Learning Outcomes Data for the Senate Committee on Instructional Program Priorities

Program: Pre-planning Certificate in Resource Planning

Department: Geography

Number of students enrolled in the program in Fall, 2011: 0 or close to 0

Faculty member completing template: Robin Datel, Chair (Date: January 2012)

On the books, the Geography Department still offers two multidisciplinary certificates, one of which is in Resource Planning. As the years have gone by, demand for these certificates has approached zero, due to a variety of factors. The certificates were created in part to complement what was at the time a general liberal arts geography degree, the certificate providing a credential in a more career-oriented subject. Geography has evolved significantly since then, and our major now has four concentrations and significantly increased training in technical skills, leading to various careers. We have kept the certificates on the books, rather than just remove them, because we have discussed the possibility of wanting to create heavily revised certificates in the future. For example, many geography departments offer a GIS certificate. Our thinking was that revising an existing certificate might be easier, in terms of the approval process, than creating an entirely new one. In other words, the Pre-planning Certificate in Resource Planning is basically a place-holder at this point in time. Very occasionally a student will still complete the courses for the certificate, but very few resources are being devoted to this program. Learning Outcomes have not been created or assessed for it.