

**G&ES response to “Difference? Or Overlap?”: ESCI table differentiating the proposed ESCI GeoSciences B.A. from Geography & Environmental Studies’ Environmental Studies B.A.**

**The ESCI B.A. “Provides students with a strong foundation in geology”**

Yet the program “is [already] quite successful, with numerous alumni working in geological or environmental consulting firms in the Chicago area. However, there are many students ... who have other career aspirations.”

The proposed B.A. “would find application in diverse careers, including: business, law, journalism, politics, land planning and development, anthropology, environmental medicine, library and information science, applied information technology, and international relations.”

“Geoscientists are adaptable, creative problem-solvers well-versed in global systems processes.”

**The ESCI proposed B.A. has ”No focus, coursework, or other attention to environmental interpretation, education, planning, or management.”**

Yet the proposed B.A. “would find application in ... business, law, journalism, politics, land planning and development ... library and information science, ... [and] applied information technology.”

“As population and economies grow, there is increasing pressure on natural resources and impacts on environmental quality ... There is a critical need for people ... who are able to deal with these complex problems.”

ESCI Proposed B.A. Careers (emphasis added):

- \* science *journalism*
- \* science *education*
- \* science *policy*
- \* environmental *law*
- \* technical *writing*
- \* environmental *protection*

**ESCI says there is “little overlap in potential careers” with G&ES’s Env. Studies degree**

From G&ES web page: Environmental Studies in the department emphasizes the interface between the human and natural environments, and concentrates on resource management, natural area management and interpretation, and environmental problems, policy and regulation.

From the G&ES catalog: “students ... may specialize in an area of environmental planning and management such as natural areas, water resources, solid waste, energy resources, international resource development, or environmental policy and administration.”

The proposed ESCI B.A. would provide “a more liberal education in geosciences [compared with the the B.S.] with an emphasis on environmental issues. Such a background would find application in diverse careers, including: business, law, journalism, politics, land planning and development, anthropology, environmental medicine, library and information science, applied information technology, and international relations.”

