

May 26, 2015

KYAW THA PAW UChair
Graduate Council**RE: Proposal to Establish a New Graduate Group in Energy Leading to a Master of Science (M.S. Plan I & II) and Ph.D. Degree (Plan B) in interdisciplinary Energy Studies**

The proposal to establish a new graduate group in Energy Leading to a Master of Science (M.S. Plan I & II) and Ph.D. Degree (Plan B) in interdisciplinary Energy Studies was forwarded to all standing committees of the Davis Division of the Academic Senate, including school and college Faculty Executive Committees. Responses were received from the Library Committee, and the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB).

In order to provide a solid basis for its response, the Library Committee asked University Librarian, MacKenzie Smith, to have her staff prepare an assessment of the adequacy of existing library resources for the proposed Graduate Group and to identify potential financial and service implications the proposed program could have on the Library.

After reviewing the Library's analysis of the program it was understood that the Library anticipates that some additional resources may be needed in order to support the program. For example, the addition of a few journal subscriptions, deepening the offerings of databases/discovery resources, exploring the idea of adding market research tools, and a broader collecting scope will be needed to support the program. However, overall the Library anticipates being able to support the program. Given this information, the Library Committee supports the proposal.

Additionally, the majority of CPB members support the proposal but urge consideration of the following concerns:

- There are non-senate instructors listed in the proposal, some without a Ph.Ds. Non- senate faculty should not be listed as teaching faculty. The graduate group is proposed to be housed in the Institute for Transportation Studies (ITS) which is an ORU. The graduate group that currently resides within ITS, TTP, has had difficulty in the past separating educational boundaries from ORU interests. Having two graduate groups housed in the same ORU does not seem prudent. CPB strongly recommends that the Energy Graduate Group be housed within a department.
- It is not clear what the Energy Hub at West Village is or where it is located. There is no detailed information in the proposal and information is not available on the web. This is emblematic of the tricky nature of housing a graduate group in an ORU. The ORU is free to change or advertise how it deems best, while students entering graduate education need to have a clear understanding of the infrastructure and opportunities available to them.

While the previous concerns should be considered and addressed before moving forward, overall the majority opinion to establish a new graduate group in Energy leading to a Master of Science and Ph.D. degree in Interdisciplinary Energy is supported.

Sincerely,



André Knoesen, Chair
Davis Division of the Academic Senate
Professor: Electrical and Computer Engineering