. That won't go into effect until next year anyway. We have been working on the administrative process for program review and there are various pieces of that that are in progress. We will bring that forward as well next semester. Also, as many of you saw in the email I sent out today there are quite a few Senators with excused absences this evening and we had to cancel last week's meeting. There are various conflicts that seem to come up with the December meeting times and even though this year we did what we have always have done in terms of scheduling the meetings during the last week of classes and then during finals, it doesn't seem to be working all that well for a couple of different reasons. So I apologize there was nothing we could do this year but we will be looking into that next year. We will be soliciting input from all of you about what would work well in December in terms of being able to get the important business that we need to get done this time of year and at a time when most Senators can be here is most helpful. That is the brief summary, is there any questions or discussion for the Executive Committee?

Senator Darby - Could you refresh our memory, what is the Kdig Archive?

Senator Schmidl-Gagne - Kdig is a permanent archive that the library supports so what we are trying to do is create a permanent archive for the AOC documents. We have given them everything from Biology as a test and what they have gone through and done is try to catalog and make it searchable in a way that would be most useful for the future. It's completed and right now what we have asked is for Biology to imagine that they have to do their self study that they are embarking on, whatever the AOC process is for the future, and to go into those documents and make sure that how we are cataloging and archiving works in order for them to get the information they need to do their next self study. The phase beyond that is then to try and get all the support documents. So we have the self study, we have the external reviewers report and we have the AOC's report but what we don't have is all their supporting documents. So the next phase will be to try and upload all those supporting documents so that everything is there. It becomes a complete record for program review in the future. So that they are accessible there will be a live link on the Senate website that anyone could go to and search those documents.

Provost Treadwell - Also, just to raise to the Senate's attention that part of the process we are looking at for archive is to lean forward toward our future NEASC Accreditation visits in a way that provides a comprehensive, well-organized summary of curriculum and program review. So we are being very mindful of that while we work with the Library and other resources on campus to be sure that we have done this once and done it well as we try to transition the program proposal process of program review.

- **Academic Overview Committee**

Senator Sapeta - I can provide the Geology report to discuss but I don't have the report from Richard. The subcommittee for the review of the Geology department worked last year on the review program. We have a report that I am going to read most of it here today and we also have a response from the department.

According to the Geology Department's self-study, "Geology is the study of the Earth and its environs. It is primarily concerned with deciphering the processes, which have operated on and within the Earth in the past, shaping and forming the Earth as we know it today. Geologists study the Earth's past history, as well as present-day processes acting on the Earth, in order to better understand what the future might hold for us. The Earth really is a dynamic, happening place, with continual and complex interaction among the Earth's many systems, including those of the geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere, as well as the biosphere and the external solar system. The relationships of these Earth processes to humankind are at the core of many contemporary issues. A full understanding of the Earth system and its processes requires an interdisciplinary approach based on detailed field observations and including the collection, interpretation, and application of quantitative geochemical and geophysical data."

The Geology Program has three main tracks: the Geology Major (BS - 64 credits), the Earth and Space Science Major (BA - 60 credits), and the Geology Minor (20 credits). In addition, the program makes a major contribution to the Integrative Studies Program, offering 4 courses that fulfill ISP requirements. Geology majors and minors receive a well-rounded interdisciplinary science education built on the foundation of a traditional geology curriculum (Physical & Evolution of the Earth, Mineralogy, Igneous & Metamorphic Petrology, Structural Geology, Stratigraphy, and Paleontology). The focus for the Earth and Space Science Major is to teach students about the methods of scientific inquiry and about the Earth, its materials, processes and systems, and thus about appropriate stewardship of the Earth and its resources. Currently, there are 11 majors (9- Geology and 2- Earth and Space Science) and 2 minors, but the department's courses impact more than 400 students each year.

The Geology Department strives to prepare students to think critically and creatively, to engage in active citizenship, and to pursue meaningful work through level-appropriate, student-centered, inquiry-based, active participatory learning experiences that engage them in the scientific process. Since their last program review, the college has undergone a transition to a 4-credit class structure, which has allowed the program to address two major issues: 1. the nature and articulation of our introductory courses for both majors and non-majors, and 2. credit discrepancies among our upper-level courses. They want their students (both majors and students participating in the Integrative Studies Program) to understand the workings of the natural world and the process of science, to be able to read, observe and think critically, reason quantitatively, undertake research, and communicate effectively.

