UNIVERSITY SENATE | LEGISLATION APPROVAL | #21-22-08

Approved by the Senate on October 7, 2021

PCC Proposal to Discontinue the Upper-Division Certificate in Science, Technology and Society (Senate Document #21-22-08)

TO **Darryll J. Pines | President**

FROM **Ellen D. Williams | Chair, University Senate**

I am pleased to forward the accompanying legislation for your consideration and approval. Valérie Orlando, Chair of the Programs, Curricula & Courses (PCC) Committee, presented the PCC Proposal to Discontinue the Upper-Division Certificate in Science, Technology and Society (Senate Document #21-22-08), which the University Senate approved at its meeting on October 7, 2021. Please inform the Senate of your decision and any administrative action related to your conclusion.

Approved:  **Date:** **10-08-2021**

Darryll J. Pines
President

Copies of this approval and the accompanying legislation will be forwarded to:

Jennifer King Rice, Senior Vice President and Provost
Reka Montfort, Executive Secretary and Director, University Senate
Michael Poterala, Vice President and General Counsel
Dylan Baker, Interim Associate Vice President for Finance and Personnel
John Bertot, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs
Elizabeth Beise, Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs
Rhonda Smith, Acting Director, Academic Affairs
Valérie Orlando, Chair, PCC Committee
Mike Colson, Senior Coordinator for Academic Programs
Kenneth Kiger, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, A. James Clark School of Engineering
David Tomblin, Program Director, Science, Technology and Society

UNIVERSITY SENATE | TRANSMITTAL | #21-22-08

Senate Programs, Curricula, & Courses (PCC) Committee

Discontinue the Upper-Division Certificate in Science, Technology and Society (PCC 21005)

PRESENTED BY	**Valerie Orlando, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee**
REVIEW DATES	**SEC – September 20, 2021 | SENATE – October 7, 2021**
VOTING METHOD	**In a single vote**
RELEVANT POLICY/DOCUMENT	
NECESSARY APPROVALS	**Senate, President, University System of Maryland Chancellor, and Maryland Higher Education Commission**

ISSUE

The A. James Clark School of Engineering proposes to discontinue its Upper-Division Certificate in Science, Technology and Society. Students interested in the topics of this undergraduate certificate program will be directed to the new minor in Science, Technology, Ethics, and Policy, which was approved during the 2020-2021 academic year. No students are currently in the certificate program, and the last term in which the program had students was Spring 2020. Because it is a certificate program, it appears on the state of Maryland's official academic program inventory of University of Maryland programs, and will require a request to the University System of Maryland Chancellor and Maryland Higher Education Commission to remove the program from the inventory.

This proposal was approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee on September 3, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate approve this proposal to discontinue the certificate program.

COMMITTEE WORK

The committee considered this proposal at its meeting on September 3, 2021. A presentation was not required for the proposal because it followed last spring's approval of the new minor program and because there are no students in the certificate program. The proposal was approved by the committee.

ALTERNATIVES

The Senate could decline to discontinue this new certificate program.

RISKS

If the Senate declines to approve this certificate program, the university will lose an opportunity to remove an obsolete certificate program from the state's academic inventory.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant financial implications for this proposal.

545: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY CERTIFICATE

In Workflow

1. ENGR PCC Chair (mcbell@umd.edu; nroop@umd.edu; sash1@umd.edu)
2. ENGR Dean (kkiger@umd.edu; mcbell@umd.edu; nroop@umd.edu; sash1@umd.edu)
3. Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager (mcolson@umd.edu)
4. Senate PCC Chair (mcolson@umd.edu; vorlando@umd.edu)
5. University Senate Chair (mcolson@umd.edu)
6. President (mcolson@umd.edu)
7. Chancellor (mcolson@umd.edu)
8. MHEC (mcolson@umd.edu)
9. Provost Office (mcolson@umd.edu)
10. Undergraduate Catalog Manager (lyokoi@umd.edu)

Approval Path

1. Mon, 28 Jun 2021 19:01:54 GMT
   Suzanne Ashour-Bailey (sash1): Approved for ENGR PCC Chair
2. Tue, 29 Jun 2021 17:41:47 GMT
   Ken Kiger (kkiger): Approved for ENGR Dean
3. Fri, 27 Aug 2021 19:45:07 GMT
   Michael Colson (mcolson): Approved for Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager
4. Fri, 03 Sep 2021 14:52:20 GMT
   Valerie Orlando (vorlando): Approved for Senate PCC Chair

History

1. Oct 18, 2019 by William Bryan (wbryan)

Program Inactivation Proposal

Date Submitted: Mon, 24 May 2021 17:20:09 GMT

Viewing: 545 : Science, Technology, and Society Certificate
Last approved: Fri, 18 Oct 2019 19:32:19 GMT
Last edit: Mon, 24 May 2021 17:20:07 GMT

Changes proposed by: David Tomblin (dtomblin)

Final Catalog

2020-2021

Suspension or Discontinue

DISC

Explain the reason for discontinuing the program.

