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**MEMORANDUM**

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**ATTENTION** Senate **DATE** December 16, 2010  
**FROM** Jon Driver, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1  
**RE:** Faculty of Environment: Full Program Proposal for a Minor in Development and Sustainability (SCUP 10-89)

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At its December 15, 2010 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the Full Program Proposal for a Minor in Development and Sustainability in the Development and Sustainability Program within the Faculty of Environment.

**Motion**

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the Full Program Proposal for a Minor in Development and Sustainability in the Development and Sustainability Program within the Faculty of Environment, effective September 2011.

encl.

c: R. Anderson  
D. Knowler



OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC AND  
ASSOCIATE PROVOST

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MEMORANDUM

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|           |   |       |                  |
|-----------|---|-------|------------------|
| ATTENTION | Senate Committee on University Priorities   | DATE  | December 3, 2010 |
| FROM      | Bill Krane, Chair   | PAGES | 1/1              |
| RE:       | Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies<br>Faculty of Communication, Art and Technology (SCUS 10-61a) |       |                  |

Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies at its meeting of December 2, 2010, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion:

That SCUP approve and recommend to Senate the full program proposal for the Minor in Development and Sustainability in the Development and Sustainability Program within the Faculty of Environment effective Fall 2011.

**The relevant documentation for review by SCUP is attached.**



faculty of environment

MEMO

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ATTENTION SCUS

FROM Duncan Knowler, Chair, FENV Curriculum Committee

RE Faculty of Environment Course Credit Hour Changes

DATE February 11, 2010

The following have been approved by the Faculty of Environment (FENV) Curriculum Committee at its meeting of November 18, 2010 and are being forwarded to SCUS for approval and recommendation to Senate.

- Development and Sustainability (DEVS)
  - Minor in Development and Sustainability - Full Program Proposal
  - DEVS 201-3: New Course Proposal
  - DEVS 401-4: New Course Proposal
- Department of Geography
  - GEOG 302: Course Change
  - GEOG 303: Course Change
  - GEOG 402: Course Change
  - GEOG 403: Course Change
  - GEOG 409: Course Change
  - GEOG 311: Course Change
  - GEOG 411: Course Change
  - GEOG 386: Course Change
  - GEOG 440: Course Change
  - GEOG 440W: Course Change
  - GEOG 416-4: Course Deletion
  - GEOG 446-4: Course Deletion
  - GEOG 104-3: New Course Proposal
- School of Resource and Environmental Management (REM)
  - REM 321-3 - New Course Proposal
- Faculty of Environment (ENV)
  - ENV 321-3 - New Course Proposal (cross-listed with REM 321-3)

**Full Program Proposal**  
**Minor in Development and Sustainability**  
**Faculty of Environment (FENV)**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To advance the goal of developing undergraduate programming within the FENV, to support the broader sustainability and internationalization goals of the University, and to recognize growing student interest, we propose the creation of a minor under the Development and Sustainability Program. The proposed Minor in Development and Sustainability (DEVS) will both create new courses and package a diverse and interdisciplinary array of relevant existing courses and teaching/research expertise. It will provide a coherent yet broad undergraduate program exploring various aspects of 'sustainability' that arise from the complex interrelationships between 'development' and the 'environment', all in relation to problem-solving thematic areas at various scales (from local to global). The DEVS minor is targeted at undergraduate students inside FENV as well as students across a range of participating units and faculties in the University who are seeking ways to deepen their understanding of the connections between development, sustainability, and environment. The Notice of Intent for this Minor was approved by SCUP on 20 July 2010 (see Appendix E).

## **CURRICULUM**

### **1) Student Outcomes**

- Provide students with a strong foundation in the study of various aspects of 'sustainability' that arise from the complex interrelationships between 'development' and the 'environment' in relation to problem-solving thematic areas at various scales (local to global).
- Enable the 'versatile student' imagined by SFU during the founding of FENV to complete an integrative interdisciplinary curriculum that combines in-class instruction with experiential learning (such as field site visits). This Minor complements a number of Major programs, enhancing student versatility.
- Help students to identify and to develop the skills, learning outcomes, and knowledge requirements for employment in these fields where knowledge of the interactions between development, environmental and sustainability issues at various scales is an asset; also, to prepare the high-performing undergraduate student for graduate studies.