Faculty Qualifications and Staffing

At the time of the self-study (Fall 2011), there were two full-time, tenured faculty in the Geology department, 1 Associate Professor and 1 Full Professor, with diverse specialization areas and both with PhDs. Four adjunct faculty also teach courses offered in the Geology program and also cover a diverse range of specializations around foundational Geology concepts like Earth Science, Structural Geology, and Meteorology. Two of these adjunct faculty hold PhDs, one a Master's or Master's equivalent, and one a Bachelor's or equivalent. Teaching assignments are determined by historical precedent, areas of faculty expertise, and mutual agreement of the faculty.

Dr. Nielsen has served as Department Chair for most of the past ten years, except for the times he was on sabbatical. From 2005 through 2011, Dr. Nielsen also served as Faculty Co-chair of the Integrative Studies Program with reassigned time ranging from four courses per year (2005-2008) to three courses per year (2000-2011). When Geology and Physics were merged into a single department, Dr. Wolf and Dr. Nielsen each received six credits reassigned time per year. The tenured faculty in Geology generally teach one section of either INGEOL-151 or GEOL-252 and one upper-level geology course each semester (total credits 21 1/3) and one additional four-credit course per year, for a total load of 25 1/3 credits, and thirty contact hours per year. Adjunct faculty were assigned twelve to thirteen credits per semester for both Fall and Spring terms in order to meet the demand for INGEOL courses at both the lower and upper-levels along with upper-level courses in the Geology major, or sections of IQL-101 and INMET-225. The major budget reduction experienced by the University System of New Hampshire for the 2011-13 biennium will have a major impact on the program's ability to continue to deliver the courses they are committed to, according to the program's self-study.

Program Strengths

A number of strengths of the Geology Program were noted in both the Geology Department's self-study and the external reviewers' report. In terms of teaching, both the self-study and the external reviewers agree on the value of the tenured and adjunct faculty members, and their very positive impact on the Geology Program and student outcomes. Specifically, the external reviewers emphasized the good academic credentials of the faculty and the positive comments provided by students regarding the quality of teaching by faculty in the department. At least part of this assessment can be attributed to high student morale, as noted in the external reviewers' report, and the statement in the self-study concerning the ability of the program to "give students a good grounding in field work and methodology". A solid grounding in scientific method and field work is clearly linked to student success; as such, the fact that the external reviewers believe the teaching spaces to be well-appointed and the list of equipment adequate for a Geology program is a notable strength of the department. [Note: there is concern expressed over maintenance and renewal of existing equipment – see Program Challenges below]. Moreover, the external reviewers' report and the self-study emphasize the inclusion of many field trips in Geology courses and point to the annual GEODES trips as excellent learning opportunities that other geology programs should envy. The self-study mentions that the GEODES trips (and other field trips) contribute " ... to the goal of studying the real world to gain insights through careful observation and analysis of phenomena in the field". Given the success of trips like these, the Geology Department is planning to offer a required field methods course (Research Methods in Geology), a version of which was piloted in 2010FA and proved very successful in meeting many of their student learning outcomes. Lastly, the self-study acknowledges fluctuations in the number of Geology majors; however, it is noted that this is a reflection, to some extent, of "national trends in geoscience enrollments" as well as enrollment trends "across the natural sciences at KSC". Nevertheless, the external reviewers point out that enrollments in Geology courses has risen 50% since the last external review and that the department is a major contributor to the ISP curriculum at Keene State College.

Program Challenges

There is some agreement between the internal self-study produced by the Geology Department and the evaluation of the Geology Program by the external reviewers with regard to the challenges currently faced by Geology. However, there are also some notable differences in terms of challenges identified by both reports. Overall, the external reviewers' report is much more vocal about the perceived challenges facing the Geology Program at KSC. Collectively, the main challenges to the Geology Program are:

Low enrollment in the major;

Only two tenure track faculty approaching retirement with substantial reassign time for other campus obligations;

Heavy reliance on adjuncts for the delivery of the curriculum;

Lack of updated equipment and little opportunity for undergraduate research for students.

