

April 15, 2022

Associate Professor Luke Wilson  
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval of Undergraduate Minor in Environmental Arts and Humanities

Dear Luke and Members of the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee,

On Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, the Arts and Humanities 2 Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new proposed interdisciplinary minor in Environmental Arts and Humanities. The Panel unanimously approved the minor with one contingency. The contingency has now been resolved, and I'm happy to put the new minor forward for the ASCC committee's consideration. The new Environmental Arts & Humanities minor represents the opportunity to fill a gap in environment and sustainability course offerings in the College of Arts and Sciences. The proposed program will a great contribution to current strengths in sustainability education and it will naturally fit into the new General Education requirements. As an interdisciplinary minor this new program combines methodologies and approaches from diverse humanities disciplines, the environmental arts, and humanities to explore interrelationships between humans and their environments.

As stated in the proposal, "The Environmental Arts & Humanities minor builds on existing strengths and makes effective use of existing resources." This means that the new minor offers environmental humanities faculty from different departments and undergraduate students the opportunity to engage under a common program. The new minor will encourage faculty already teaching subjects in the environmental humanities, and across the college (including those in the regional campuses), to opportunity to coordinate their course offerings and collaborate on curricular development.

Moreover, we believe that the proposed minor in Environmental Arts and Humanities will allow the College of Arts and Sciences to be at the forefront of such disciplines, as it will set Ohio State University as a leader in the state of Ohio and will also allow us to compete with national peer institutions. This minor, in fact, showcases the already existing resources at Ohio State, which, as stated in the proposal, "could advance the university's goal of eminence in the field of environment and sustainability." Thus, we advance the proposed minor to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Regards,



Eugenia Romero, PhD  
Associate Professor of Iberian Studies  
Vice-Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese