

University Council Recommendations
The University of Georgia

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To: President Michael F. Adams
Re: DOCUMENT NUMBER: 2005.9.22.02
Issue: A proposal for a Major in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism (B.S.F.R.).
Discussion: None
Action: The vote was called and the proposal was approved.

Submitted by: Rebecca L. Macon
Rebecca L. Macon, Secretary

9.28.05
Date

- Approved
- Reconsider
- Vetoed (see attached explanation)
- Received

M. F. Adams
Michael F. Adams, President

10/6/05
Date

Attachment

The University System of Georgia
FORMAT FOR NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL
 (Submit three copies)

Institution	<u>The University of Georgia</u>	Date	<u>June 27, 2005</u>
School	<u>Daniel B. Warnell School of Forest Resources</u>		
Department	<u>N/A</u>		
Name of Proposed Program	<u>N/A</u>		
Degree	<u>B.S. Forest Resources</u>	Major	<u>Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism</u>
Starting Date	<u>Fall, 2005</u>		

Program description and objectives

The University of Georgia's Daniel B. Warnell School of Forest Resources, founded in 1906, is the oldest school of forest resources in the South. The mission of the School is to prepare leaders in the conservation and sustainable management of forests and other natural resources; to discover ways to restore and better use the earth's natural resources; and to put into practice forestry and natural resources knowledge. The addition of a new major in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism (NRRT) will broaden the scope of the forest resources program by addressing the human component of natural resources. More specifically, the new major will support the mission of the School by focusing on the conservation, wise use, and sustainable development of natural resources. Over the past twenty years, most other schools of forestry and natural resources in the U.S. have added a NRRT, or similar, major to their curriculum.

The objective of the NRRT major is to prepare students to work in environmental settings (of natural, cultural, and/or historical significance) that provide natural resource recreation and/or tourism opportunities. Employment opportunities for graduating students include tourism development, protected area management, environmental education (with schools), environmental interpretation (with agencies), park management, and recreation/tourism planning. Potential employers include local/county, state, and national parks/forests, public, private and not-for-profit nature centers, adventure and wilderness programs, environmental education centers, wildlife sanctuaries and preserves, and nature-based tourism and outdoor recreation organizations (public and private). Natural resource recreation and tourism is one of the leading employment sectors in the country, at both state and federal levels, and contributes approximately 7% toward the GNP. According to the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP), tourism is the world's number one export earner, ahead of automotive products, chemicals, petroleum and food (<http://www.uneptie.org/pc/tourism/sust-tourism/economic.htm>).

The proposed major will require one new course, in Tourism and Sustainable Development (which will replace an existing course in Recreation Interpretation that will be dropped). Other courses will be transferred from the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services (CHDS) in the College of Education (COE), where an emphasis area (in Recreation Resources Management) exists only through to the end of the Summer Semester, 2005. (Through August 2005, the emphasis in Recreation Resource Management has been housed in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies (RLTS). With the recent restructuring of the College of Education, RLST has been absorbed under CHDS). In sum, the proposed NRRT major effectively transfers several of the existing courses in the RRM emphasis area to a new major within WSFR and compliments them with courses that are currently being taught in WSFR.

All resources to accommodate students in the NRRT major currently exist within WSFR; no additional resources are required at this time. A new faculty member (Dr. Gary Green) was hired in November, 2004 and a second faculty member (Dr. Tarrant, who currently holds a .375 EFT in both WSFR and in CHDS) will be hired on a .75 EFT basis in WSFR effective August, 2005. Dr. Green received his Ph.D. in Recreation and Leisure Studies from the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Georgia and, for the past four years, has held a research appointment with the USDA Forest Service. Since 1998, he has taught several courses in the RRM emphasis area for RLST and presently holds the rank of Assistant Professor. Dr. Tarrant has been a faculty member at UGA since 1992. He has held a joint appointment in WSFR and RLST for the past nine years and was promoted to the rank of Professor in 2004 in both WSFR and COE.

