



MEMORANDUM

To: Donna E. Shalala, President

From: Richard L. Williamson
Chair, Faculty Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard L. Williamson'.

Date: February 2, 2012

Subject: Faculty Senate Legislation #2011-30(B) – Establishment of a Professional Masters Program in Coastal Sustainability Track in the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

At its January 25, 2012 meeting, the Faculty Senate unanimously approved the proposal for a Professional Masters Program in Coastal Sustainability track in the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. The states that the new track “is designed to develop applied scientific knowledge and hands-on experience in the field of coastal sustainability.”

The supporting materials are enclosed for your reference.

This legislation is now forwarded to you for your action.

RW/rh

Enclosure

cc: Thomas LeBlanc, Executive Vice President and Provost
Roni Avissar, Dean, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science
Brian Soden, Proposer, Professor, and Associate Dean for Professional Masters,
Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science
Amelia Moore, Presenter, Visiting Assistant Professor, College of Arts and Sciences

CAPSULE: Faculty Senate Legislation #2011-30(B) – Establishment of a Professional Masters Program in Coastal Sustainability Track in the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE

APPROVED:  DATE: 2/27/12
(President's Signature)

OFFICE OR INDIVIDUAL TO IMPLEMENT: DEAN AVISSAR

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LEGISLATION: IMMEDIATELY
(if other than June 1 next following)

NOT APPROVED AND REFERRED TO: _____

REMARKS (IF NOT APPROVED): _____



January 20th, 2012

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Addition of a curriculum track for the MPS Program at RSMAS

Dear Colleagues:

The Rosenstiel School for Marine and Atmospheric Science seeks to enhance the Master of Professional Science (MPS) program by creating a new curriculum track for the MPS degree in Marine Affairs and Policy for Fall 2012. The new track will be titled **Coastal Sustainability** and is designed to develop applied scientific knowledge and hands-on experience in the field of coastal sustainability. We emphasize that we are not seeking to create a new degree program, but rather to add an additional curriculum track to the existing MPS degree program.

This MPS degree provides students with advanced training in the expanding field of sustainability, both the practical aspects of systems management as well as the theoretical understanding of whole-systems design. The goal of this track is to train future leaders who create solutions for sustainability problems with an emphasis in marine and coastal environments.

For the first half of the program, students will live and work at the Cape Eleuthera Institute (CEI) in the Bahamas (<http://www.ceibahamas.org/>). CEI is a leader in the Caribbean region in the areas of marine conservation research, renewable energy, food and water security, and waste management. RSMAS has a long and well-established relationship with scientists at the Cape Eleuthera Institute (its founder is a RSMAS alumnus) on projects ranging from aquaculture to marine conservation.

At CEI students learn through hands-on experience with state-of-the-art facilities such as: aquaculture, wind and solar power, permaculture and water catchment, biodigestion and biodiesel production, and green building design. Key interdisciplinary themes will include: social and political aspects of sustainability, in particular education and communication; climate change and the impacts on small islands; and the economic and entrepreneurial possibilities in the field of sustainability. In addition to attaining professional skills useful for maintaining systems, students also develop critical analytical skills which allow them to improve existing systems or even create entirely new systems from the ground up. While on campus, students engage in three primary learning modules: seminars and lectures with experts, self-directed project-based learning, and a collaborative design seminar with peers to innovate and refine systems at CEI.

The second half of the program will complement the first with coursework from RSMAS and the Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy to extend the learning and provide further case studies of sustainable design in other bioregions. This curriculum will provide a foundation in the history and philosophy of sustainability and allow students to specialize in areas such as aquaculture, environmental economics, or marine engineering. After the first two semesters, students will complete a summer term internship to expand upon previous professional experience, either returning to CEI or choosing a relevant and appropriate site approved by faculty.

This degree provides excellent preparation for employment in the areas of marine conservation, renewable energy, marine ecological design, and coastal systems management.

Background on the MPS Program

Launched in the Fall of 2010, the Master of Professional Science is an innovative graduate degree at the University of Miami, intended for students who seek advanced training in marine and atmospheric science. The MPS is a professional degree, rather than a traditional research-based MS degree. It is designed for students who major in the sciences as undergraduates and seek careers which require both applied scientific knowledge and professional skills. By emphasizing applied training and internships, rather than research, the MPS offers students a direct and more efficient route into business and industry. This program prepares students for science careers in business, government, or non-profit organizations, where employment demands are growing.

The MPS degree currently offers specialization in twelve different curriculum tracks within three divisions at RSMAS. The tracks currently offered are listed in the table below.

