PENN STATE WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A MASTERS AND PHD PROGRAM
FROM THE CROSS-COLLEGE WATER GRADUATE DEGREE COMMITTEE
PENN STATE WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

I. BACKGROUND

II. WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

III. RECOMMENDED GRADUATE PROGRAM
   a) GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS
   b) COMPONENTS

IV. RELATED ACTIVITIES
BACKGROUND

• CALLS FOR A WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM
  o 2013 – INTERNAL WATER TASK FORCE – ESTABLISH AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL GRADUATE PROGRAM CONNECTING WATER STUDENTS AND FACULTY ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY
  o 2014 – EXTERNAL REVIEW – DEVELOP A JOINT GRADUATE PROGRAM IN WATER SCIENCE

• 2017/2018 – TRACTION, WITH FACULTY FOCUS ACROSS WATER RESOURCES SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, POLICY & MANAGEMENT, LAW, AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

• 2018 – WATER COUNCIL ESTABLISHED (FALL)

• 2019 – WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM COMMITTEE FORMED
WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

• FIRST MEETING ON APRIL 2, 2019
• CHARGE TO DESIGN AND STAND-UP INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAM
• MEMBERS INCLUDING:
  o FACULTY: COLLEGES AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, EARTH AND MINERAL SCIENCES, ARTS & ARCHITECTURE, INSTITUTES OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
  o GRAD STUDENTS: AG SCIENCES AND ENGR
• TO CONSIDER:
  o CONTENT
  o STRUCTURE: DUAL TITLE & STAND- Alone INTERCOLLEGE GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM (IGDP)
• WORK: COLLECT DIVERSE FACULTY INPUT, BENCHMARKING & RESEARCH, MEETINGS & DISCUSSIONS
• RECOMMENDATION: JANUARY 16, 2020
RECOMMENDED PROGRAM: CHARACTERISTICS

• INTER-COLLEGIATE AND GLOBAL

• INTERDISCIPLINARY
  o E.G., NATURAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

• CREATE A COHORT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
  o FOUNDED IN A SHARED SET OF COMMON COURSES AND EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES
  o CONVERSANT AND CAPABLE OF ENGAGING ACROSS DISCIPLINES & SOCIAL SECTORS
  o EDUCATED TO IMPLEMENT SOLUTIONS TO WATER CHALLENGES WHICH ARE TECHNICALLY SOUND, ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE, CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE
RECOMMENDED WATER PROGRAM: OVERVIEW

MASTERS AND PHD

• RECOMMENDATION FOR A STAND-ALONE IGDP
  ✓ RECOGNIZE IT COULD WORK AS A DUAL TITLE

• CORE CURRICULUM
  ✓ 9 CREDITS
  ✓ COURSES & SEMINARS
  ✓ BUILD COHORT

• THREE GENERAL CATEGORIES OF STUDY
  ✓ REMAINING CREDITS
  ✓ REQUIREMENTS ACROSS ALL THREE CATEGORIES
RECOMMENDED PROGRAM

CORE CURRICULUM (9 CREDITS)

1) COMMON ENTRY COURSE – TAKEN 1ST SEMESTER, PROVIDES OVERVIEW, BUILDS COHORT (3 CREDITS)
   - GLOBAL WATER ISSUES, WITH TREATMENT OF PA
   - SCIENCE AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER WITHIN SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL-TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

2) SEMINARS – ONGOING, EXPOSURE TO DIVERSE TOPICS, MAINTAINS COHORT (3 CREDITS TOTAL)
   - THREE SEMINARS, COULD INCLUDE EXISTING (MODIFIED?) AND/OR NEW SEMINARS

3) FINAL COMMON COURSE – TAKEN LAST SEMESTER; OPTIONS CONSIDERED INCLUDE…
   - COMMUNICATING WATER: STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS FOR ENGAGING DIVERSE AUDIENCES
   - WATER PRACTICUM: COMMUNITY-BASED, INTER-DISCIPLINARY, TO FUNCTION AS A CAPSTONE
WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

ADDITIONAL AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

• WATER CERTIFICATE
  o INITIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH LAW AND BUSINESS

• WATER GRADUATE STUDENT COMMUNITY
  o CHARRETTE INVOLVING 2 DOZEN GRAD STUDENTS FROM ACROSS COLLEGES
  o STRONG INTEREST TO FORM CLUB OR SIMILAR
    ✓ INTERDISCIPLINARY
    ✓ PROFESSIONAL
    ✓ SOCIAL
WATER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAM

NEXT STEPS

• PRESENTATIONS
  ✓ DEPARTMENT FACULTY
  ✓ SPRING WATER FACULTY MEETING (MAY 11TH)
  ✓ ONLINE PRESENTATION

• REFINE CONTENT

• REFINE ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS

• PRESENTATIONS TO ADMINISTRATION