To: The Faculty Long-Range Planning Committee
From: Steve Trombulak for the Environmental Studies Program

SUMMARY OF LONG-RANGE GOALS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM

The Environmental Studies Program has gone through a tremendous amount of change in the past 18 months that demonstrates the pattern of growth expected over the next several years. The Program has gone from 5 participating faculty servicing fewer than 6 students and offering no courses to over 15 faculty in three divisions and 9 departments working with 30 students and offering one 400-level course. Recent faculty appointments in Geology, Geography, and Sociology/Anthropology, and an expected appointment in Economics, have radically strengthened the Program at the junior faculty level. Recent participation by senior faculty previously unassociated with the Program, particularly English, Sociology/Anthropology, and Philosophy provide important new contributions from the Social Science and Humanities Divisions. Our new 400-level course will provide students their only interdisciplinary coursework experience, and for many their only research experience, in an essentially interdisciplinary, research-oriented field. The Director of the Program now holds a position on the Executive Board of the new journal International Environmental Affairs. The coursework required for the major has been changed so that students are required to take roughly the same number as those in other majors, a substantial number of courses at all levels, and courses that emphasize both interdisciplinary breadth as well as depth in a specific field.

It is based on these recent changes, and those that we anticipate will be recommended when the Program undergoes its external review next fall, that we offer this list of our expected long-range needs.

1. Staffing:

   **ES Positions:** As the Program grows and develops it will be essential that a tenure-track position be added specifically to administer and teach courses in the Program. It is envisioned that this person would perform a function similar to that currently being done by William Howland for the Program in Northern Studies. An alternative is that the Director would be half-time in ES and half-time in another department. The administration of the program and courses taught in the Program cannot continue to be done as overloads.

   **Associated Departments:** It is anticipated that within the next ten years, the Chemistry Department will seek to replace E.L. Poole, due to his retirement. It is extremely important that the position be filled by someone capable of teaching a course in the area of Environmental Chemistry (such as the current course CH 172).

In addition, the last remaining disciplinary gap in the Environmental Studies Program at Middlebury is in the field of Political Science. Currently, no one in the department is interested in advising students in this increasingly important field and there is no support for the idea that ES majors specializing in Political Science should take senior-level coursework. In a recent memo from a member of the department I was told that "we already have difficulty mounting a sufficient number of seminars for our own senior majors each year. We do not require a 400-level course for our concentrators; I see no reason why we should do so for ES majors." We feel that within the next several years Political Science ought to be given a staff increment, preferably someone with interests in national/international environmental policy formation, so that Middlebury students other that Political Science majors can take senior-level Political Science courses.

**Leaves:** We anticipate that the person filling the new ES tenure-track position will request a leave every 4-5 years with about 1/2 covered by outside funding.

2. Budget:

   **Paperwork:** Currently, at the insistence of the Treasurer of the College, the Environmental Studies Program, does not have a budget number of its own. It has a budget (i.e., money); it just can't have its own 5-digit budget number. Previous to my Directorship, the ES money was part of the Biology budget. Clearly this was inappropriate from the standpoint of both Biology and ES. As a short-term solution, I agreed to have the ES money placed with the budget for the High Pond Nature Reserve. This is not a reasonable long-term solution. This means that no matter who the Director is and what department he or she is housed in, be it Philosophy, Economics, Geography, or Soc/Anthro, they will be handling the budget for a building and a parcel of land that the ES Program does not use. The Treasurer's decision is intolerable and unsupportable. In the past two years I have had two budget
numbers generated for my own personal use (grant budgets). Surely a separate number could be created to administer a old and active Program.

**Money:** Over the next several years, requests will be made to increase the ES budget to fund any new courses proposed and support senior research.

3. **Library:** Currently the College subscribes to only 2 or 3 of the technical journals in ES and as far as I can tell, all are considered to be part of Biology's portion of the journal budget. ES journals need to be separated financially from Biology journals, and the number of technical ES journals will need to expand.