REPORT OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL
April 1, 2004

The Graduate Council approved the addition of MARS 680 – Integrative Analysis in Marine Resource Management to the curriculum for the masters program of Marine Resources Management (MARM) at Texas A&M University at Galveston.
MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Rick Giardino, Dean of Graduate Studies

From: Dr. William Seitz, Head, Marine Sciences – Galveston

Subject: Curriculum addition for Marine Resources Management

Date: February 4, 2004

After reviewing the work of our students in the Masters of Marine Resources Management (MARM) at Texas A&M University at Galveston, the faculty decided that a capstone course was needed where students would demonstrate their mastery of the material learned in environmental policy, science and law. We have created a course, MARS 680, “Integrative Analysis in Marine Resource Management” that has been approved by Dr. Gates.

To fit this course into the curriculum, we have revamped two courses already offered – namely MARS 625, “GIS Use in Coastal Resources” and MARS 675 “Environmental Management Strategies for Scientists”. These courses were originally scheduled for three credit hours, but are being reduced to two. For GIS (which I teach), I have found that the basics can be covered in this time with reduction of ArcInfo material. Since most MARM students will chiefly use GIS as a tool as opposed to developing GIS applications, this change is appropriate. For MARS 675, we will continue to cover the same topics, but at a slightly reduced intensity. Discussions in MARS 680 (the new capstone course) will amplify the management strategies material, as will slight adjustments in other required courses. I have attached the course descriptions for the three involved courses for your information.

I appreciate your review of this change and any comments you might have.