Students in the NRRT major will take the same core courses as other students in WSFR (25 hours) as well as 26 – 29 credits of major requirements and 9 – 12 credits of electives. Based on previous student numbers in the RRM emphasis area for the past 13 years, it is estimated that approximately 15 – 25 students will enroll in the major annually. The degree conferred to students upon completing requirements in the curriculum will be “Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources.”

Justification and need for the program

1. Societal need for graduates prepared by this program.
As a service profession, recreation and tourism is now the largest global industry, is a primary export industry at the national level in the U.S., and is the first or second largest economic earner and employer in virtually every state of the country. Indeed, as our society diversifies and globalizes, the economic, cultural, and social significance of recreation and tourism will only continue to expand and, along with it, the demand for professionally trained personnel in the planning, development, and management of such services.
2. Student demand for the program
The RRM emphasis area has resided in RLST since the 1970s, with a typical annual enrolment (in RRM) of between 20 – 40 undergraduate students, 2 – 4 masters students, and 1 -3 doctoral students. (RLST is a 2-year program and has comprised three majors: RRM, Therapeutic Recreation (serving approximately 25 – 40 undergraduates), and Administration of Leisure Services (serving approximately 30 – 50 undergraduates). Unlike the two other emphasis areas in therapeutic recreation and public administration, the RRM area does not fit well with the mission of CHDS, and WSFR provides a better academic niche for students interested in natural resource recreation and tourism. The faculty in both academic units (CHDS and WSFR) support NRRT as a new major in WSFR and the RRM emphasis will no longer exist in CHDS. Within U.S. institutions, NRRT majors are overwhelmingly housed in colleges (or schools) of natural resources and/or forestry. In those units, the NRRT (or equivalent) major represents at least 15% (and most typically 20-25%) of the undergraduate student body in the respective college.
3. Additional reasons that make the program desirable
A Department of NRRT would address a statewide initiative for tourism (especially ecotourism) development (as proposed by Governor Purdue in the 2004 Southern Governor's Association www.southerngovernors.org).
4. Reports of advisory committees and consultants.
Not available
5. All public and private institutions in the state offering similar programs.
There is no natural resource recreation and tourism program in the state of Georgia. Perhaps the closest is at Georgia Southern University in the Department of Hospitality, Tourism, and Family and Consumer Sciences. There is also a relatively small recreation program at North Georgia College.

Procedures used to develop the program

Courses in the RRM emphasis area have been cross-listed with RLST and WSFR for several years, in part stemming from the appointment of Dr. Tarrant as a faculty member in both RLST and WSFR since 1996.¹ With the proposed restructuring of the COE in 2002/03, discussions began between the Department Head of RLST (Dr. John Dattilo), interim Dean of WSFR (Dr. Jim Sweeney), and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in WSFR (Dr. Bruce Bongarten). However, it was not until Dr. Richard Porterfield was hired as Dean of WSFR in January, 2004 that more formal discussions to have a NRRT major in WSFR surfaced. In December 2004, Deans Porterfield and Castenell (in COE) agreed to terminate the RRM emphasis area in RLST/CHDS and initiate a new major in NRRT based in WSFR.

¹ These courses are FORS/RLST 3310, FORS/RLST 4270/6270, FORS/RLST 4271/6271, FORS/RLST 5400/7400, and FORS/RLST5410/7410.

