

The Senate of Michigan Technological University

PROPOSAL 14-92

OPTION IN ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY

A significant need exists in industry for geologists with environmental training. Most current graduates in geology from the department already seek employment in the environmental area. Thus, it is most appropriate and timely to introduce an environmental option in geology. The goal of this option is to provide a rigorous applied "geoenvironmental" graduate for industry. The required basic math, science, geology and general education will be the foundation for application of geological sciences to environmental problems and a fundamental component of educational diversity. A core of environmental-related courses is required of all graduates to insure diversity in environmental issues and future flexibility. Each graduate is required to select an environmental specialty to establish a knowledge base in a select area. Students are recommended to use free electives to enhance their environmental background.

Along with the environmental option in geology, it is appropriate to retain the current geology degree program as a geology option.

For both programs GE470 is being added to replace MA341 and GE341 is being dropped.

GE470 uses geoscience data and computers and contains a number of topics important to geoscientists not covered in MA341, e.g., analysis of map data (contouring), extensive use of graphic methods and multivariate data.

Adopted by Senate: 6 May 1992