Division of Marine Biology and Fisheries (MBF)	Division of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography (MPO)	Division of Marine Affairs and Policy (MAF)
<i>Fisheries Science</i>	<i>Broadcast Meteorology</i>	<i>Aquaculture</i>
<i>Marine Mammal Science</i>	<i>Computational Meteorology and Oceanography</i>	<i>Coastal Zone Management</i>
<i>Oceans and Human Health</i>	<i>Weather Climate & Society</i>	<i>Marine Conservation</i>
<i>Tropical Marine Ecosystem Management</i>	<i>Weather Forecasting</i>	<i>Underwater Archeology</i>

In its first two years, enrollment in the MPS program already exceeds 50 students and the program has been tremendously successful in preparing students for entry-level careers in the marine sciences. The addition of this new track is important to the continued development and expansion of the MPS program at RSMAS.

Sincerely,

Brian Soden
 Associate Dean for MPS
 Rosenstiel School for Marine and Atmospheric Science

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
GRADUATE SCHOOL



Terri A. Scandura, Ph.D.
Dean of the Graduate School

Graduate School
P.O. Box 248125
Coral Gables, FL 33124-3220

Phone: 305-284-4154
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graduateschool@miami.edu

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 20, 2012

TO: Richard Williamson
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Terri A. Scandura *Terri A. Scandura*
Dean, The Graduate School

SUBJECT: New Track for MPS Degree in Marine Affairs and Policy

The Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) has submitted a request to add a new track for the MPS degree in Marine Affairs and Policy. The new track is Sustainability Science and Practice. The addition of the new track was discussed at the meeting of the Graduate Council on Thursday, January 19, 2012, and none of the Graduate Council members expressed any concerns.

cc: Roni Avissar, Dean
Brian Soden, Associate Dean
Office of Planning, Institutional Research and Assessment

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
ABESS CENTER
for ECOSYSTEM
SCIENCE & POLICY



November 10, 2011

Faculty Senate
University of Miami

Re: RSMAS Professional Masters in Sustainability Science and Practice

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter in support of the RSMAS application to implement the Professional Masters Program in Sustainability Science and Practice. To the degree we can be helpful, the Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy will be happy to assist RSMAS in the development and implementation of this track. Further, we will encourage MPS students in this program to take electives with our ECS faculty.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Broad
Professor, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami
Director, Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami
Co-Director, Center for Research on Environmental Decisions, Columbia University

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

ROSENSTIEL
SCHOOL of MARINE &
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE



Office of the Dean

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4600 Rickenbacker Causeway

Miami, Florida 33149-1031

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Fax: 1 305 421-4711

Web Site: <http://www.rsmas.miami.edu>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Professor Richard Williamson, UM Senate Chair
FROM: Roni Avissar, Dean *Roni Avissar*
DATE: January 3, 2012
SUBJECT: Proposal to create a new track in Marine Affairs in "Coastal Sustainability"

I am in full support of and approve the request by RSMAS Division of Marine Affairs described and endorsed by Associate Dean Brian Soden to add a track in the Marine Affairs MPS Program titled "Coastal Sustainability." Reasons are detailed in Dr. Soden's memorandum and are not duplicated here for brevity.

Roni Avissar, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean

Phone: 1 305 421-4000 • Fax: 1 305 421-4711 • E-mail: ravissar@rsmas.miami.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
ROSENSTIEL
SCHOOL of MARINE &
ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE



MEMORANDUM

To: UM Faculty Senate

From: Bruce Albrecht, Vice -Chair School Council

Mississippia Bruce Albrecht

Date: January 25, 2012

Ref: Creation of New Track

The Rosenstiel School Council has voted to approve the creation of the new track in "Coastal Sustainability" in Marine Affairs and Policy Division, Marine Science Program.

If you have any questions please contact me at balbrecht@rsmas.miami.edu or (305) 421-4043.



January 24, 2012

TO: Professor Richard Williamson, UM Senate Chair

SUBJECT: Proposal to create a new track in Marine Affairs in "Coastal Sustainability"

I am in full support of and approve the request by RSMAS Division of Marine Affairs described and endorsed by Associate Dean Brian Soden to add a track in the Marine Affairs MPS Program titled "Coastal Sustainability."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Letson".

DAVID LETSON
Professor and Chair
Division of Marine Affairs and Policy
305-421-4083

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
ABESS CENTER
for ECOSYSTEM
SCIENCE & POLICY



November 10, 2011

Faculty Senate
University of Miami

Re: RSMAS Professional Masters in Sustainability Science and Practice

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter in support of the RSMAS application to implement the Professional Masters Program in Sustainability Science and Practice. To the degree we can be helpful, the Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy will be happy to assist RSMAS in the development and implementation of this track. Further, we will encourage MPS students in this program to take electives with our ECS faculty.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Broad

Professor, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami
Director, Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, University of Miami
Co-Director, Center for Research on Environmental Decisions, Columbia University