### **2) Graduation Requirements**

Prospective students must apply to Simon Fraser University for admission and meet the normal admission requirements.

- Award of Minor requires completion of **19 units** from prescribed courses; these consist of at least **3 units** at the lower division, consisting of a core DEVS course plus any prerequisites for upper division courses, and **16 units** at the upper division, including a core DEVS course.
- The two core DEVS courses shall be DEVS 201-3 "Introduction to Development and Sustainability" and DEVS 401-4 "Issues, Concepts and Cases in Development and Sustainability" (see Appendix B for course descriptions).
- The balance of program requirements beyond core courses shall be drawn from a list of electives at the 300 and 400 levels in participating units (Departments, Schools, Faculties).

- Entry to this program is on a competitive basis, and requires completion of 30 credit hours in lower level courses; good standing in the program requires a CGPA not lower than 2.75; students must also be 'in good standing' in their home units where they are doing their major degree.

### 3) Course/program structure and class sizes

- a) Students must complete DEVS 201 and DEVS 401, plus at least three upper level courses. Two of these three upper division courses must be from outside their home unit (Department or Faculty), to ensure breadth.
- b) Elective courses shall be drawn from a list composed of courses from the following units: Archaeology, Communication, Economics, Education, Environmental Sciences, First Nations Studies, Geography, Health Sciences, History, Humanities, International Studies, Latin American Studies, Political Science, Resource and Environmental Management, Sociology/Anthropology and Sustainable Community Development (see Appendix A for a list of electives).
- c) The list of prescribed and approved elective courses will be reviewed with participating units, from time to time; units have been informed that we expect participation of between 5 and 9 students from the DEVS Minor in courses listed in this Program. Units have agreed to participate, noting students occasionally may experience difficulty in enrolling in some courses for space reasons, and that in some cases instructor's permission must be obtained. For these reasons the list of electives was designed to include a substantial number of courses.
- d) Class size is predicted to be 80 to 100 in DEVS 201 and 30 to 40 in DEVS 401 after two years. For pedagogical reasons, enrolment in DEVS 401 will be limited to 40 in a seminar: if necessary this course can be taught twice a year in order to respond to increased demand.

## CREDENTIAL TO BE AWARDED

One credential will be awarded, the *Minor in Development and Sustainability (DEVS)*.

## LEARNING METHODOLOGIES

Students will be judged on performance and the quality of completed projects and assignments, in a manner comparable to other units in FENV. Lectures and tutorials, where available, as well as seminars are the main methods of teaching, along with labs, where required. It is recognized that the proposed Minor in DEVS will need to be distinct from other programming at SFU, such as current offerings from African Studies, International Studies and/or Latin American Studies. The following methodologies will ensure this distinctiveness:

- world-wide international development experience of instructors and guests;
- real-world issues studied in the context of students' immediate surroundings;
- focus on the tension between sustainability/environment and development at the local level;
- emphasis on the applied aspects of 'development practice and policy';
- opportunities for exchange programs, experiential learning (field trips/schools, placements, etc) and team taught courses;
- inter-disciplinary combination of applied sciences, humanities, social science, resource management and policy studies; and,
- local and global scope (not only region specific).

## FACULTY

Two faculty members will teach the core courses in the Minor, DEVS 201 and 401:

- Robert Anderson, Director of DEVS Program, and Professor of Communication, FCAT
- James Busumtwi-Sam, Associate Professor of Political Science, FASS

Both faculty members currently teach the core DEVS 801 course in the *Graduate Certificate in Development and Sustainability* offered by the DEVS program.

Additional faculty contributing to the program include the members of the DEVS Steering Committee (see Appendix C), plus the many faculty teaching the elective courses (see Appendix A).

