

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM

To: Senate

From: Allan MacKinnon, Chair
Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies

Subject: Faculty of Science
(SCUS reference 02-28 a)
(SCUS reference 02-28 e)
(SCUS reference 03-3)

Date: January 16, 2003



Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meetings of October 29, 2002 and January 14, 2003 gives rise to the following motions:

MOTION 1

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors approval of the deletion of the Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Environmental Toxicology, as set forth in S. 03 -22 , effective 2003-3."

MOTION 2

"That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors approval of the deletion of the Minor in Quaternary Studies, as set forth in S. 03 -22 , effective 2003-3."

FOR INFORMATION

Acting under delegated authority of Senate, SCUS approved at its meeting of January 14, 2003 a new course in the Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry: MBB 323 – Introduction to physical biochemistry. SCUS also approved a two semester lag waiver for offering in 2003-3.

Any Senator wishing to consult the full report of curriculum revisions should contact Bobbie Grant, Senate Assistant at 291-3168 or email bgrant@sfu.ca

Calendar change - Biological Sciences

Cancellation of post-baccalaureate diploma (PBD) in Environmental Toxicology

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AUG 16 2002

DEAN OF SCIENCE
OFFICE

Post-baccalaureate diplomas (PBD) are designed for people who already have a science degree "and who wish to upgrade their academic credentials". The general PBD should consist of one year of study with 30+ credit hours from upper division courses (though graduate courses can be included).

1. In the last 4 years we have only graduated 1-2 students/year in the Ent Tox PBD program. Currently no students are registered in the PBD for En Tox and only 1 in the general PBD.

2. We have no other specific PBD programs. However, students registering for a general PBD can choose to specialise in any area of biology (with advice from u/g advisor and/or faculty), i.e. we do not need to specify programs.

3. There is considerable overlap between PBD and the newly established Masters in Environmental Toxicology.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
Program Change Form

Elimination of Minor in Quaternary Studies
Deletion of QUAT 400-1, 401-1, 403-4

RATIONALE:

For the last 15 years or so the Department of Geography has acted as a home for the Quaternary Studies program. The program was initially intended to serve as a meeting ground for students in physical geography, archaeology, etc., who had an interest in the environmental changes accompanying the 'Ice Ages' of the Quaternary period. Students wishing to declare a minor in Quaternary Studies could take two one-credit courses (QUAT 400 and 401) and a four-credit directed readings course (QUAT 403). There have been three major changes in the last few years at SFU, however, which have rendered the program obsolete.

1. QUAT 400 was a complement to the seminar programme of the Institute for Quaternary Research (IQR). The demise of the IQR has meant that QUAT 400 can no longer be offered.
2. Students registered in QUAT 401 were expected to attend the GEOG 412 (Quaternary geomorphology) field trips and hand in reports to obtain a grade for this course. For the last several years, however, this limited-enrollment course has been very heavily subscribed, with few available spaces for QUAT minors.
3. The Quaternary minor program was devised prior to the advent of the Earth Sciences department at SFU, and was meant, in part, to serve as mitigation for the absence of such a program in environmental and Quaternary geology. The recent establishment of a vigorous program in Quaternary geology in the new Earth Sciences department at SFU, however, means that students now have access to a broad array of 'regular' courses in Quaternary environmental science.

The impact of these changes in the university has been felt in enrollment in the Quaternary Studies program. Previously, a couple of students per year were enrolled in QUAT courses; no students are enrolled at the present time.

Comments from Department of Earth Sciences:

Ian talked to me earlier about this; I agree with the reasons given by him to eliminate the QUAT minor; it served us usefully but its time has passed. EASC has no objection to the proposal.

E. J. Hickin, Chair, Earth Sciences

Comments from Department of Archaeology:

Thank you for sending my department advance notification on the possible elimination of the Quaternary Minor in Geography. I have discussed this with relevant faculty in Archaeology who appreciate your department's position fully. Consequently we support the decision arrived at by your committee.

Dave Burley, Chair, Archaeology

Approved by Geography UGSC:	10 January 2002
Approved by Department of Geography:	31 January 2002