
1. Spring 2009 ESCI Schedule – The schedule must be finalized by Monday 10/20/08. The faculty discussed changes to a draft schedule. Comments included the need to include CMSS students as instructors for courses where appropriate; also the need to teach new courses due to the new ESCI-BS curriculum. The latest revised draft ESCI Spring 2009 schedule is attached for further faculty comment.

2. ESCI-BS Catalog Edits – Due Weds. 10/15 to Curriculum Review Committee. Latest faculty decisions on how ESCI-BS students may meet the university computer literacy requirement will be included in this catalog copy.

3. University Computer Literacy Requirement and ESCI-BS Program (further discussion). Earlier this semester the ESCI faculty approved PHYS 1401, 1402, 23425, 2426 to meet the requirement. Those present felt that desirable skills for all ESCI concentrations included: (1) Ability to program in one computer language; (2) Ability to apply software to a field related to the major/concentration. The ESCI-BS degree, currently at 124-126 hours, cannot add a new computer skills course. ESCI 3202 Professional Skills, could not feasibly cover all desired computer skills as it is only a 2-hour course and this would detract from other course topics. Faculty should explore how best to incorporate computer skills across the ESCI curriculum. This will be discussed in greater depth at the next ESCI faculty meeting.

4. Foreign Transcript Evaluation for ESCI-MS applicants – want course-by-course, or is in-house evaluation OK? In the past TAMUCC required course-by-course evaluation of all foreign transcripts be done by a third-party evaluation service, at a cost of about $150 to applicants. Many universities now have free in-house evaluations of foreign transcripts, placing them at a competitive advantage to TAMUCC. TAMUCC Grad Studies recently assigned a staffperson to evaluate foreign degrees (note: this does not include course-by-course evaluation for the sake of course substitution, or assigning leveling work). Most S&T programs have decided to accept this in lieu of a third-party foreign transcript evaluation. Those present at the ESCI faculty meeting decided to also accept the TAMUCC evaluation but will monitor the situation and assess it later.

5. Other Business - The ESCI-MS Program Evaluation is still ongoing; the draft report should be completed very soon and ready for faculty review.