## **PROGRAM CONSULTATIONS and EVALUATIONS**

We have consulted outside FENV, with units such as Archaeology, Latin American Studies, International Studies, Communication, Sociology/Anthropology, Health Sciences, Political Science, History, First Nations Studies, Economics, etc. Some of their undergraduate courses are, with their agreement, listed here as courses that can be taken to complete the Minor. Conditions set by these units regarding space availability and pre-requisites have been accepted and recorded in relevant cases.

Students will participate in course evaluations as in all SFU courses. DEVS core courses will be evaluated by students in a similar manner. The Director and Steering Committee will ensure that appraisals of instructor performance are conducted in a manner consistent with FENV procedures, reporting to the Dean.

## **ANTICIPATED PROGRAM START DATE**

September 2011.

## **ADMISSION**

Entry to this program is on a competitive basis and requires completion of 30 credit hours at the lower division; good standing in the Minor program requires that students maintain a CGPA not lower than 2.75.

## **GOVERNANCE**

The Development & Sustainability Program (DEVS) is one of the constituent units in the FENV, and has a Director and Steering Committee, operating with a Constitution. It currently administers the Graduate Certificate in Development & Sustainability. We now propose an undergraduate minor that will be anchored by a set of core courses 'owned' by the DEVS program and administered by a Director and Steering Committee, reporting through appropriate curriculum committees to the Dean of FENV. (see Appendix C). The DEVS Steering Committee will evaluate the function and effectiveness of this Minor degree biennially.

## **RESOURCES AND BUDGET**

Most of the courses in the proposed Minor are existing courses already taught by regular faculty members in participating units. The program will have two new required courses, DEVS 201-3 and DEVS 401-4. The program requires a modest amount of new resources and/or the re-allocation of existing resources (in the form of instructional secondments or course buy-outs) to cover the teaching of the two planned core-courses by faculty members from outside the Faculty of Environment. The necessary resources and arrangements to meet these requirements have been identified and approved by the Dean.

The SFU Library has a rich collection of material on development and sustainability, on both international and local levels; it continues to build its holdings (books, journals, videos, etc) in relevant fields. All the elective courses included in this proposal are previously approved courses so that adequate library resources have been put in place. The required DEVS courses draw from literatures already well established in the library.

There would be no fees for the Minor other than the regular tuition, exchange, field school or other fees related to a specific course or another program. There would be no application fee for admission.

## **CONTACT PERSONS**

Robert Anderson, Director, Development & Sustainability Program, Faculty of Environment, SFU, tel 778 782 4265.

Duncan Knowler, Associate Dean, Faculty of Environment, SFU, tel 778 782 8827.

## **APPENDIX A Calendar Entry for the Minor in Development and Sustainability**

Explores various aspects of sustainability that arise from the complex relationship between development and environment, including discussion of practice and policy issues in relation to problem-solving and examination of thematic areas at various scales (from local to global) that enhance the quality of life. Entry to this program is on a competitive basis, and requires completion of 30 credit hours in lower level courses; good standing in the program requires a CGPA not lower than 2.75; students must also be 'in good standing' in their home units where they are doing their major degree.

### **Lower Division Requirements**

Requires completion of the required core course, DEVS 201-3.

### **Upper Division Requirements**

Students complete 16 units at the upper division level, including the core course, DEVS 401-4. The remaining 12 units must be selected from the following list of courses, and must include at least two courses from outside their home unit (department, school, or faculty).

#### *Archaeology*

ARCH 365-3 Ecological Archaeology  
ARCH 377-5 Historical Archaeology  
ARCH 385-5 Paleoanthropology  
ARCH 386-3 Archaeological Resource Management

#### *Communication*

CMNS 342-4 Science and Public Policy: Risk Communication  
CMNS 346-4 Communication and Development  
CMNS 347-4 Communication in Conflict and Intervention  
CMNS 388-4 Environment, Media, and Communication (2010 and 2011 only)  
CMNS 425-4 Applied Communication for Social Issues  
CMNS 426-4 Video Design for Social Communication  
CMNS 444-4 The Political Economy of International Communication  
CMNS 446-4 Communication of Science and the Transfer of Technology  
CMNS 447-4 Negotiation and Dialogue as Communication  
CMNS 456-4 Communication to Mitigate Disasters