Curriculum (123 hours total)

Major: Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism

1. Pre-professional requirements (60 hours)²
 - Area A – Essential Skills (9 hours)
 - i. English Composition I, ENGL1101, 3 hours
 - ii. English Composition II, ENGL1102, 3 hours
 - iii. Precalculus, MATH1113, 3 hours
 - Area B – Institutional Options (3 hours)
 - i. Satisfied by electives selected by the student with approval of academic advisor. 6 hours
 - Area C – Humanities/Fine Arts (6 hours)
 - i. Satisfied by electives selected by the student with approval of academic advisor, 6 hours
 - Area D – Science, Mathematics, and Technology (12 hours)
 - i. Select two courses from the four-hour science course list, 8 hours (Principles of Biology I, BIOL1107/1107L, 4 hours recommended)
 - ii. Select one course from the mathematics, science, or technology list, 4 hours
 - Area E – Social Sciences (12 hours)
 - i. Principles of Microeconomics, ECON2106, 3 hours (recommended)
 - ii. American Government, POLS1101, 3 hours (unless met Georgia and US Constitution requirement) (recommended)
 - iii. Select courses from Area E list, 6 hours
 - Area F – Courses Related to Major (18 hours)
 - i. Elementary Statistics, STAT2000, 4 hours
 - ii. Choice of
 1. Elementary Chemistry, CHEM1110, CHEM1110L, 4 hours
 2. Freshman Chemistry I, CHEM1211, CHEM1211L, 4 hours
 - iii. Introduction to Public Speaking, SPCM1100, 3 hours
 - iv. Principles of Biology II, BIOL1108-1108L, 4 hours
 - v. Choice of³
 1. Introduction to Anthropology, ANTH1102, 3 hours
 2. Human Geography, GEOG1101, 3 hours
 3. Introduction to Global Affairs, INTL1100, 3 hours
2. WSFR core (25 hours)
 - Ecology of Natural Resources, FORS3020-3020L, 4 hours
 - Soils and Hydrology, (FORS)CRSS3060-3060L, 4 hours
 - Spatial Analysis of Natural Resources, FORS3910-3910L, 3 hours
 - Field Orientation, Measurements, and Sampling in Forest Resources, FORS3000-3000L, 4 hours
 - Forest Resources Policy, FORS4800/6800-4800D/6800D, 3 hours
 - Economics of Renewable Resources, FORS 3710-3710D, 2 hours
 - Society and Natural Resources, FORS3810-3810D, 2 hours
 - Senior Project in Forest Resources Managements FORS4730, or /Senior Thesis in Forest Resources, FORS4750, 4 hours
3. Major requirements (26 - 29 hours)⁴
 - Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Awareness, (FORS)RLST3310, 3 hours

² MATH2200, MATH2200L and CHEM1212, CHEM1212L are excluded from the pre-professional core for NRRT students because these two courses (a) are not pre-requisites for any upper division course required in the NRRT major and (b) do not directly pertain to the study of natural resource recreation and tourism (indeed, there are other courses such as INTL1100 that better prepare students for a career in NRRT). In the event that students enter WSFR as NRRT majors and later decide to switch to another major in WSFR, such students will need to take MATH2200, MATH2200L and CHEM1212, CHEM1212L.

³ Courses must be available throughout the USG.

⁴ The NRRT major will not be accredited with the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) as accreditation requires a semester internship.

