



October 17, 2019

Alison Crocetta
Chair, ASCC

Dear Alison,

The NMS Panel of the ASCC reviewed and discussed the following Certificates at the regular NMS panel meeting on September 23, 2019.

Certificate in Hydrogeology:

Ohio State has a significant strength in hydrogeologic sciences, with additional strengths in environmental engineering, environmental sciences, soil science, and contaminant transport, across several colleges. This new certificate will clarify to students, graduate schools, and employers that the student engaged in a coherent set of undergraduate coursework to prepare the student to work or do research in the area of hydrogeology. The certificate also includes the course work for students to meet the educational criteria for certification by the American Institute of Hydrology.

Certificate in Natural History Museum Curation:

The new certificate will provide both the disciplinary background as well as experience and skills in working in a museum. The certificate is targeted to students wishing to pursue a career in natural history museums. Relevant positions generally require disciplinary expertise as well as curatorial or museum-based outreach experience. Hence, the proposed certificate will significantly improve the competitiveness of students for this type of positions.

Certificate in Marine Science:

Many students majoring in Earth Science, EEOB, Zoology, Microbiology, Geography, Engineering, and SENR programs arrive at Ohio State with an interest in marine science. There is significant interest in marine science among undergraduate students, and significant expertise in marine science among the faculty at OSU. Since these faculty are dispersed across the university, there is no clear departmental home, but there is a clear center of gravity in ASC. The certificate in marine science will clarify to students, graduate schools, and employers that the student engaged in a coherent set of undergraduate coursework to prepare the student to pursue marine sciences as a career or in graduate school.

Certificate in Petroleum Geology:

The Certificate in Petroleum Geology, together with either the revised Geological Sciences and Geophysics subprograms of the Earth Sciences BS, will replace the prior Petroleum Geology and Geophysics subprogram. With a Certificate in Petroleum Geology, students will have a competitive advantage for beginning a career in the oil and gas industry or pursuing entrance into a top graduate degree program within the field of petroleum geoscience. The certificate is designed to enhance both critical thinking and the technical skills for practicing petroleum geoscience.

The four proposed certificates are well designed and compelling in their justifications. The NMS panel unanimously approved all four proposed certificates with only minor recommendations and in one contingency (correction of a typo in the title of a certificate), that was satisfied in the resubmission.

The NMS Panel forwards the listed certificates to ASCC for approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harald Vaessin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Harald Vaessin
Chair, NMS Panel of ASCC
Professor and Chair, Molecular Genetics