

**Proposal for Adding a New Faculty Position
For the 2008-09 Academic Year**

Please enter your responses using the text boxes below and email this form to Susan Myers, Faculty Senate President smyers@ohlone.edu by 5:00 pm on April 13, 2007:

Department Making the Proposal:

Geography/ Environmental GIS

Author(s) of the Proposal:

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A. Provide a summary description of the position.

The Geography/ Environmental GIS Instructor will teach courses in Physical Geography, Cultural and World Regional Geography, Environmental Studies, Environmental GIS and California/Bay Area Geography. In Addition, this position will be part of the Environmental Studies team and help develop outreach programs in Geography, Environment and GIS.

B. Relationship to College-Wide Needs

1. How does the position relate to our college goals?

Ohlone is on the cutting edge of Environmental Sustainability and Geographical Information Technology (GIS), which is an integral component of our emerging Environmental Studies Program. In concert with the new Environmental Technology position, this Geography/Environmental GIS instructor along with Biology/Ecology instructor will team to provide a well rounded Environmental program.

Goal 1- In relationship to the stated goals of the college, this new faculty member will teach Cultural Geography and World's Nations which will promote an understanding of the world's diverse cultural landscape.

Goal 3- This person will also help develop and enhance a strong Environmental GIS program that will attract students interested in completing a certificate program offered by the Department and the College.

Goal 4/5- This new position will develop modules in Environmental GIS covering topics such as Urban Planning, Land Use Planning, Public Safety, Emergency Planning and Wet Land Habitat monitoring to name a few. This training will be available to all district employees and to members of the larger community as well.

Goal 6 – This position will be an integral component of our environmental and sustainability commitment to the college and to the community as a whole.

2. How will classes offered meet student needs and goals?

Student needs will be addressed by being able to offer courses in Geography, Environmental Studies and GIS. Also, with the addition of this position, outreach programs geared toward our feeder high schools and the community to foster Geographical literacy, Environmental

Sustainability and college mentoring programs especially for underrepresented students will be implemented.

3. How does the position address the needs of the campus or the Newark Center?

Both campuses will be greatly enhanced by the addition of a full time Geography/GIS position. Our increased course offerings here on this campus coupled with the emerging Environmental Studies program in Newark will stretch our current instructor pool, which is made up of part-time professors very thin. Right now there is no full-time Geography professor position at Ohlone. There has never been a full time position. We are the only community college in California not to have a full-time Geographer. George Rodgers divides his time between Geography and Anthropology and he now has a 50% position as the Environmental Compliance and Sustainability Coordinator for the district. This puts a real strain on the department and on the planning process for the new Environmental program in Newark. This new position will greatly enhance our availability to meet student's needs and contribute to having one of the best Environmental programs in the State.

4. Does the position address an area of growth?

Geography/GIS have shown a rapid increase in course offerings and the number of students taking our classes over the last several years. We are one of the strongest small departments in the entire school. Our FTEF is the highest in the entire Math and Science division. With addition of Environmental Studies, this new position will fill an important and vital need in the development of this program.

C. Relationship to Department Needs

1. Does the position reflect department goals resulting from program review?

As stated in the last two program reviews, the need for a full time position in Geography/GIS cannot be understated. The lack of a "fulltimer" has impacted our program. We have a first class GIS certificate program staffed 100% by adjuncts. They do a fantastic job. If we had a fulltime person in this area, they could market our program and offer our services as consultants thus generating fees for the school. In addition, with the advent of the Environmental Program, a full time position is needed to round out the team as a member of an environmental learning community and to direct the Environmental GIS portion of the new ENV. Studies program.

2. What is the ratio of full time to part time faculty?

Technically there is no full time faculty position in Geography. George Rodgers was hired in 1992 into a hybrid position consisting of Anthropology/Geography and Geology. In 1996, Paul Belasky was hired to take over Geology. George teaches both Anthropology and Geography courses and coordinates these two subject areas under the direction of Dr. Quinta. Paul teaches one Geography class, World's Nations. As of this time there are 4 adjuncts in Geography/GIS and 2 fulltime professors who share their load with Geography. It has been this way since Ohlone was established in 1968. We have grown to the point that this new position is needed to keep the integrity of the Geography/GIS department vital. In addition, with the emergence of the new

Environmental Studies program at Newark, the addition of a new fulltime faculty position in Geography/GIS to support and be an active member of that team is a must.

3. What is the current WSCH/FTEF in the department?

Geography/Environmental GIS is a very strong department. **Currently our WSCH/FTEF is 794.** As a comparison, Math 458, Chemistry is 591 and Biology comes in at 636. With a full time faculty member we can contribute even more FTEF to the school.

4. Is this position related to a new program?

As stated previously, The development of the Environmental Studies program will put a strain on the human resources the Geography Dept. can provide. Since Geography with it's Environmental GIS arm will be an important and part of this new and exciting program, a fulltime Geography/Environmental GIS position is not only justified but it is a must if we are to have a vital and viable program as well.

D. Any other rationale to support the position proposal:

We have not had a full time position in this area since Ohlone was founded. In spite of this, we have grown the department to one the highest levels of FTEF this division has ever known. Our course offering have increased dramatically because of student demands. We will be offering an AA degree next year which will increase our student population. Couple this with the advent of the Environmental Studies program and its reliance on core Geography and Environmental GIS classes and the need for a fulltime Geography professor becomes evident. We have great adjunct instructors but they come and go, some for better pay and others for full time employment. Our Geography/Environmental GIS programs cry out for stability which only a fulltime professor can provide.