#### *Economics*

ECON 355W-4 Economic Development

#### *Education*

EDUC 311-3 Foundations in Aboriginal Education, Language, and Culture  
EDUC 370-4 International and Intercultural Education  
EDUC 435-4 Infusing Global Perspectives into Curriculum  
EDUC 441-4 Multicultural and Anti-racist Education  
EDUC 452-8 Environmental Education

#### *First Nations Studies*

FNST 332-3 Ethnobotany of British Columbia First Nations  
FSNT 383-4 Indigenous Technology: Art and Sustainability  
FNST 401-3 Aboriginal Rights and Government Relations  
FNST 403-3 Indigenous Knowledge in the Modern World  
FNST 433-4 Indigenous Environmental Activism

*Geography*

GEOG 322-4 World Resources  
GEOG 323-4 Industrial Location  
GEOG 324-4 Geography of Transportation  
GEOG 325-4 Geographies of Consumption  
GEOG 327-4 Geography of Tourism  
GEOG 382-4 Population Geography  
GEOG 383-4 Regional Development and Planning I  
GEOG 389W-4 Nature and Society  
GEOG 422-4 Theories and Practices of Development  
GEOG 429-4 Environment and Inequality  
GEOG 466-4 Latin American Regional Development  
GEOG 468-4 Society and Environment in China

*Health Sciences*

HSCI 308-3 Sickness and Wealth: Health in Global Perspective  
HSCI 340-3 Social Determinants of Health  
HSCI 406-3 Global Perspectives in Indigenous Health  
HSCI 412-3 Health Communication  
HSCI 431-3 The Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic

*History*

HIST 322-4 Atlantic and Pacific Migration  
HIST 361-4 The History of Science: The Eighteenth Century to the Present  
HIST 363-4 History of Technology  
HIST 377-4 Environmental History  
HIST 425-4 Gender and History  
HIST 427-4 Problems in the History of Aboriginal Peoples  
HIST 472-4 Problems in World History  
HIST 432-4 Problems in Environmental History  
HIST 455-4 Race in the Americas  
HIST 458-4 Problems in Latin American Regional History  
HIST 459-4 Problems in the Political and Social History Latin America

*Humanities*

HUM 325-4 The Humanities and the Natural World

*International Studies*

IS 313W-4 Nationalism, Democracy and Development in Modern India  
IS 314-4 National, Regional, and International Politics in Southeast Asia  
IS 409-4 Special Topics I: Human Security  
IS 410-4 Politics, Institutions and Development

IS 429-4 Special Topics III: Historical Political Economy of Development

*Political Science*

POL 335-4 Government and Politics: People's Republic of China  
POL 342-4 Developing Countries in Global Politics  
POL 343-4 Global Political Economy  
POL 346-4 International Organization  
POL 373-4 Human Security  
POL 374-4 Africa in the Global Political Economy  
POL 433-4 Comparative Development  
POL 442-4 The Political Economy of International Trade  
POL 446-4 International Relations in East Asia  
POL 447-4 Theories of Global Political Economy

*Resource and Environmental Management*

REM 356-3 Institutional Arrangements for Sustainable Environmental Management

*Sociology & Anthropology*

SA 302W-4 Global Problems and the Culture of Capitalism  
SA 316-4 Tourism and Social Policy  
SA 363-4 Processes of Development and Underdevelopment  
SA 371-4 The Environment and Society  
SA 392-4 Latin America  
SA 396-4 Selected Regional Areas  
SA 418-4 International Health: Global Policies and Local Realities  
SA 429-4 Sex, Work, and International Capital  
SA 430-4 States, Cultures and Global Transitions  
SA 463-4 Special Topics in Development Studies

*Sustainable Community Development*

SCD 301-4 Sustainable Community Development Theory and Practice  
SCD 401-4 Social Enterprise for Sustainable Community Development  
SCD 403-4 Leadership in Sustainable Community Development

## APPENDIX B Calendar Descriptions of Core Courses in DEVS Minor

### DEVS 201-3 – Introduction to Development and Sustainability

A critical introduction to various approaches to 'development' and 'sustainability'. Examines the impacts of major drivers of environmental change caused by development processes, and offers selected case studies from around the world illustrating policy and practical challenges to implementing sustainable development measures at various scales.

