

June 24, 2013

Chris Calvert, Chair
Faculty Executive Committee
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Charles S. Gasser, Chair
Faculty Executive Committee
College of Biological Sciences

Julia Simon, Chair
Faculty Executive Committee
College of Letters and Science

RE: Proposal to Establish a Marine and Coastal Science Major

The Undergraduate Council reviewed and discussed the Proposal to Establish a Marine and Coastal Science Major during its June 14, 2013, meeting. Upon review and discussion, the Council voted unanimously in support of the creation of the cross-college major. Although the Council has no real objections to the proposal, the Council is concerned about the size of the major, that it is a cross-college major, that no one is named to be accountable in a program review, and that there appears to be no provision made for overall oversight of the major. To address these concerns, the Council will have its Undergraduate Instruction and Program Review committee work with the three colleges involved in establishing and maintaining the major (College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, College of Biological Sciences, and the College of Letters and Science) to produce a complete program review of the major after three years (academic year 2017-2018).

The Council recognized that the college-level committees involved in the approval process were very responsive to comments and suggestions for modification from one another, that the respective Deans of those colleges agreed to provide support for the necessary advising, and that other divisional Academic Senate committees either expressed no concerns or supported the establishment of the new major. The Council looks forward to the program review.

Respectfully,

Matthew Traxler, Chair
Davis Division Academic Senate Undergraduate Council

Enclosure: Proposal to Establish a Marine and Coastal Science Major

cc: Bruno Nachtergaele, Chair, Davis Division Academic Senate (w/o enclosure)
Gina Anderson, Executive Director, Davis Division Academic Senate (w/o enclosure)
Carolyn de la Pena, Interim Vice Provost – Undergraduate Education (w/enclosure)
Carl Whithaus, Chair, Undergraduate Instruction and Program Review (w/enclosure)