

Notes from CSS Environmental Sciences Faculty Meeting
March 29, 2005

Attending: Shilling, Vencill, Xia, Williams, Miller, LeClerc, Karipot, Hassan, Radcliffe, Hartel, Hook, Kissel, West

Curriculum issues:

1. Delete CRSS 4520/6520, Field Soil and Site Assessment due to lack of interest on the part of both students and instructors.

West will investigate developing a course in wastewater management, onsite and LAS, in cooperation with Larry Morris in Forest Resources.

2. Enrollment is up in Soil Contaminants; Xia will continue to offer the course on an annual basis.
3. Delete CRSS 4670/6670L, Environmental Soil Chemistry Laboratory; Xia, Hussan, and Miller will evaluate incorporation of most important parts of the lab into the Environmental Analysis course.
4. Add CRSS 3050/3050L, Introduction to Water Quality, to the curriculum for the WASR major as an alternative to Environmental Soil Chemistry. The course will include a lab that will expose students in the WASR major to basic soil and water analysis.
5. Change the name of CRSS 3920 from Environmental Soil Science Internship to Internship in Water and Soil Resources.

Other topics of discussion:

1. Lengthy discussion of low numbers and lack of student proficiency in 8000 level courses in Soil Science. No consensus was reached as to a course of action.
2. Brief discussion of the Environmental Chemistry major, student recruitment, and student advising.
3. Discussion of potential of developing an atmospheric course and incorporation of the course into major curricula. LeClerc will discuss the potential of incorporation of an atmospheric component into the Soil Contaminants course.
4. Marketing of the WASR and Environmental Chemistry majors.
 - a. Use of Departmental undergraduate ambassadors and displays at various career fairs on campus and at other locations.

- b. Shilling, Vencill, and others will meet regularly with Franklin College advisors to inform them of the WASR and Environmental Chemistry majors and of Departmental course that may be of interest to their advisees.
 - c. Shilling will send a letter with brochures for the WASR and Environmental Chemistry majors to all administrators on campus and to the Franklin College advisors.
5. Discussion of the potential for forming an advisory committee for the WASR and Environmental Chemistry majors was discussed. The committee would be composed of employers and potential employers of our graduates. The concept would be to involve potential employers in discussions of strengths and weaknesses of our graduates, potential changes to major curricula to overcome the weaknesses, and student recruitment efforts.