DATE: July 12, 2010

TO: Joseph Rudnick, Dean of Physical Sciences

FROM: Glen MacDonald, Director, Institute of Environment

SUBJECT: Request to Revise Course Workload Policy for Unit 18 Lecturers in the Institute of the Environment

We are proposing to update the workload policy for Unit 18 Lecturers in the Institute of the Environment to include one additional course-specific workload (changes in bold). We request an effective date of Winter Quarter 2011.

Current course workload policy

6 courses per academic year = 100% for the year

1 course in a given quarter = 50% for that quarter

Environment 170 = 25% for that quarter
Environment 185 = 25% for that quarter

I recommend approval of the change to the Institute of the Environment's Unit-18 workload policy, effective Winter 2011.

Proposed course workload policy

6 courses per academic year = 100% for the year

1 course in a given quarter = 50% for that quarter

Environment 170 = 25% for that quarter
Environment 185 = 25% for that quarter

Environment 180B and 180C = 50% or 25% for that quarter depending upon commitment
Rationale for proposed changes to workload policy

All students in the Environmental Science B.S. degree program are required to complete the year-long sequence of Environment 180 A/B/C – *Environmental Science Practicum*.

Fall quarter (ENV 180A) students attend lectures and presentations designed to introduce them to the common tools and methodologies of environmental science, building on what they have been exposed to in other classes. They also complete a background study of the research project they will be participating in during winter and spring quarters.

Winter quarter (ENV 180B) and Spring quarter (ENV 180C), students work in groups on a real-life multi-disciplinary forward looking environmental issue, generally in the Los Angeles area, requiring original data collection and analysis. Importantly, this research is defined and conducted with the collaboration of a local government agency, non-profit institution, or business.

We require more research projects and partners and thus more instructors. The research topics and partners are quite varied, for example we are now reviewing proposals for the 2010-2011 Practicum from; Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council, Plastic Pollution Coalition, Santa Monica High School Biology Program and Heal the Bay, Climate Earth, Los Angeles Audubon, Amigos de los Rios, Save the Frogs!, CB Richard Ellis, Inc., Conservation International, and the National Park Service.

We are proposing a new 25% time lecturer position for 180B/C. A 25% time lecturer based on 10 hours/week effort, and a 50% time lecturer based on 20 hours/week effort.

We want to maintain high-quality, discipline-specific research training for our students as well as ensure appropriate outcomes for the collaborating partners.