



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

Agenda for April 1, 2025 Meeting 11 AM
252 Marshall Hall

Voting members present: Jess Fenn, Christine Georgakakos, Eddie Bevilacqua, Jamie Shinn,
Erika Blair, Emanuel, Zora Thomova, Ruth Owens, Robert Meyer

Non-voting members and guests present: Beth Minard, Leslie Rutkowski, Sue Sanford,
Terrance Caviness, Erin Tochelli, Jacob Gedetsis, Katherina Searing

1. Call to Order 11:03
2. Approval of Minutes, 2/4/25 and 3/4/25 **Approved**
3. Updates from the Associate Provost
 - a. Nothing new, just pay attention to advising issues like AI Waiver and Internship registration
4. Old Business
 - a. Grade Forgiveness- We heard that it may be possible, that group should reconvene before end of semester to look at how this may work.
5. New Business
 - a. New Academic Minor- Civil Engineering Technology- **Tabled, rep not present.**
 - b. Revision to Academic Minor, Environmental Writing and Rhetoric
 - i. Update number of 291 to 293
 - ii. **Approved 9-0-0**
 - c. Graduate Transfer Policy
 - i. Point of information, students in shared resources course, student must enroll in grad level course in order to gain the graduate level credit.
 - ii. **Approved 9-0-0**
 - d. Credit for Prior Learning Policy
 - i. Question about the language around fees being consistent between challenge exams and portfolio fees. Make this a bit more general.
 1. Note- Feedback from SUNY requested the removal of specific fee amounts.
 - ii. Could a student potentially take advantage of the residency requirement to only be at ESF two semesters? We don't foresee this being a problem since there are too many specific requirements across the board to have a student transfer back and finish within one semester. If it becomes a problem, we can revisit.
 - iii. If each department has control over what challenge exams they will offer, can they also control what courses are eligible for portfolio review? We haven't included limits on this, other than those stated (special topics, research, internship). It may be naturally limited based on the content of the courses.
 - iv. Question about why internship isn't included in portfolio review.

1. We were deliberately trying to anticipate that students would take advantage of this to skirt registration in internships, which is why they cannot do portfolio review. The requirement can be waived for those with work experience in the field and the credit would still need to be earned in a different area.
- v. Is there a time limit on when they can request this? Not currently. We are trying to be flexible when students might not know right away that this is an option or what would be eligible.
- vi. There is a question about why we are charging students for the evaluation of a portfolio for learning they have gained.
 1. Students need the credit issued and validated by ESF in order to earn credit. The credit earned can go with them, like any transfer credit so they are gaining ESF credit and we are also compensating the reviewer for their time.

vii. Approved 8-1-0

- e. [New Course Proposal EWP 291, Art of Poetry](#)
 - i. Course number needs to be changed. 291 already exists. Friendly amendment to switch to 293.
 - ii. Small language change to SLO “demonstrate the ability to” reword

iii. Approved 9-0-0
- f. [New Course Proposal EWP 292, Art of Fiction](#)
 - i. SLO wording same as above.

ii. Approved 9-0-0
- g. [New Course Proposal EWP 295, World Literature: Ecological Perspectives](#)
 - i. Item 2.5 credit hours needs to be corrected.

ii. Approved 9-0-0
- h. [New Course Proposal EWP 360 Queer Ecologies](#)
 - i. No comments.

ii. Approved 9-0-0
- i. [Course Revision EHS 150, U.S. History & Environmental Health](#)- moved to 4/15 meeting
- j. [Course Replacement BTC 250 Research and Prof. Dev.](#) (previously BTC 497)
 - i. moved to 4/15 meeting
 - ii. Pending curriculum Admin Approval when course revision is approved.

Adjourned 12:22