



STAFFING REQUEST FORM

School: Math/Science

Department: Geology

Position: Full-time Geology Instructor

New Replacement

 1 Number of Positions Requested

Quantitative Criteria: (use data provided by the Office of Institutional Research and Planning)

	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Fall 2017
FTEF	1.53	0.97	1.57	1.33	1.53
FTEF: % FT	65.3%	82.8%	76.6%	87.5%	65.3%
FTEF: % PT + OL	21.7%	17.2%	23.4%	12.5%	34.7%
Number of Sections	8	6	9	8	9
FTES	20.1	14.4	19.5	19.9	18.9
Percent Fill	83.8	80.0	72.2	89.2	71.5
Total WSCH	603	432	585	597	567

Qualitative Criteria

1. Job Description:

Geology instructors are expected to teach a lower division geology curriculum, which may include GEOL 001 (Physical Geology), GEOL 002 (Physical Geology Lab), GEOL 005 (California Geology), and GEOL 049 (Honors Geology). Instructors with experience in Geographic Information System (GIS) may also teach GEOL 010 (Intro to GIS). Also, Geology instructors have taught PHSC 012 (Intro to Physical Science).

2. Potential Load (FTE, Courses, number of sections; no need to submit days/times of teaching schedule at this time):

One Full time Instructor (45 activity points)

3. Availability of Qualified Hourly Faculty to Teach:

We currently have two adjuncts who teach Geology in the evenings. They have been unavailable to teach morning classes and are currently not trained to teach online classes. The current full-time Geology instructor teaches two morning classes and three online at a minimum. If this position is not replaced, it is



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unlikely these five sections could be filled by adjuncts. Furthermore, for the past two summers the Geology Lab has been cancelled due to lack of adjuncts.

4. Representation of the staff with regard to gender and underrepresented group status:
Geology faculty: 1 female, 1 male, both White.

5. Subjects and areas of the greatest strengths of the current staff; areas where additional experience is needed:
In 1999, Mark Feighner was hired as full-time Geology Instructor. He developed the GEOL 010 Geographical Information Systems (GIS) course and taught it until 2011. Mark has taught all five of the geology classes as well as PHSC 012 (Intro to Physical Science).

In 2004, a full-time Instructor, Danielle Widemann, was hired to teach Physical Geography/Geology. However, her current schedule is nearly 100% Geography and she teaches one or two Geology classes as overload. She would be unable to pick-up five additional Geology classes with her current load.

Also, we envision developing an AS-Transfer Degree in Geology. However, two additional Geology classes would have to be offered at Solano: Historical Geology Lecture and Lab. Therefore, we seek a replacement Geology instructor who can teach these classes and develop the Transfer Geology Degree.

Finally, the new Geology Lab in the New Science Building will have a dedicated thin-section laboratory – only the second in the Bay Area (the other being The College of Marin). A fully credentialed Geology faculty would be able to provide the opportunity for our Geology students to develop laboratory skills and enhance learning. With this new lab, the replacement Geology instructor will have the resources to develop further curricula such as a class in Mineralogy, which is only offered at four community colleges.

6. Needs related to single-person department or lack of Full Time Faculty for the discipline:
Without replacing the retiring faculty member, the course offerings for Geology and Physical Science would be greatly reduced.
7. Legal mandates for program (state and/or federal):
None.
8. New program that requires discipline faculty/expertise:
No new program, but we envision developing the AS-Transfer Degree in Geology, whose success would likely depend on the commitment of a full-time Geology Faculty.
9. If this is a replacement position, what will be the impact on the program and the College if this position is not replaced?
As mentioned above, there would be many negative impacts without a replacement position: adjuncts may not be able to cover day classes and online sections, resulting in the cancellation of many sections; the new thin-section laboratory requires a dedicated full-time faculty to maintain and run; and finally a dedicated faculty is needed to teach GEOL 049 Honors Geology, which has only been taught by Mark Feighner.



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The GEOL 049 Honors Geology class at Solano has been one of the great success stories in the Geology Department. This class has given students the opportunity to research a specialized project of study in the field of geology. Over the past nineteen years, nearly two dozen students, mainly Geology Majors who have gone on to 4-year colleges, have taken this class. Past projects for Honors have included: Mineral Analysis and Historical Relevance of the Sierra Nevada Batholith, Thermal Springs of the Clear Lake Volcanic Field, and GIS mapping of Rockville Park. Two former students are currently in Ph.D. programs at UC Berkeley and Michigan State University. Without a committed full-time replacement, this class would likely disappear.

10. Other factors considered relevant by the department/School:

If Solano Community College is to be recognized as having a comprehensive Math/Science Division, the Geology Department requires the leadership of a full-time Geology Faculty. Before 1999, Robert Hamilton was the full-time Geology Instructor and with Mark Feighner who replaced him, they represent over 40 years of offering a continuously strong Geology Program at Solano. The construction and opening of the New Science Building in Spring 2019 is an exciting time to take the Geology Program to a new level. Only a full-time replacement can make this possible.

Program Review—include pasted relevant materials from the last program review and/or annual unit update which demonstrates this need.

PROGRAM REVIEW: GEOLOGY

2015-2016

PROGRAM RESOURCES

4.1 Human Resources.

Current staffing levels for full-time faculty are adequate [Feighner, Widemann]; however we have had a difficult time finding geology adjuncts. Feighner is planning to retire within the next five years, so a full-time Geology replacement will be needed to keep the current level of classes.



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5.2 Based on the self-study analysis, prioritize the program’s short (1-2 years) and long term goals (3+ years). Check whether the goal requires fiscal resources to achieve.

Table 12. Short-Term and Long-Term Goals

Short-Term Goals	Planned Action	Target Date	Person Responsible	Source
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1.	Hire more Geology Adjuncts	Jan 2016	Hiring Committee	DB
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Long-Term Goals	Planned Action	Target Date	Person Responsible	Source
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1.	Hire Full-time Geology Faculty when Feighner retires	Jan 2018?	Hiring Committee	DB
2.	Replace 35 laptops when New Science Building is completed	2019?	Geology Faculty	SP

In the source column denote “SP” for Strategic Proposals, “DB” for Department Budget, “P” for Perkins or “NR” for No Additional Resources Needed.