### DEVS 401-4 – Issues, Concepts, and Cases in Development and Sustainability

An in-depth critical examination of contemporary challenges to effective governance for sustainable development within the context of global North-South relations. Assesses the prospects for sustainable solutions in relation to selected problem-solving thematic areas and case-studies at various scales involving student-led dialogues.

## APPENDIX C - Steering Committee of the Development and Sustainability Program

|                         |                              |  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| David Zandvliet         | Ian Andrews (alternate)      | Education                                    |
| Alex Clapp              | John Brohman (alternate)     | Geography                                    |
| Bob Anderson (Director) | Zhao Yuezhi (alternate)      | Communication                                |
| James Busumtwi-Sam      | Anil Hira (alternate)        | Political Science                            |
| Yildiz Atasoy           | Michael Hathaway (alternate) | Sociology/Anthropology                       |
| June Francis            |                              | Business                                     |
| Habiba Zaman            |                              | Women's Studies                              |
| Mark Roseland           |                              | Centre for Sustainable Community Development |
| Wolfgang Haider         |                              | Resource & Environmental Management          |
| Alec Dawson             |                              | History & Latin American Studies             |
| Craig Janes             |                              | Health Sciences                              |
| Eldon Yellowhorn        |                              | Archaeology & First Nations Studies          |
| Shaheen Nanji           |                              | SFU Office of International Development      |

## APPENDIX D - Related Programs in British Columbia

The study of sustainability and development is a growing world-wide trend, and SFU will adopt a special and distinctive approach, facing the environmental context and enabling students to focus on sustainable strategies. In June 2010 it was estimated that over 4500 undergraduates are in development studies programs across Canada (both minors and majors, also named as 'international', 'global', etc). This does not count those in discipline-based programs who study similar subjects. In some universities where development and sustainability programs have been established for a few years, the Minor degree programs in this field carry the largest, second-largest, or third largest number of undergraduate students in the entire university. None of those universities are located in British Columbia. Related programs in BC that address aspects of this subject are located at the University of British Columbia – the “Sociological, Ecological, and Development Studies” (SEEDS) program; Vancouver Island University – Global Studies; University of Fraser Valley - Minor degree in Development Studies (applied 2010); University of Northern British Columbia – Minor degree in Development Studies (applied 2010).

APPENDIX E - Notice of Intent

**Minor in Development and Sustainability**  
**Faculty of Environment (FENV) Simon Fraser University**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

To advance the goal of developing undergraduate programming within the FENV, to support the broader sustainability and internationalization goals of the University, and to recognize growing student interest, we propose the creation of a minor under the Development and Sustainability Program. The proposed Minor in Development and Sustainability (DEVS) will both create new courses and package a diverse and interdisciplinary array of relevant existing courses and teaching/research expertise into a coherent yet broad undergraduate program exploring various aspects of 'sustainability' that arise from the complex interrelationships between 'development' and the 'environment', all in relation to problem-solving thematic areas at various scales (from local to global).

**1. CREDENTIAL TO BE AWARDED**

One credential will be awarded, the *Development and Sustainability Minor*. This complements the program's *Graduate Certificate in Development and Sustainability* approved by Senate in 2005.

**2. LOCATION OF PROGRAM**

Faculty of Environment, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby Campus.

**3. DEPARTMENTS OFFERING PROGRAM**

The Development & Sustainability Program (DEVS) is one of the constituent units in the FENV with a Director and Steering Committee. It currently administers the Graduate Certificate in Development & Sustainability. We propose an undergraduate minor that will be anchored by a set of core courses 'owned' by the DEVS program and administered by a Director and Steering Committee, reporting through appropriate committees to the Dean of FENV. We have consulted outside FENV, with units like Latin American Studies, International Studies, Earth Sciences, Communication, Sociology/Anthropology, Health Sciences, Political Science, etc; some of their undergraduate courses will, with their agreement, be listed as courses which can be taken to complete this minor.