- Field Studies in Recreation, Tourism, and Leisure, (FORS)(ANTH)RLST4270/6270, 1-10 hours or Field Studies in Natural Resources FORS(AAEC)(ANTH)(ECOL)(GEOG)(RLST)4271/6271, 1-9 hours
 - Tourism and Sustainable Development, (new course in FORS replacing RLST4840), 3 hours
 - Parks and Ecotourism Management, (FORS)(ANTH)RLST5400/7400-5400L/7400L, 3 hours
 - Wilderness Management, FORS(RLST)5410/7410, 3 hours
 - Dendrology, FORS3010-3010L, 3 hours
 - Introduction to Fish and Wildlife Management, FORS3300, 2 hours
 - Forest Health and Protection, FORS4210, 3 hours
 - Organization and Administration of Leisure Services, RLST4870, 3 hours
4. Electives (9 – 12 hours) with approval of advisor.⁵ Suggested list of courses includes:
- Introduction to Environmental Health Science, EHSC3060, 3 hours
 - Insects and the Environment, ENTO(BIOL)2010, 3 hours
 - Vertebrate Natural History, FORS(ECOL)3580-3580L, 5 hours
 - Silviculture, FORS4010-4010L, 4 hours
 - Field Mammalogy, FORS(BIOL)4050/6050-4050L/6050L, 4 hours
 - Field Ornithology, FORS4060/6060-4060/6060L, 4 hours
 - Forest Hydrology, FORS4110/6110-4110L/6110L, 4 hours
 - Introduction to Wetlands, FORS4140-4140L, 3 hours
 - Management of Wildlife Habitat, FORS4300/6300-4300L/6300L, 4 hours
 - Endangered Species Management, FORS4340/6340, 3 hours
 - Forest Mensuration, FORS4610/6610-4610L/6610L, 3 hours
 - Urban Tree Management, FORS5010/7010, 3 hours
 - Aerial Photogrammetry in Forestry, FORS5650/7650-5650L/7650L, 3 hours
 - Natural Resources Law for Managers and Administrators, FORS5820/7820, 4 hours
 - Introduction to Weather and Climate, GEOG1112, GEOG1112L, 4 hours
 - Introduction to Landforms, GEOG1113, GEOG1113L, 4 hours
 - Resources, Society, and the Environment, GEOG1125, 3 hours
 - Cartography and Graphics, GEOG3510-3510L, 3 hours
 - Conservation Ecology and Resource Management, GEOG4810/6810, 3 hours
 - Earth Processes and Environments, GEOL1121, GEOG1121L/L, 4 hours
 - Physical Geology, GEOL1250-1250L, 4 hours
 - Geology of the National Parks, GEOL3130, 3 hours
 - Landscape Horticulture, HORT4090, 3 hours
 - Environmental Ethics, PHIL(EETH)4220/6220, 3 hours
 - Programming in Leisure Services, RLST2800, RLST2800L, 4 hours
 - Research and Evaluation in Leisure Services, RLST4900, 3 hours
 - Camping Administration, RLST5430/7430, 3 hours

Sample program of study that might be followed by a representative student

See attached.

⁵ If 26 hours taken in the major requirements, 12 hours of electives are required; similarly, if 29 hours are taken in the major requirements, 9 hours of electives are required.

Inventory of faculty involved

Two faculty members in WSFR will have direct responsibilities for the NRRT major. Copies of the respective vitae containing information about (1) rank, academic discipline, etc., (2) scholarship and publication record and (3) professional activity are attached. The current workload for a typical semester is as follows (there is expected to be no impact on previous workloads because one new faculty member, Green, has already been brought in):

1. Gary T. Green, Assistant Professor
 - a. Fall Semester
 - i. Tourism and Sustainable Development (3 credits)
 - ii. Society and Natural Resources (2 credits)
 - b. Spring Semester
 - i. Wilderness Management
2. Michael A. Tarrant, Professor,
 - a. Fall Semester
 - i. Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Awareness (3 credits)
 - b. Spring and Summer Semester
 - i. Field Studies in Natural Resource Conservation (3 – 6 credits)
3. Other faculty will also teach the following major requirements
 - a. Faculty in WSFR
 - i. Protected Area Management and Ecotourism (3 credits)
 - ii. Dendrology (3 credits)
 - iii. Introduction to Fish and Wildlife Management (2 credits)
 - iv. Forest Health Protection (3 credits)
 - b. Faculty in COE
 - i. Administration of Leisure Services (3 credits)

Additional faculty members are not required in order to begin the program.

