CSM Senate Meeting

Date: Monday, March 7th, 2016
Time: 2:30pm - 4:00pm
Location: CSM Dean's Office Conference Room

Agenda:

1. Approval of the December 14, 2015 meeting minutes.
2. Announcements
3. New business
       Motion: To approve the addition of PHYSIC 899 - Doctoral Dissertation Research.
       Rationale: This is a necessary component of the newly established PhD program and will allow students, who have passed sections of the qualifying exam, to begin their doctoral thesis research. The variable number of credits is intended to accommodate working students.

    Motion: To pre-approve the addition of ENVSCI 357 - Coastal Watershed Ecology and Conservation.
    Rationale: Provide a course that provides students with an integrated perspective of the relation between freshwater, coastal, and marine systems.

    Motion: To pre-approve the addition of ENVSCI 358 - Coastal Watershed Ecology and Conservation Laboratory.
    Rationale: Provide a course that provides a connection from the coastal open ocean, the coastal estuary, and coastal terrestrial watershed with providing relevant laboratory skills.

3d. Addition of the BA in Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS-BA) degree, Phase 2 proposal.
    Motion: To approve the addition of BA in Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS-BA) degree.
    Rationale: The development of the Environmental Studies and Sustainability (ESS) BA will strengthen SFE's mission of generating and activating knowledge to solve linked watershed and coastal marine environmental problems. The ESS-BA fits perfectly within the mission and values of the University of Massachusetts Boston and the School for the Environment (SFE). The ESS BA touches on all seven of the values: Inquiry, Creativity and Discovery, Transformation, Diversity and Inclusion, Engagement, Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, Economic and Cultural Development, and its urban commitment. This is illustrated by the synergistic activities with collaborating units outside of the SFE and the College of Science and Mathematics.

3e. Updated policy on sequencing of CS courses.
**Motion:** To pre-approve the proposed policy on CS course sequencing.

**Rationale:** The Registrar's Office used to enforce prerequisite out-of-order rules, meaning that if course A is a prerequisite for course B and course A was taken after course B, then credit was lost for course B, which could then be retaken. The Registrar no longer does this based on prerequisites and instead is asking us for sequencing rules, which are separate from prerequisites. Each sequencing rule of the form A -> B -> C ... means that no course on the list can be taken after a course to its right has been taken.

3f. **Addition of IT 116 - Introduction to Scripting**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of IT 116 - Introduction to Scripting.

**Rationale:** IT majors must take two programming courses to graduate with a BS in IT. Currently, most students take IT 114 and IT 115, Introduction to Java Parts 1 and 2. Java is not a language most IT staff use. Students will be better served by taking programming courses in a scripting language, such as Python.

3g. **Addition of IT 117 - Intermediate Scripting**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the addition of IT 117 - Intermediate Scripting.

**Rationale:** IT majors must take two programming courses to graduate with a BS in IT. Currently, most students take IT 114 and IT 115, Introduction to Java Parts 1 and 2. Java is not a language most IT staff use. Students will be better served by taking programming courses in a scripting language, such as Python.

3h. **Revision of IT 244 - Introduction to Linux/Unix. Change in pre-requisites.**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the change in pre-requisites for IT 244 - Introduction to Linux/Unix.

**Rationale:** There currently is no prerequisite for this class. IT110 OR MSIS110 are added here to ensure students have basic understanding of IT in general so that they can better understand the content taught in IT244.

3i. **Revision of IT 246 - Introduction to Networks. Change in pre-requisites**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the change in pre-requisites for IT 246 - Introduction to Networks.

**Rationale:** There currently is no prerequisite for this class. IT110 OR MSIS110 are added here to ensure students have basic understanding of IT in general so that they can better understand the content taught in IT246.

3j. **Revision of IT 485 - Information Technology Capstone. Change in pre-requisites**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the change in pre-requisites for IT 485 - Information Technology Capstone.

**Rationale:** IT485 is one of the two capstone courses for BSIT major. Students should only take it at the end of their stay in the program and be well equipped with sufficient knowledge and skills in the IT tracks they study before they take this course.

3k. **Revision of CS 109 - Computer Programming for Engineers. Changes in course description.**

**Motion:** To pre-approve the changes in the course description for CS 109 - Computer Programming for Engineers.

**Rationale:** CS110 was revised in Spring 2015. CS109 and CS110 become different enough that some engineering students may want to take both CS109 and CS110.

    **Motion:** To pre-approve the changes in the course description for CS 119 - Computer Language Supplement.

    **Rationale:** In Fall 2015, the language of instruction in CS110 was changed from Java to Python.

3m. Policies and procedures for re-admitting CSM students

4. Other business

5. Adjourn