Staffing

Both the self-study and the external reviewers' report emphasize concerns with staffing issues in the Geology Program, with the external reviewers specifically addressing the lack of adequate staffing for a Major-granting program. Although the external reviewers recommend hiring full-time tenure-track faculty, existing Geology faculty make mention of a full-time clinical staff position. There are multiple components to this. The first involves the reliance on only two full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty members. This is partly due to the loss of one full-time tenured faculty member (Tim Allen) to the newly-created Environmental Studies Program. The second involves a lack of staffing the Geology Program with incoming, younger faculty. The external reviewers note that both of the existing tenured faculty members have been at Keene State College for more than 20 years. Aside from the hiring of Tim Allen, there has been no other tenure-track faculty line provided to Geology in over 20 years. Both the self-study and external review discuss the need for additional full-time faculty for the Geology Department. Time is of the essence given the current full time faculty members' time to retirement, and if new tenure-track faculty are not secured there is a threat of loss of programmatic cohesiveness and consistency, as well as institutional memory.

Although existing geology faculty expect to continue their reliance on adjunct faculty and want to "work with the College on building and retaining a pool of willing and qualified instructors", the external reviewers believe this approach to be inadequate. The reviewers state that "[e]very discipline needs a regular infusion of new ideas and new fields that comes with new faculty members." Related to the lack of investment in new personnel for the Geology Program is the external reviewers' concern with the heavy reliance on adjunct faculty to deliver the curriculum. In their report, the external reviewers are very critical of this fact and note that some of the recent budget issues have affected morale within the department, which has been challenging at best.

Enrollments

Both the self-study report and the external reviewers' report note that student enrollments in introductory classes are strong, which is in part due to the substantial contributions that Geology has made to the Integrative Studies Program. The external reviewers interpret this as an indication of the importance of geology to KSC students and as an important introduction to a discipline that typically does not get taught in high school. But, the number of students majoring in Geology is considered "modest" by the external reviewers. They believe that there could be more majors in this program at Keene State, if comparisons are made with geology programs at similar institutions. According to the self-study, at least one factor contributing to the reduction of students in upper level Geology courses is the creation of the ENST program, which has drawn some students away from courses within the discipline of geology (i.e., fewer are taking GEOL prefix courses).

Research Opportunities

In short, the external reviewers feel that there is not much research being undertaken by undergraduates, specifically Majors, in the Geology Program. They provide what they see as the main reasons for this, which directly relate to other challenges previously discussed. Primary among them is that lack of adequate numbers of full-time tenured/tenure-track faculty to supervise and collaborate with Geology Majors. The expectation that underpaid and overworked adjunct faculty members should be expected to supervise student research is untenable. Second, the research equipment currently available to Geology students is not given adequate staff support. Both the self-study and the external review highlight the need for support staff to facilitate the operation and the maintenance of existing equipment and mineralogical collections. The external reviewers specifically comment on the fact that expensive equipment (e.g., an x-ray fluorescence spectrometer and a mass spectrometer) purchased with grant money “are going unused” due to lack of staff support. They further note that basic equipment, such as balances and petrographic microscopes, does not appear to get adequate maintenance. Moreover, the self-study report notes that this basic equipment has not been serviced in 20 years. Although the self-study also addresses the need for better access to research resources through the library, this was not addressed by the external reviewers.

Interdisciplinary Cooperation

The external reviewers mention the possibilities provided by interdisciplinary cooperation. Although the Geology self-study does not address this point directly, some statements made concerning enrollments lost due to the creation of the ENST Program and the loss of a faculty member to ENST are indirectly related. The external reviewers note certain commonalities between programs such as Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geography, Environmental Studies, and Geology, but believe that “opportunities for cooperation in offerings and in sharing the use of equipment are not being fully explored”. They specifically mention a “schism” between the Geology Program and the Environmental Studies program, and suggest that courses offered in both departments could benefit students in each of the programs.

