

SCIENCE, MATH AND ENGINEERING SUBCOMMITTEE

December 2006

REPORT OF ACTIONS BY CHAIR (with consultation)

I. COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES Req. by Albert Herrera

Add a new program:

Eff Term: Fall 2007

M.S., Marine and Environmental Biology [32 units]

The program consists of four core courses, a seminar, and 18 elective units, which can be taken from a number of departments. A summative research paper is required.

This is a proposal to initiate a new master's degree. The course content for the degree draws completely on existing courses with a large degree of flexibility. The SES subcommittee had some initial concerns about the name and structure of the degree program – in particular the “dual” name. The committee thought that this type of name might be too vague. However, after relaying our concerns to BISC, we were satisfied that they were aware of this issue and were reviewing the options. They pointed out that normally “marine” would be a subset of “environmental” but that “marine and environmental” best reflected the current strengths of the Department. Based on their input, we recommend approving the program and allowing BISC to determine the precise name of the program.

➤ **APPROVED**