

MINUTES

Undergraduate Council Meeting

December 5, 2018

**2:30pm – 4:00 pm
Bay 205**

Attended: Theresa Burress
Byron Miller
Mike Sinclair - Chair

Please read: Forwarded via email for agenda items below

- 1) **Approve Minutes from Prior Meeting**
Byron motioned to approve minutes; Theresa seconded. November minutes were approved.

- 2) **Environmental Chemistry Degree Proposal**
Interdisciplinary degree program with core courses in chemistry.

**Susan Toler
Yasin Elshorbany**

All requirements for chemistry degree have been integrated into this program. Susan/Yasin consulted with chemistry faculty in USFSP as well as USF Tampa.

Market analyses identified employer needs for core chemists with supplemental expertise in environmental science, business management & microeconomics, data analytics, and machine learning. General education requirements include STA 2023 (statistics). Growth rate for jobs was determined to be between 10-18%, higher than many majors.

Graduates will be qualified as general chemist as well as the additional expertise in environmental chemistry and data analytics.

No other university in Florida offers this CIP code at this time. The only other institution in the SE region is in Georgia, but even their offering does not include the data analytics skills.

Mike asked about the process for the individual course approval for Env. Chem. 1 and 2. They indicated that the courses are ready to go through the approval process in spring if the program is approved.

Byron asked about underserved populations and outreach, and Susan mentioned Jim Ivey's grant proposal to involve high school students in STEM.

Byron asked about the potential for a minor, and they indicated that the extensive number of core math and chemistry courses required as well as the 9 hours of exit courses required may preclude the option of environmental chemistry program as a minor.

The group discussed the program in more detail, and suggested fleshing out the ways in which they would recruit students from underserved populations.

Theresa made motion to approve with changes, Byron seconded. Motion passed.

Mike will contact Susan and Yasin and let them know.

3) SYG 2000 Distance Learning course

The group agreed that there is a strong case for offering this course as a distance learning course.

Theresa motioned to approve; Mike seconded. The motion passed.

4) Change to Minor Policy

The group discussed the change and agreed that it is an acceptable change. The Chair will send a draft to Shari and express our support for the change as it is currently written.

5) Mike made motion to adjourn. Theresa seconded. The motion passed; meeting adjourned.