Recommendations

Although we recognize the recommendations for numerous possible changes to the current Geology Program by the external reviewers and the self-study, we have summarized what we feel to be the more pressing issues below:

1. The department and the administration of Keene State College need to work together to craft a vision for the future of the department. This discussion and its result should include clarification of the role of Geology in supporting majors versus the Integrative Studies Program or other interdisciplinary programs (such as Environmental Studies and General Science) on campus. In addition, structures regarding faculty hiring and support need to be adjusted to reflect this vision.
2. The department should explore strategies for publicizing themselves and their students’ work, whether that be through an updated website presence or actions such as posting photos of students during field experiences in prominent locations. In addition, the department should promote the ways in which Geology applies in the field through the creation of more ways for students to see the job application possibilities, whether through internships or networking with successful alumni.
3. Both reports agree that the program needs more full-time teachers, lab technicians, and mentors/research supervisors for students. The specific manner in which this should be addressed is clearly debatable, but minimally, the Geology program needs one full-time, tenure-track line to help address the concerns raised by the reviewers and the self-study, with the possible addition of a clinical staff position. The tenure-track position is seen as critical to the longevity and vibrancy of the program

by the external reviewers based on the fact that it takes 6 years for tenure to be granted and the existing faculty in Geology may or may not still be teaching at KSC in 6 years. This would also help to alleviate dependence on adjunct faculty.

4. The administration should make a commitment to maintain laboratory equipment in Geology so that students and faculty have better research opportunities. Toward this end, they should develop a schedule of regular maintenance (including funding) for geology's equipment, such as balances and petrographic microscopes. This has occurred in other departments in the sciences and needs to be implemented in Geology as well.

5. The department should take seriously the external reviewers' advice about providing opportunities for both faculty and undergraduate students to engage in research. This may require a reexamination of the curriculum of the major and/or require that other changes be made to make room for such research to occur.

Senator Sepata - The information in this sub-committee report was derived from the Geology self-study report and the external reviewers' report of the Geology Program at Keene State College. Any errors or omissions are the responsibility of the AOC Geology sub-committee chair and the chair of the AOC.

Motion: The AOC moves that its report on the review of the Geology Program be accepted and approved by the Senate.

Dr. Bill - Dr. Steve Bill from the Geology Department, just a few comments, a lot of our research is embedded in courses so it doesn't really come out in the review processes. We anticipate trying to do something about that to make it a little bit more obvious. For example, I do a coastal field trip that our students collect samples and we kind of go through the process and try and understand what they are looking at and since it's embedded in the course work it doesn't really come out as much as we would like. In terms of trying to recruit students, again, we are always game to try and do that on campus, see if we can do a little arm twisting to see if we can do a little better with that. We noted a couple of years ago probably 10 students expressed an interest in Geology and out of those only one came. Again, we don't understand what is going on with that but we certainly want to see more and work with Admissions to see what we can do better with that. In terms of joint interest certainly as a natural affinity General Science we have a lot of things in common. We should probably have more with Environmental Studies but again because they became a separate program there are problems with that. Geography is another field that we anticipate trying to develop with. We got good feedback in terms of our student's quality, this year in quantity, which again is always kind of an issue with these kinds of things. I won't read it but I just got an email from UMass Lowell that they have a new faculty member and that they are trying to recruit graduates for that program and will be seeking out our graduates for that. That and their job opportunities I think speak well with past training and the numbers again are part of it.

Provost Treadwell - I am just curious whether the department has been working with Admissions and some of the other offices in recent years to work on the recruitment and admissions effort. Can you say a little more on what you have been doing in that regard if any?

Dr. Bill - We probably have lots to do with that and we would like to meet directly with the Admission staff to try and develop some strategies. Certainly, we have made ourselves available for events on campus but I don't know if that is in the report. I would like to thank the college for the kinds of input because it helped with what you suggested. I would like to note that we now have a FT Technician in the Science Division and it has made a difference on a lot of improvement.

Vote: Motion carries

- **Curriculum Committee**

Senator Darby - Since the last Senate Meeting we have had 3 meetings.

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Economics major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Mathematics Statistics minor be approved by the Senate.

Chair Stanish turned gavel over to Vice Chair Jean of the Senate.

