

Contact: Rachel Boon

REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND PLANNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Action Requested: Approve the request by the University of Iowa to terminate the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Policy and Planning in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office staff reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Description of program. Students who earn a BS in environmental policy and planning will be able to critically analyze complex environmental problems to identify how they result from interactions among the physical environment and human societies, economies, and political systems.

Reason for proposed termination. The requested action is to collectively close these selected programs of study as part of a restructuring of the undergraduate curriculum in the areas of environmental and sustainability sciences and environmental policy and planning. The new structure will include three programs: 1) Earth and Environmental Sciences BA/BS degrees; 2) Geographical and Sustainability Sciences BA/BS degrees (new proposed majors); and 3) Environmental Policy and Planning BA degree. With the restructuring, students interested in these areas of study will be able to enroll in one of the three programs listed above. Additionally, they will take more courses in common, which will help build a community of learners who are prepared to take on the most pressing environmental challenges of the next century (and beyond).

Effect on current students. Students who are currently declared in these degree programs will be able to finish their program of study. They will also have the option to switch to one of the three programs mentioned above if desired. The estimated length of the transition period will be about two years.

Application, Enrollment and Completion Trends.

	Applications	Enrollment	Completions
2023	unknown	19	6
2022	unknown	18	3
2021	unknown	21	9
2020	unknown	20	7
2019	unknown	28	10

Impact on resources. There are no anticipated costs related to terminating these programs.

Impact on workforce. Workforce needs in the state are not expected to be affected. Several majors continue to be offered in these areas allowing students to pursue their career objectives.

Alternative programs. There are no similar programs identified at other Iowa institutions.

Effective date of termination. Upon approval by the Board of Regents.