Memorandum
To: Members of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee
From: Jeffrey Hughes, Associate Dean, GRS
Subject: Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2016; CAS Rm 200

The next meeting of the Graduate Academic Affairs Committee is on Tuesday, November 15, at 9:30-11:00 in the Dean’s Conference Room, CAS Rm 200.

Agenda

1. Proposals for new MA and PhD degrees in Earth and Environment that will merge and replace the current MA and PhD programs in Earth Science and in Geography. The current programs are left over from before the Departments of Geography & Environment and Earth Science merged in 2012 to form the Department of Earth & Environment.

2. Proposals to dissolve the following degree programs. All these programs no longer admit students and no students are currently enrolled in any of the programs. This action will allow the Registrar’s Office to delete the programs from the UIS system.
   i. MA in Hydrogeology
   ii. MA in Energy and Environmental Studies (replaced by MA in Energy and Environment)
   iii. MA in Computer Science (replaced by MS in Computer Science)
   iv. PhD in Applied Chemistry
   v. PhD in Cellular Biophysics

3. Discussion with University Ombuds Francine Montemurro: Would GRS benefit from written guidelines and perhaps workshops on good practices in graduate education particularly revolving around the student advisor relationship? The Ombuds can share in generic terms the kinds of issues with the graduate student/advisor relationship that she encounters.

4. Associate Dean’s Report.