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Mathematics major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Gavel passed back to Chair Stanish

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Sociology major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the IAMU 330 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the IAMU 407 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the IATAD 102 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that revision of the Theatre and Dance major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the Addition of the Multimedia Journalism minor be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Holocaust & Genocide Studies minor be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Music Performance major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Music Education major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Music major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Music minor be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the ISCS 140 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the ISCS 150 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the INCS 160 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Discussion: Senator Welsh - I am just curious, they are both Computer Science courses that we just looked at and one is IS and one is IN. What is the difference?

Senator Hanrahan - In Computer Science it is typically software which deals with information and solving problems and also we have hardware. Hardware is more physical and physics oriented. The IN160 basically deals with the hardware piece of Computer Science and therefore more aligned with the discipline of Natural Sciences.

Vote: Motion Carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the ISCS 350 course proposal be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the replacement of IENST 152 with ENST 250 be approved by the Senate

Discussion: Senator Prosper - What is the difference?

Senator Darby - I can read from the rationale. This is from the Chair of Environmental Studies and he writes that the ENST major program underwent a significant redesign in 2010. This course, Principles of Sustainability is developed to meet specific objectives in support of our new major program. We also made it available as an offering in ISP however we have found that we have not been able to achieve the objectives we have for the course in service to our major program within the constraints of ISP given the intensive nature of the course. Thus, we are proposing to renumber this course, removing it from the ISP and adding prerequisites to emphasize its role in our major program. At the same time we propose to resubmit and resurrect an old course that had been discontinued and offer that in ISP and allow that course as an alternate entry path into our major. There is a reference to the upcoming proposal which is IENST 150. I would also point out that the program sought advisory opinions from American Studies and from Health Sciences, both programs are effected in their curriculum, and they received positive

advisory opinions. I also point out that the Dean of Sciences and Social Sciences approve the proposal as did the School Curriculum Committee.

President Kahn - I spoke with Provost Treadwell about an issue and I am just curious if the SCC might consider that when we put the II designations or the I designations as a prefix to the course that when we do a course listing we begin to distinguish between courses and all courses that are offered. For instance, if one is looking from outside the campus and all the courses that might be in ENST they don't know that there might be a handful of ENST courses being offered as II's. We might and we would look to see that there are 4 courses; for instance this semester there are only 6 courses being offered in ENST in the spring semester but maybe 4 more that are IIENST. How we think that in our course listings is just a topic that needs to get further discussion. I don't know if there is more.

Provost Treadwell - I have actually been following up with our conversation and working with the Registrar's office. This has been and many Senator's may appreciate a longstanding concern associated with our Integrative Studies Program that disciplinary offerings to the general curriculum for the campus can be at times become lost with regard to student's clarity. We had a number of conversations as a Senate. I do believe we'll have a solution that allows departments to be recognized with their full curricular offerings both that are unique to the discipline and to the Integrative Studies Program as well. That we meet the goals that you have expressed and also that many faculty shared with regard to the loss of disciplinary recognition because of the ISP prefix there will be some cross listing given the fact that as a Senate we addressed this issue in the past. Our students haven't expressed concern in general but our faculty has been quite concerned about the disciplinary loss within the program. I believe we will have a solution that will meet the needs and allows everyone to see the full offerings to the curriculum.

Senator Stanish - Thank you to both of you for bringing that up. I think it is an issue that goes a little bit beyond the Senate in terms of how we list things and how we access them but it is an issue certainly as Provost Treadwell has repeatedly commented to the Senate exactly the sentiments you expressed President Kahn. I think if my memory serves me correctly when the prefixes were first introduced the ISP prefixes that were exactly the concern that was expressed on the Senate floor, so I appreciate this.

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the replacement of ENST 120 with IIENST 150 be approved by the Senate

Provost Treadwell - I would just like to on behalf of the institution acknowledge the department's efforts to continue to provide an interdisciplinary course for our students in an important area like Environmental Studies. My thanks to the Curriculum Committee for your work in forwarding this to the department and officially for the record for their creative approach to meet both the departmental need as well as our students. Thank you.

