



State University of New York College of
Environmental Science and Forestry
Academic Affairs Committee

Minutes for April 16, 2024 Meeting 11 AM
217 Bray Hall

Voting members present: Jamie Shinn, Michael Schummer, Jess Fenn, Brandon Murphy, Eddie Bevilacqua, Avik Chatterjee, Time Morin, Ann Moore, Ruth Owens, Emanuel Carter

Non-voting members and guests present: Tao Huang, Erin Tochelli, Terrance Caviness, Mark Hill, Nasri Abdel-Aziz, Beth Minard, Leslie Rutkowski, Jon Henderson

- a. Call to Order- 11:10
- b. Approval of Minutes- minutes were not provided
- c. Updates from Academic Administration- no report
- d. Action Items
 1. [Course Revision, ECH 322 Fluid Mechanics](#)- did not come up for discussion
 2. [Course Revision, EWP 311 Urban Environmental Literature](#)- did not come up for discussion
 3. [New Course Proposal CME 456 Advanced Skills for Construction Management](#)
 - Format is still unclear, semester to semester. Further clarification requested for the scheduling/time commitment/credit hours of the class. **Tabled.**
 4. [New Course Proposal CME 403 Construction Management Internship II](#)
 - No comments, **Approved**
 5. [New Course Proposal CME 371 Surveying for Construction Managers](#)
 - No comments, **Approved**
 6. [Course Revision, FTC 211 Silviculture](#)- did not come up for discussion
 7. [Course Revision, FTC 207 Communications and Safety](#)- did not come up for discussion
 8. [Course Revision, FTC 221 Natural Resource Management](#)- did not come up for discussion
 9. [Course revision EST 366, Environmental Ethics](#) - did not come up for discussion
 10. [New Course Proposal, ESF 298 Research Apprenticeship in the Environmental Sciences](#)- did not come up for discussion
- e. Old Business

Math Placement Policy

 - Stronger language was added to reflect the possible enforcement of this policy.
 - There are a lot of questions and concerns over the enactment of this policy and how it can have weight behind it, but we should consider whether or not we support the idea of the resolution and figure out how to make it happen later.
 - Need to work with Kitty/others about how to communicate with incoming students.
 - There may be potential to strengthen the requirement, and we suggest the college dedicates resources to make this functional.
- f. New Business

[New Policy Proposal: Grade Forgiveness Policy](#)

 - Federal Student Aid Handbook- it might be possible to allow this, but the language is vague.

- Some schools have academic amnesty where students can apply to have some grades excluded from the GPA. The FSA does not allow this for a course that is applicable to the student's major at the time to be removed. We need very clear expectations/rules.
- General statement in the policy should be clear that a student should check with financial aid before requesting grade forgiveness.
- Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is required of students regardless of their aid eligibility. A student would not be able to change their major, request grade forgiveness, and have their status changed to become aid eligible.
- There is a potential for amnesty/forgiveness/fresh start for students who are away from school for an extended period of time and return and change majors.
- There needs to be a time limit for when the request is made (e.g. within 6 months of the change of major)
- Policy should not be retroactive, limited to one time
- We will have to see whether this can be operationalized (can Banner exclude the grade without a replacement grade?). We agreed that we should see if this is possible before we move forward so that.
- This will continue to be discussed next year. **Tabled**

**Next meeting:
Tuesday, April 30
217 Bray Hall**