## ASACR 2

Office of the President December 10, 2019

Members, Board of Trustees:

## ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION: COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Arts degree with a major in Applied Environmental and Sustainability Studies, in the Department of Geography, within the College of Arts and Sciences, beginning in the Fall 2020 Semester.

<u>Background</u>: The proposed program will prepare students to analyze complex environmental problems from a variety of perspectives and apply their findings to facilitate change. The interdisciplinary structure of the program encourages a liberal arts approach that combines academic knowledge in environmental issues with critical thinking, independent learning, oral and written communication, and problem solving. The proposed curriculum, which will be offered online, consists of core, skills, and elective courses as well as a capstone or internship experience. Anticipated enrollment of 10 to 15 students is expected.

The program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate, and has completed the 30 day review process of the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.