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FROM: Jerry M. Bigham (Bigham.1@osu.edu)  
SENT: May 27, 2009  
RE: Non-concurrence for CS 277 (Religion and Environmentalism)

I have consulted with colleagues in the School of Environment and Natural Resources, and I regret that we cannot give our concurrence to this course. CS 277 is a course focusing on the environment, and that is one of the central curricular and research topics in SENR. Most of our 34 faculty members are trained in some aspect of the environment, and SENR houses four undergraduate majors and a minor dedicated to studies of this topic. Moreover, we have previously submitted a course proposal dealing with environmental values and religion that has a strong ecological emphasis and that awaits approval from the university. Our conclusion is that environmental topics belong in the School, where a comprehensive evaluation of the subject matter is available to students. The course should not be duplicated in a unit whose disciplinary focus is not the environment and whose faculty are not trained in the study of this topic.

We will be pleased to re-consider our non-concurrence following a meeting of representatives from our respective Colleges in the near future.

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