



TO: Members of the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs  
SPONSOR: Carolyn Tuohy  
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DATE: October 6, 2003 for meeting of October 15, 2003  
AGENDA ITEM: 5

**ITEM IDENTIFICATION:**

Proposal for a JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies Program, as described in the submission from the Faculty of Law, dated September 25, 2003

**JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:**

Under the Policy on Diploma and Certificate Programs, the Committee has authority for approval of diploma and certificate programs.

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

The proposed program replaces the past practice of incorporating the JD as a participating program in the collaborative program in Environmental Studies offered by the Institute for Environmental Studies. Because the JD is not a graduate program, it does not formally qualify for participation in the IES program, which is collaborative masters program.

The program allows JD students to take IES core courses, write an IES research paper and complete an internship approved by IES, and to receive recognition in the form of a certificate awarded by the student's faculty of registration: namely, the Faculty of Law.

The current University Policy on Diploma and Certificate Programs does not explicitly provide for certificate and diploma programs which are offered not on a stand-alone basis but rather in conjunction with degree programs. The Committee is being asked at the present meeting to recommend an amendment to the policy that explicitly recognizes such programs.

If the recommendation to the current policy is recommended by the Committee for approval, the Committee will be asked to approve the JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies program as consistent with the spirit of the Policy, to become effective upon Governing Council approval of the proposed amendment.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Committee on Academic Policy and Programs approve:

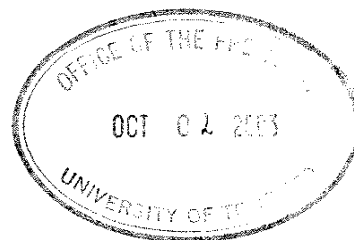
Proposal for a JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies Program, as described in the submission from the Faculty of Law, dated September 25, 2003, effective upon Governing Council approval of the amendments to the Policy of Diploma and Certificate Programs dated October 6, 2003.




# Faculty of Law UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

ASSOCIATE DEAN

September 25, 2003

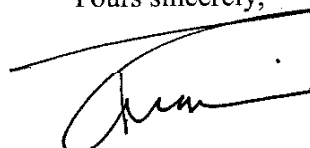


Professor Carolyn Tuohy  
Vice-President Policy Development  
Simcoe Hall  
27 Kings College Circle  
University of Toronto

  
Dear Professor Tuohy,

I enclose a proposal for a JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies Program. The proposal was approved by Faculty Council at its meeting on Wednesday, 24 September 2003. The proposed effective start date for the program is 1 January 2004.

Yours sincerely,

  
Brian A. Langille  
Acting Dean

# **PROPOSAL FOR A JD/ CERTIFICATE IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM**

## **1. Introduction**

The Institute for Environmental Studies (“IES”) runs a number of collaborative programs in cooperation with graduate units of the University. The Faculty of Law has in the past offered a Collaborative Program in Environmental Studies under the umbrella of the IES Collaborative Program arrangement. The faculty stopped accepting students into the program last year following advice from the School of Graduate Studies that, since the JD is not a graduate degree, IES collaborative programs are not open to law students. The faculty and IES have since been exploring alternative ways of making IES courses available to law students with some form of accreditation at the end.

At the suggestion of the SGS Dean, the faculty and IES drafted a proposal for a JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies program. SGS suggested a number of revisions to the draft proposal to “take the Certificate right out of the Graduate School’s domain”. The proposal, incorporating SGS’s suggested revisions, is set out below.

In summary, the proposal envisages the award of a Certificate in Environmental Studies to JD students who successfully complete the program. The certificate will be awarded by the Faculty of Law but it will be co-signed by the Dean of Law and the IES Director. Certificates will be presented to students not at Convocation but at a time and in a manner to be determined by the Faculty of Law. The proposed program requirements are the same as the requirements for the former collaborative program which the proposed program replaces.

## **2. Rationale**

The rationale for the proposed new program is the same as for the original collaborative program, namely that there is a small but significant number of JD students who have a keen interest in environmental issues. The program will enable these students to specialize in their area of interest and to obtain a form of accreditation for doing so.

## **3. The proposed program**

- This is a proposal for a program to be called the JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies Program.
- The program will be offered by the Faculty of Law with cooperation from the Institute for Environmental Studies (“IES”).
- The program will be limited to students who have been admitted to the JD program. Students must apply for and gain both admission to the Faculty of

Law and acceptance by IES. Students may apply at the same time as they apply for admission to the Faculty of Law or at any time before the start of their second year in the law school.

- The certificate will be awarded by the Faculty of Law. The Faculty of Law will design the certificate and the certificate will be co-signed by the IES Director and the Dean of the Faculty of Law.
- The structure of the program will be as follows. In the first year, students will complete all first year courses in the Faculty of Law. In the second and third years, students will complete a minimum of 48 law school credits, including Environmental Law. Students will also:

(a) take the following two IES core courses:

- (i) IES 1001F – Environmental Decision Making
- (ii) IES 1002S – Environmental Management Case Studies

or such other courses as the Faculty of Law in consultation with IES may prescribe from time to time;

(b) write a research paper which counts as a further IES half course; and

(c) complete an internship approved by IES.

- During all three years of the program students will be registered in the Faculty of Law. They will pay law school tuition and they will be eligible for all forms of assistance under the law school's financial aid program.
- There will be a Director of the JD/Certificate in Environmental Studies program appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law. The Director's responsibilities will be to:
  - (a) oversee the administration of the program;
  - (b) assist students with course selection and other aspects of the program;
  - (c) liaise with the Faculty of Law and IES on matters relating to the program;
  - and
  - (d) advise on program requirements and registration issues.