**4. ANTICIPATED PROGRAM START DATE**

September 2011.

**5. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

**5.1 Purposes & Objectives**

- Provide students with a strong foundation in the study of various aspects of 'sustainability' that arise from the complex interrelationships between 'development' and the 'environment' in relation to problem-solving thematic areas at various scales (local to global).

- Enable the ‘versatile student’ imagined by SFU during the founding of FENV to complete an integrative interdisciplinary curriculum that combines in-class instruction with experiential learning (such as field site visits).
- Help students to determine and to develop the skills, learning outcomes and knowledge requirements for employment where knowledge of the interactions between development, environmental and sustainability issues at various scales is an asset.

## 5.2 Contribution to University’s Strategic Plan

The University has expanded its slate of international programming through curricular revision and the creation of the School for International Studies, the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the new Faculty of Environment. The name of our Program and the minor degree signals a fit with SFU’s Sustainability Policy (GP 38), which commits the university to becoming “a leading institution in the transition to a sustainable society.” Section 3.2 of the policy states that “SFU will strive to be in the forefront of sustainability research and education and will use its institutional capacity to promote sustainability within and beyond the university.” The Full Program Proposal for this minor will articulate its contribution to both the FENV strategic objectives and the university-wide strategic plan. The DEVS minor will incorporate all relevant aspects of the FENV pedagogical and research objectives as listed in its Strategic Research Plan 2009-2010.

Thus, the proposed minor in Development and Sustainability contributes to the University’s strategic plan by:

- Developing, enlarging, and strengthening undergraduate programming, a key mandate of the FENV, which brings together the social sciences, humanities, the applied aspects of natural sciences, education, management and the policy sciences around problem-centered thematic areas.
- Further developing the Graduate Certificate in Development Studies (established 2005), and work together with other units in FENV - CSCD, REM, Geography, and Environmental Sciences.
- Establishing synergies with other units and programs outside FENV (Latin American Studies, International Studies, Business Administration, Earth Sciences, Communication, Sociology/Anthropology, Health Sciences, Political Science, etc) that deal with various aspects of ‘development’, ‘environment’ and ‘sustainability’.
- Advancing the FENV and University strategic research plans, and enhance the research capacity of the University in these areas by identifying high performing undergraduate students, and to make them capable for graduate studies.
- Strengthening SFU and FENV policy outreach, community engagement, and institutional linkages abroad.

## 5.3 Target Audience

The DEVS minor is targeted at undergraduate students inside FENV as well as students across a range of participating units and faculties in the University who are seeking ways to deepen their understanding of the connections between development, sustainability, and environment. The proposed minor program enables students to bring intellectual coherence to their choice of courses to explore these issues, and to make better academic choices.

### 5.3.1 Evidence of Interest

Different units in the university have taught courses in development and /or environmental studies for a number of years, and student interest has been steady. This evidence shows student demand and support, *even without* a link to the integration and concentration of environment and sustainability issues as a named and advertized program, as in '*development and sustainability*'. This minor will fully explore the linkages of development and sustainability at various scales and across a variety of issues. Undergraduate students working on sustainability questions in units across the university regularly point to their need to integrate courses in these fields *in a coherent and multi-disciplinary program, as seen from a student's point of view*. This program will provide, maintain, and enhance that coherence. Outside the university, employers (NGOs, business, & government) are looking for people knowledgeable about the interactions between sustainability, development and the environment.

## 5.4 Content and Graduation Requirements

Prospective students must apply to Simon Fraser University for admission and meet the normal admission requirements.