Outstanding programs of this nature in other institutions

Most natural resources colleges/schools throughout the country have a major in an area aligned with natural resource recreation and tourism (such as outdoor recreation, nature-based tourism, parks, recreation and tourism management, human dimensions of natural resources, etc). Among the most outstanding programs in the country are:

1. Colorado State University, Department of Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism, College of Natural Resources
<http://www.cnr.colostate.edu/NRRT/>
 Contact: Michael J. Manfredo, Professor and Chair, Tel: 970.491.0474
2. University of Idaho, Department of Resource Recreation and Tourism, College of Natural Resources
<http://www.webs.uidaho.edu/MajorFinder/MajorDetails.aspx?ID=97>
 Contact: Stephen Hollenhorst, Professor and Department Head, Tel: 208.885.7911
3. Utah State University, major in Recreation Resource Management, Department of Environment and Society, College of Natural Resources
<http://www.cnr.usu.edu/default.asp?category=education§ion=undergraduate&content=recreation>
 Contact person: Fee Busby, Dean, Tel: 435.797.2452

Inventory of pertinent library resources

A large collection of resources (periodicals, journals, books, and other publications) in the NRRT area is currently available at the Main Library and Science Library at The University of Georgia and is sufficient to support the new major. Resources in the University System of Georgia are also available via GALILEO. Most other resources can be retrieved via the world-wide-web.

Students

Students with an interest in the human dimensions of natural resources, including an ability and/or interest to work with people in environmental systems will be recruited. This will be determined by their academic background as well as extra-curricular activities in high school and/or college. Students with experience of working in parks and protected areas, in environmental communications (interpretation and education), and/or with tourism organizations (including hospitality services) will be targeted; as will, students with exposure to working with diverse populations in natural environments. The public parks profession has a rich history of including minorities and this will be emphasized and strengthened with the NRRT major.

Facilities

Courses in the NRRT major will be taught in the Warnell School of Forest Resources which is housed in a four-building complex on UGA's South Campus. The School also manages the 740-acre Whitehall Forest near campus (which provides an excellent field lab for students) and more than 23,500 acres across the state for research, teaching, and service activities. Together these resources are among the best in the country. At this time, no new facilities will be needed to house faculty or students in the NRRT major.

Administration

The new major will be an addition to the existing four undergraduate degrees administered by the Warnell School of Forest Resources under the direction of the Dean, Richard L. Porterfield. (The existing four majors are fisheries and aquaculture, water and soil resources, forestry, and wildlife.) Two faculty members will be responsible for instruction in the NRRT major: Gary T. Green, Assistant Professor and Michael A. Tarrant, Professor.

Assessment

Courses and course instructors will be evaluated using the WSFR student evaluation form administered at the end of the semester in which the course is taught. The major will be reviewed periodically by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) as part of their review of the School of Forest Resources as well as by the University of Georgia Program Review and Assessment Committee (PRAC).

Accreditation

The proposed major will be accredited under the general accreditation for the University of Georgia by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The National Recreation and Parks Association (the accrediting body for the major in RLST) requires a 15-week internship for accreditation, practicum experiences, as well as other courses (e.g., leisure programming, therapeutic recreation, etc) that will not be required in the WSFR major. At this time, no internship is proposed in the NRRT major because of the coursework required of students in the WSFR core and NRRT major requirements.

Affirmative Action Impact

As the U.S. population continues to diversify demographically, its interests, behaviors, and values toward natural resources will continue to change. It is critical that the natural resource recreation and tourism profession attract highly qualified minorities in positions to meet the needs of a population that is increasingly diverse in terms of its ethnic background, gender, and age. By broadening the scope of the Warnell School of Forest Resources to include natural resource recreation and tourism, we hope to attract a much more diverse body of students with wide-ranging interests in an effort to better serve the citizens of the state of Georgia. The major will be open to all qualified persons regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

Degree Inscription

Upon successful completion of all requirements of the major, the degree inscription on the student's diploma will read "Bachelor of Science in Forest Resources".

