Agenda - Sep 21, 2015 - CSM Senate Meeting

Date: Monday, September 21st, 2015
Time: 2:30pm - 4:00pm
Location: CSM Dean's Office Conference Room

Agenda:

1. Introduction of new members
2. Elections.
   2a. Election of CSM Senate Chair for AY 2015-16.
   2b. Election of CSM Senate Secretary for AY 2015-16.
3. Approval of the May 11, 2015 meeting minutes.
4. Announcements
5. New business
   5b. Addition of USEA 100 - Boating Basics.

   **Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of USEA 100 - Boating Basics.

   **Rationale:** This course provides students with lecture and lab experiences enabling them to build capacity in the basics of sail and motor boat operation ultimately receiving Coast Guard certification upon completion of the course. Boating is an essential skill for water-based research as well as a unique and dynamic recreation activity that ensures that all UMass Boston students and non-matriculated students gain experience on and exposure to our coastal environment. Unlike at other institutions where the course is taught primarily as a physical education course this course includes seamanship and environmental/oceanographic content and research skills on sea kayak and motor-based vessels. Boston University offers a diverse portfolio of waterfront courses and this course is the beginning of a similar tradition here at UMass Boston. The course is modeled on the CSU-Monterey Bay Small Boat Certification course which is offered for credit (4 units) offered by Science and Environmental Policy. While the course may appear unique to UMass Boston it is in fact common to environmental programs to offer such opportunities to campuses engaged in outdoor education and community engagement. [Revised May 20, 2015]

5c. Addition of USEA 104 - Open Water SCUBA Diver Certification.

   **Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of USEA 104 - Open Water SCUBA Diver Certification.

   **Rationale:** This course provides students with lecture and lab experiences enabling them to build capacity in basic SCUBA ultimately earning PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) certification upon completion of the course. SCUBA is an essential skill for water-based research as well as a unique and dynamic recreation activity that ensures that all UMass Boston students and non-matriculated students gain experience on and exposure to our marine environment. Unlike at other institutions where the course is taught primarily as a physical education course this course includes seamanship and environmental/oceanographic content and research skills and leads to advanced courses in research diving. The course is similar to those offered at other institutions with marine programs including Salem State University, MIT, Harvard, and Boston University. The course is modeled on the Basic SCUBA course at Salem
State University which is offered for credit (1 credit) While the course may appear unique to UMass Boston it is in fact common to marine and environmental programs to offer such opportunities to campuses engaged in outdoor education and community engagement. [Revised May 20, 2015]

5c. **Addition of USEA 105 - Advanced Open Water & Rescue Diver Certification.**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of USEA 105 - Advanced Open Water & Rescue Diver Certification.

**Rationale:** This course provides students with lecture and lab experiences enabling them to build capacity in basic SCUBA ultimately earning PADI (Professional Association of Diving Instructors) certification upon completion of the course. SCUBA is an essential skill for water-based research as well as a unique and dynamic recreation activity that ensures that all UMass Boston students and non-matriculated students gain experience on and exposure to our marine environment. Unlike at other institutions where the course is taught primarily as a physical education course this course includes seamanship and environmental/oceanographic content and research skills and leads to advanced courses in research diving. The course is similar to those offered at other institutions with marine programs including Salem State University, MIT, Harvard, and Boston University. The course is modeled on the Advanced SCUBA course at Salem State University which is offered for credit (1 credit) While the course may appear unique to UMass Boston it is in fact common to marine and environmental programs to offer such opportunities to campuses engaged in outdoor education and community engagement. [Revised May 20, 2015]

5d. **Revision of EEOS 603 - Coasts and Communities I. Changes in course description and credits.**

**Motion:** To approve the revision of EEOS 603 - Coasts and Communities I. Changes in course description and credits.

**Rationale:** Addition of 1 credit for discussion section. A number of students from other programs take this course as part of the IGERT Coasts and Communities program. These programs have requested that we add the pass/fail option for non-SFE grad program students.

5e. **Revision of EEOS 604 - Coasts and Communities II. Changes in course description and credits.**

**Motion:** To approve the revision of EEOS 604 - Coasts and Communities II. Changes in course description and credits.

**Rationale:** Addition of 1 credit for discussion section. A number of students from other programs take this course as part of the IGERT Coasts and Communities program. These programs have requested that we add the pass/fail option for non-SFE grad program students.

5f. **Addition of EEOS 676 - Optical Methods for Monitoring Aquatic Environments.**

**Motion:** To approve the addition of EEOS 676 - Optical Methods for Monitoring Aquatic Environments.

**Rationale:** From the >150 year-old measurements of Secchi disk depth (a quick, easy, and reliable measurement of water transparency) to contemporary optical-electrical sensors, optical methods play critical roles in obtaining important information (both qualitative and quantitative) for the monitoring of aquatic environments. In particular, with the launch and operation of a variety of satellite sensors, now we are able to collect large and synoptic data to characterize the spatial and temporal variations of inland lakes and coastal/oligotrophic oceans. All these rely on good understanding of the principles governing the relationships between the observed light and the desired environmental properties. The SFE offers many courses covering the aspects of physical,
chemical, and biological oceanography and coastal environments, but no course yet to teach
students the useful and important knowledge and techniques in monitoring aquatic environments
with optical methods. This course will fill this void, and students taking this course will not only
broaden their knowledge but also enhance their skills in analyzing aquatic environments from both
in situ measurements and satellite remote sensing.

6. Other business
7. Adjourn