1. Award of Minor requires completion of 24 units from prescribed courses; at least 4 units at the lower division and 18 at the upper division, including core courses;
2. The two core courses shall be DEVS 201-3 and DEVS 401-4;
3. The balance of program requirements beyond core courses shall be a list of electives drawn from 300 and 400 level courses in participating units (departments, schools);
4. These elective courses shall be arranged in three groups: *Group 1*: arts, social sciences & humanities, including geography, international studies; *Group 2*: business administration, communications & education; *Group 3*: resource and environmental management, environmental sciences, and health sciences.
5. Students must complete at least one upper level course from each of the three groups.
6. The list of prescribed and approved elective courses will be reviewed with participating units, from time to time;
7. Entry to this program is on a competitive basis, and requires completion of 30 credit hours in lower level courses; good standing in the program requires a GPA not lower than 2.75

Note: DEVS 201-3 will be called "Introduction to Development and Sustainability"; DEVS 401-4 will be called "Issues, Concepts and Cases in Development and Sustainability".

## 5.5 Distinctive Characteristics

It is recognized that the proposed DEVS Minor will need to be distinct from other programming at SFU, such as current offerings from African Studies, International Studies and/or Latin American Studies. The following attributes will ensure this distinctiveness:

- world-wide development experience of instructors and guests,
- real-world issues studied in the context of students' immediate surroundings,
- focus on the tension between sustainability/environment and development at the local level,
- emphasis on the applied aspects of 'development practice',
- opportunities for exchange programs, experiential learning (field trips/schools, placements, etc), and team taught courses,

- inter-disciplinary combination of applied sciences, humanities, social science, resource management and policy studies, with an emphasis on employment opportunities,
- local and global scope (not region specific).

### **5.6 Completion time**

Admission to the program is open to all undergraduates registered and in good academic standing at SFU. Completion of the undergraduate minor will take the same time as minor degrees in other units and programs.

### **5.7 Student Evaluation**

Undergraduate students in good standing must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.75 calculated on all courses applied to the minor. Duplicate courses are counted only once. Students must also be 'in good standing' in their home units where they are doing their major degree. Students will be judged on performance and the quality of completed projects and assignments, in a manner comparable to other units in FENV.

### **5.8 Program Assessment**

The DEVS Steering Committee will evaluate the function and effectiveness of the minor degree biennially.

### **5.9 Resources**

Most of the courses in the proposed Minor are existing courses already taught by regular faculty members in participating units. The program will have two new required courses, DEVS 201-4 and DEVS 401-4. The program requires a modest amount of new resources and/or the re-allocation of existing resources (in the form of secondments, course buy-outs, or cross-appointments) to cover the teaching of the two planned core-courses normally to be taught by the program director and a designated 'course leader' (as approved by the Dean).

The **SFU Library** has a rich collection of material on development and sustainability, on both international and local levels; it continues to build its holdings (books, journals, videos, etc) in relevant fields.

There would be no fees for the undergraduate minor other than the regular tuition, exchange, field school or other fees related to a specific program. There would be no application fee for admission.

### **5.10 Related Programs**

The study of sustainability and development is a growing world-wide trend, and SFU will adopt a special and distinctive approach, facing the environmental context and enabling students to focus on sustainable strategies. In June 2010 it was estimated that over 4500 undergraduates are in development studies programs across Canada (both minors and majors, also named as 'international', 'global', etc). This does not count those in discipline-based programs who study similar subjects. In some universities where development and sustainability programs have been established for a few years, the Minor degree programs in this field carry the largest, second-largest, or third largest number of undergraduate students in the entire university. None of those universities are located in British Columbia.

Related programs in BC which address aspects of this subject are located at University of British Columbia – the “Sociological, Ecological, and Development Studies” (SEEDS) program; University of Vancouver Island – Global Studies; University of Fraser Valley - Minor degree in Development Studies (applied 2010); University of Northern British Columbia – Minor degree in Development Studies (applied 2010).

## 6. CONTACT PERSONS

Duncan Knowler, Associate Dean, Faculty of Environment, SFU, tel 778 782 8827.

Robert Anderson, Director, Development & Sustainability Program, Faculty of Environment, SFU, tel 778 782 4265, and/or James Busumtwi-Sam, SFU tel 778 782 4346.