Fiscal and Enrollment Impact and Estimated Budget

Fiscal Impact

Only one new course (Tourism and Sustainable Development) will be added, but it replaces an existing course in Recreation Interpretation. As a result, there will be no adverse impact on the teaching loads of faculty and no new fiscal resources are required. With one exception, all other courses that are required in the major and that are not taught by Green or Tarrant will be taught by faculty in WSFR as part of the major requirements of other majors in WSFR. (We expect there to be no problems with NRRT students enrolling for these courses.) The single exception is a course taught by the Department of Counseling and Human Services (CHDS), Administration of Leisure Services. This course was part of the core requirements in the former emphasis area (known as Recreation Resource Management) in the former Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies. (As part of the restructuring of the College of Education, the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies was merged with Counseling to form the Department of Counseling and Human Services.)

Enrollment Impact

The Warnell School of Forest Resources currently has four majors: fisheries and aquaculture, water and soil resources, forestry, and wildlife. A major in NRRT will provide the School with an opportunity to broaden its scope to explicitly address human – environment interactions. As a result, we expect to appeal primarily to students who had not formerly thought of majoring in Forest Resources. Based on previous student numbers in the former Recreation Resource Management emphasis area for the past 13 years, it is estimated that approximately 15 – 25 students will enroll in the major annually.

I. Enrollment Projections (Indicate basis for projections in narrative)	FY 2005		FY2006		FY2007	
	First Year		Second Year		Third Year	
A. Student majors						
1. Shifted from other programs		12		15		20
2. New to institution		--		5		5
TOTAL MAJORS		12		20		25
B. Course sections satisfying program requirements						
1. Previously existing		20		20		20
2. New		1		1		1
TOTAL PROGRAM COURSE SECTIONS		21		21		21
C. Credit hours generated by those courses						
1. Existing enrollments		7000		7000		7000
2. New enrollments		600		1000		1250
TOTAL CREDIT HOURS						
D. Degrees awarded		12		19		24
		(yr 2)		(yr 3)		(yr 4)
	EFT	\$	EFT	\$	EFT	\$
II. Costs						
A. Personnel – reassigned or existing positions						
1. Faculty	1.75	\$125k	1.75	\$125k	1.75	\$125k
2. Part-time faculty	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Graduate assistant	.5	\$18k	.5	\$18k	.5	\$18k
4. Administrators	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Support staff	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Fringe benefits		0		0		0
7. Other personnel costs		0		0		0
TOTAL EXISTING PERSONNEL COSTS		\$133k		\$133k		\$133k
B. Personnel – new positions						
1. Faculty	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Part-time faculty	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Graduate assistant	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Administrators	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Support staff	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Fringe benefits		0		0		0
7. Other personnel costs		0		0		0
TOTAL NEW PERSONNEL COSTS		0		0		0
		First Year		Second Year		Third Year
C. Start-up costs (one time expense)						
1. Library/learning resources		0		0		0
2. Equipment		0		0		0
3. Other		0		0		0
D. Physical facilities: construction or major renovation						
TOTAL ONE-TIME COSTS		0		0		0
E. Operating costs (recurring costs—base budget)						
1. Supplies/expense		\$1000		\$1000		\$1000
2. Travel		\$500		\$500		\$500
3. Equipment		0		0		0
4. Library/learning resources		0		0		0
5. Other		0		0		0
TOTAL RECURRING EXPENSES		\$1500		\$1500		\$1500

III. REVENUE SOURCES

A. Source of funds

1. Reallocation of existing funds	\$134.5k	\$134.5k	\$134.5k
2. New student workload	0	0	0
3. New tuition	0	0	0
4. Federal funds	0	0	0
5. Other grants	0	0	0
6. Student fees	0	0	0
7. Other	0	0	0
Subtotal	0	0	0
New state allocation requested	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	\$134.5k	\$134.5k	\$134.5k

B. Nature of funds

1. Base budget	\$134.5k	\$134.5k	\$134.5k
2. One-time funds	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	\$134.5k	\$134.5k	\$134.5k