SPECIAL REPORT

of the

GRADUATE COUNCIL

concerning a

REVISION OF CONCENTRATIONS IN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Presented at the
744th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
January 29, 2015

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The Academic Standards and Curriculum Committee (ASCC) of the Graduate Council met on December 3, 2014 and reviewed the proposal for the Revision of Concentrations in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning. The ASCC recommended this proposal for approval.

The revision was submitted as proposal #1393 on the UMass Course and Curriculum Management System.

On Wednesday, December 10, 2014, the Graduate Council approved the Revision of Concentrations in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Revision of Concentrations in Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 15-023.
Program Title: Master of Regional Planning

Please check: Graduate

Department: LARP

Head/Chair: Elisabeth Hamin

School or College: SBS

Dean: Hird

Submission Date: 4/8/14

Proposed Starting Date: 9/1/14

I. Proposal Development

A. Describe the Proposal.

The Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning requests permission to reduce the number of concentrations we offer in our Regional Planning masters degree, and to rename the remaining ones to reflect our current curricular strengths. Our accrediting body, the Planning Accreditation Board, in their last review of our masters program gave us negative feedback about having four concentrations and suggested we only have three. With just three, we can identify more courses and more faculty to support each. We are not changing the basic structure of the concentrations, which require 9 credits in the concentration. In keeping with this, we are asking for approval to change as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Concentrations</th>
<th>New Concentrations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development Planning</td>
<td>Economic and Regional Development Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social, Policy and Community Planning</td>
<td>Equity and Cultural Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape and Environmental Planning</td>
<td>Combined into Land Use and Environmental Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and Regional Land Use Planning</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

B. Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the Proposal.

The MRP faculty met several times in the fall to discuss the appropriate content, titles and number of concentrations, following the advice of the Planning Accreditation Board. Once we agreed on three concentrations and the goals and name of each, the relevant advisor consulted with other faculty in their concentration to identify the most appropriate courses for their concentration core and electives. The MRP director and the Department Head reviewed the suggestions from the advisors and made minor revisions to assure good distribution of existing classes into a concentration and that all listed offerings would be available at least once every other year. The MRP faculty then voted to approve the new concentrations – the vote was unanimous.

II. Purpose and Goals

Describe the Proposal's purpose and the particular knowledge and skills to be acquired.

The purpose of the proposal is to assure that we are providing relevant and coherent concentration content, that all graduate-level MRP courses fit into a concentration. Reasonable flexibility is built in by requiring students take 2 of 3 core courses. Each of the courses listed below are expected by the department to be offered each year, although sabbaticals and similar leaves may mean that a year is skipped now and then. The particular knowledge and skills to be acquired for each concentration varies, but the primary goal is professional skill development. The advisor and specifics of the courses that will go into each concentration are listed below. Students must take 2 of the 3 core courses plus one elective (or the other core class) from the list, for a total of 9 concentration credits. Advisors may waive specific core concentration course requirements based on a student’s previous course work or professional experience.
Land Use and Environmental Planning
Core faculty: E. Hamin, D. Ramsey-Musolf, R. Ryan
Advisor: Darrel Ramsey-Musolf and Robert Ryan
Core classes: RP 652 Tools and Techniques in Planning, RP 645 Introduction to Land Use, and/or RP 553 Resource Policy and Planning
Electives:
1. RP 574 City Planning
2. RP 685 Planning For Climate Change
3. RP 591P Low Carbon Cities (On-Line)
4. RP 591LC Change Adaptation for Urban Areas (On-Line)
5. RP 591I Green Infrastructure
6. RP 582 Green Urbanism Seminar
7. RP 592d Introduction To Urban Design

Economic and Regional Development Planning
Core faculty: M. Hamin, J. Mullin, H. Renski
Advisor: Henry Renski
Core classes: RP 643 Economic Development Issues in Planning, RP 693G Spatial Analysis and Regional Development, and/or RP 580 Sustainable Cities Seminar
Electives:
1. ED 591M Industrial Development
2. RP 591K Downtown Revitalization
3. RP 553 Resource Policy And Planning
4. RP 662 Cultural Heritage And International Development
5. RP 591P Low Carbon Cities (On-Line)

Equity and Cultural Planning
Core faculty: M. DiPasquale, F. Montenegro-Menezes, E. Pader
Advisor: Ellen Pader and Flavia Montenegro-Menezes
Core classes: RP 660 Planning With Multiple Publics, RP 577 Urban Policies and/or RP 662 Cultural Heritage Policy And International Sustainability Practice
Electives:
1. RP 574 City Planning
2. RP 587 People And The Environment
3. RP 661 Cultural Landscapes
4. RP 663 Heritage Landscape Management
5. RP 592D Introduction to Urban Design
6. RP 580 Sustainable Cities Seminar

III. RESOURCES

If this proposal requires no additional resources, say so and briefly explain why. If this proposal requires additional resources, explain how they will be paid for. For proposals involving instruction, indicate how many new enrollments are expected and whether the courses have room to accommodate them.

No new resources are required. All courses listed are already taught.