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Computer Science minor be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Computer Science major be approved by the Senate

Discussion: Provost Treadwell - Just one question for my colleagues in Computer Science. The one thing I noticed was the number of options or specialization tracks as you named them in the proposal. This is not a criticism per se on the floor but with regard to the department size could you help me understand better where your thinking is with regard to your specialization tracks in the curriculum that you have proposed?

Professor Elvis Foster - The number of specializations doesn't really affect our ability to offer the program because the courses remain the same. The specializations are just our attempt to package the same courses that we teach anyway so that students can make a better choice depending on their career objectives and we advise them accordingly.

Senator Hanrahan - Also, when students go to employers a lot of times they will want specific things, database, web development, networking and it makes it easier for the employers to see if they are packaged in a certain way that students have met and taken these courses instead of having to go and search the course and ask if this course is applicable to working with a database. It is also to help our students when they get employment to more subsequently and clearly show that they are specialized in certain areas.

Provost Treadwell - Just a follow up. I am curious if you considered the option for our students to pursue 2 specializations. I am wondering if at the time a student enters if they hadn't necessarily forecasted their career projectory, because the major with its 28 credit specializations, are there anxieties with regard to students finding the lens for these options and tracks. Can they manage with a 46 credit specialization? Should they try the two together and be given a 62 credit major? You expect them to be focused at the point.

Professor Elvis Foster - Yes, two comments I would like to make. First of all the idea of specialization is natural for Computer Science so once our majors come because Computer Science is such a dynamic area there is no way that a student or even a professional can master everything. Once they have completed their first year in Computer Science already depending on their strengths or weaknesses they are thinking about areas that they want to specialize in and we advise them accordingly. I hope everyone understands that. The second point that I want to make is that we do have a general computer science area and that would address just in case we have a few students who are not sure what they want to specialize in. They could stay in the generalized area and even delay their decision until a couple days before graduation.

Senator Hanrahan - The way it is designed is that the electives of some areas they are all required to take them. Two to three courses in each specialization but the electives that they take can be specialized areas in another specialization. They actually can do two as long as they manage the elective piece. They are not all specific there are only two or three that are specific to each specialization.

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Environmental Studies minor be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Environmental Studies major be approved by the Senate

Vote: Motion carries

Motion: The SCC moves that the revision of the Health Science major be approved by the Senate

Senator Prosper - With this redesign, my question is, is this in conjunction or have anything to do with the nursing program?

Senator Darby - The answer is no. The only change here for the Health Science Major is that one of the ENST courses that we recently approved is a requirement within one of the specializations of Health Science. Specifically, in the Community Health Specialization require ENST120 Global Environmental Change and the Senate has just passed the replacement of ENST120 with IENST 150. The only change in the Health Science major is to compensate for the change we just made. That's all.

Vote: Motion carries

Senator Darby - That concludes the report but I want to say thank you to the SCC. Clearly there is a lot of traffic that passed our desk in the last few months and I want to thank them all very much. I also want to thank the Curriculum Committees of the Schools and the II Curriculum Subcommittee for their attention and collaboration. They are a very dynamic and wonderful group.

Senator Stanish - I would like to completely echo those thanks to the School and the II Committees as well as the SCC. Thank you all, you have put in a lot of work. I think the lack of discussion is not from a lack of interest. I think it's a faith in your good work and the fact that good work has already been done before we even see the proposals and that they are so well put together. All of the details are covered; the web site is very easy to navigate. Thank you all for that wonderful work. It saves us a lot work and I really do appreciate that. Thank you.

VI. New Business

Senator Stanish - I did receive an email from the search committee for a new Director of the Honors Program. Peggy Walsh has done wonderful work for the past three years and her term is up. There will be a search for a new director. There was a request for a faculty member from the Senate to serve on that search committee. If you are a faculty member and think that that would interest you, let me know. I will send out an email tomorrow to all the Senate faculty members to have a call for self-nominations. If we have more than one self-nomination, we will go to having you write a statement of interest and then go to a vote. If we have just one then we will go by acclamation. So if you are interested let me know. I think it is a very important search committee to serve on and it is important that the Senate have a role on that search committee so I appreciate that we were invited and hope someone will take up on the offer.

VII. Adjournment 5:08