



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

Minutes for May 6, 2025 Meeting 11 AM
252 Marshall Hall

Voting members present: Dylan Parry, Eddie Bevilacqua, Jamie Shinn, Ruth Owens, Ericka Blair, Jess Fenn, Avik Chatterjee, Robert Meyer, Zora Thomova

Non-voting members and guests present: Gary Scott, Terrance Caviness, Leslie Rutkowski, Beth Minard, Kialeay Day, Erin Tochelli

1. Call to Order 11:05 AM
2. Minutes 4/1/25, 4/15/25- Clarification- AI Waiver means Accessory Instruction not Artificial Intelligence. **Approved**
3. Updates from OAA:
 - a. Thank you for your help this year!
 - b. Next year, we will be looking at how to code LAS courses and the new gen ed core competencies.
4. New Business
 - a. New Academic Minor- Civil Engineering Technology
 - i. Prior questions: Name seems misleading. Who is this for?
 1. G Scott's response: Based on SU minor, with ESF classes. Want to use as a recruitment tool to offer more diversity in options for engineering students. Although they do not have many electives, some may choose to stay on to finish a minor. Since some students come in with advanced standing, they may have the time to take more courses beyond their program of study.
 - ii. Overlap with ERE program with GNE
 1. ERE students would primarily only take construction management courses to finish the minor
 2. Construction mgmt. students would have a hard time completing because of overlap and their lower math requirements
 3. Chem Eng students don't use the GNE classes and they are not currently listed as option in DE or Tech electives, which would make the minor difficult for those students to complete.
 - iii. Geotechnical courses seem like a stretch for that category. Should this be removed? Is civil engineering technology something we can say we teach when we do not have experts in this field?
 - iv. Suggested revisions: Name change and/or adding more 300+ engineering courses, rather than "liaising with engineers" courses. Is there a survey course that could be added?
 - b. [New Course Proposal EST 410 Critical Climate Studies](#)
 - i. 2.17 format is not listed. Can't earn credit for 410/610.

- ii. **Approved 9-0-0**
- c. [New Course Proposal EST 610 Critical Climate Studies](#)
 - i. Graduate version does not have sufficient additional work described. Request further details.
 - ii. Vote will be conducted via email
- d. [Course Revision EST 366 Environmental Ethics](#)
 - i. 2.9 should be checked
 - ii. Question about 300 level general education, which we have precedent of approving.
 - iii. **Approved 9-0-0**
- e. [Course Revision EST 140, Intro to Native Peoples. Lands, & Cultures](#)
 - i. SLO statement added
 - ii. **Approved 9-0-0**
- f. [New Course Proposal EST 715: Community Based Participatory Research](#)
 - i. 2.6 Beginning grad checked, should be advanced.
 - ii. SLO statement; language of SLOs should be improved on item 2.
 - iii. Catalog description should spell out CBPR, format needs to be included
 - iv. Vote will be conducted via email
- g. [New Course Proposal EST 406: Geospatial Methods to Measure Environmental Inequality](#)
 - i. 2.5 Other checked, but should it be lecture/lab? Contact hours doesn't align if sometimes there are 3 hours of lab
 - ii. Class size seems too small for the offering (currently 15). Should be at minimum 20 as an undergraduate class.
 - iii. Follow up with email, possible email vote but that will depend on department response.
- h. [New Course Proposal EST 206 - Comics and the Drawn Environment with Zine Lab](#)
 - i. 2.5 "other" is confusing. The summer version of asynchronous class is without the Zine lab, contact hours should be clarified. It has to be the same summer/semester
 - ii. Technically, a fall/spring version requires a visiting instructor, which needs approval.
 - iii. Suggest that the word "layman" in 2.14 be changed to "non-specialist" or "general audience" so the language is more inclusive.
 - iv. Tabled.
- i. [Course Revision EST 361 Diverse Histories of the American Environmental Movement](#)
 - i. SLO word demonstrate is used twice.
 - ii. **Approved 9-0-0**
- j. [New Course Proposal EFB 134 Research Foundations in Environmental Biology](#)
 - i. Question on the contact hours (80 minutes, 1-credit hour, plus 2 full-day field trips).
 - ii. This is being proposed to reduce the strain on CLBS.
 - iii. Concern about adding another course onto the busy fall first-year schedule. Is there a trade-off or will they be in 17 credits? Most likely 17 credits.

- iv. Question about whether any of the content can move to 132, but there is not enough time in the class.
 - v. Tabled.
- k. [New Course Proposal FCH 490 Chemistry Teaching Practicum](#)
 - i. There was a question on the numbering/title being consistent where possible.
 - ii. FCH 495 already exists, but the title could be changed.
 - iii. Email vote possible.
- l. [New Course Proposal EST 651 Strategic management and the natural environment](#)
 - i. SLO statement
 - ii. New version can be shared via email (provided the night before meeting)
 - iii. CASSE is an SU program and we do not certify this program. Course can exist
 - iv. Catalog description needs format.
 - v. Tabled.
- m. [Course Revision FOR 207 Introduction to Economics](#)
 - i. Gen ed supplement form needed.
 - ii. 12 SLOs is too many, even if some are subpoints. Keep main points, remove the subpoints.
 - iii. Contact hours should focus on the in-person version, online addendum addresses the rest.
 - iv. Email vote.

Thank you for your service!