A new minor, Science, Technology, Ethics and Policy, will fulfill the same functions as the STS certificate, plus allow for broader participation.

Indicate how many students are currently in the program. How will these students be accommodated so that they can finish the program?

0 - I stopped taking students in Fall 2020 in anticipation that the STEP minor would replace it. All students that were in the certificate program have completed it.

Program Name

Science, Technology, and Society Certificate

Program Status

Active

Effective Term

Spring 2021

Catalog Year

2020-2021

Program Level

Undergraduate Program

Program Type

Undergraduate Certificate

Delivery Method

On Campus

Departments

Department
The A. James Clark School of Engineering

Colleges

College
The A. James Clark School of Engineering

Program/Major Code

9Z003

MHEC Inventory Program

Science, Technology, and Society

CIP Code

309999 - Multi-/Interdisciplinary Studies, Other.

HEGIS

499908

Degree(s) Awarded

Degree Awarded
Certificate, Upper Division

Program and Catalog Information

Provide the catalog description of the proposed program. As part of the description, please indicate any areas of concentration or specializations that will be offered.

The undergraduate University Certificate program in Science, Technology, and Society (STS) enables students to learn about the dynamic, interactive and creative relationships among science, technology, and society. This 21-credit program helps structure a student's general education and elective requirements into a unifying theme. The end product of the program is a research project of the student's own choosing, which is developed under faculty mentorship. The STS University Certificate is especially helpful to students who are seeking jobs that require understanding policy decisions as they relate to scientific and engineering endeavors, those students hoping to seek a graduate degree that integrates science, technology, and policy, or students simply interested in developing a greater understanding of social issues related to science and technology.

STS is an interdisciplinary field that has been taught for more than 30 years at universities in the United States and Europe, notably in those with strong engineering and public policy programs. In recent years, STS University Certificate students have chosen to write their capstone term papers about timely topics, including the interactions among science, technology and society related to nanotechnology, fuel cell applications, physics research funding, climate change modeling, religious principles as a basis for climate action, integration of SONAR into underwater vehicles, nuclear power in developing countries, and interpersonal impacts of social networking.

Catalog Program Requirements:

The STS program requires 9 credits of Lower Level (100-200) and 9 credits of Upper Level courses (300-400) and the ENES440. Students must obtain prior approval of the director before counting courses toward their individualized STS curriculum. Many of these credits may overlap with major and minor requirements. For guidance, see the website for a list of approved courses, and note that students may ask the director to approve a course not listed on the website.

Course	Title	Credits
Lower Level Courses		
CPSS225	College Park Scholars Capstone: Science, Technology, and Society	3
Select 6 additional credits of Lower Level (100- and 200-level) Courses [1]		6
Upper Level Courses		
ENES440	Science, Technology and Society: Certificate Program Capstone	3
Select 9 additional credits of Upper Level (300- and 400-level) Courses [2]		9
Total Credits		**21**

1 Three courses that relate science to society, technology to society, or science to technology.

2 These courses have an interdisciplinary orientation that demonstrates inter-relationships between science and society, between technology and society, or between science and technology. Students choose three courses.

Joining the Program and Program Requirements

Students interested in STS should contact the director to obtain advice and approval prior to enrolling in courses that fulfill the program. Students record their progress with the STS program office as they complete requirements, participate in a semi-annual advising meeting, and write a brief evaluation upon completing the program. Students must earn a minimum grade of "C-" in each course they wish to credit toward the STS University Certificate. A student's individual course of study may not exceed these maximums: 9 credits of courses applied to the student's major; 3 credits of Special or Selected Topics courses; 9 credits of courses taken outside UMCP; and 6 credits of courses with the AREC, ECON and GVPT prefixes. Once all requirements are met and the director affirms that the student has completed the program, the Registrar includes a notation of this University Certificate on the student's transcript.

New Program Information

Mission and Purpose

Program Characteristics

Faculty and Organization

Resource Needs and Sources

Reviewer Comments

Michael Colson (mcolson) (Thu, 01 Jul 2021 17:48:31 GMT): PCC Log Number 21005

Key: 545