

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

Revised 3-7-13

PROPOSAL TITLE:

Transfer of the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

SPONSORS:

Laurie F. Kramer, Associate Dean
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
University of Illinois
125 Mumford Hall
1301 W. Gregory Dr., MC-710
Tel: 217-244-2372; Fax: 217-333-2027
Email: lfkramer@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

The request is to transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education currently housed and administered through the Department of Human and Community Development in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to the Agricultural Education Program, also in the College of ACES. The Agricultural Education Program was recently established in the College of ACES as a multi-disciplinary unit administered through the College's Office of Academic Programs. The Agricultural Education Program had previously been part of the Department of Human and Community Development in ACES. The Master of Science in Agricultural Education continues to reside in the Department of Human and Community Development. Approval of the transfer of the Master of Science in Agricultural Education to the Agricultural Education Program is requested.

The Master of Science in Agricultural Education includes four previously approved program options. Students pursuing degrees in agricultural education in the on-campus programs select from among the Teacher Education (teaching certification, non-thesis) option, the Applied Research (non-certification, thesis) option, or the Program Development (non-certification, non-thesis) option. The online option of the Master of Science in Agricultural Education degree program enables students to take a series of web-based and/or site-based courses, which meet the same requirements as the traditional on-campus program development and teacher education options. The Master of Science degree in Agricultural Education is designed to prepare students as practitioners in agricultural business, formal and non-formal education, extension education, and other agriculture-related fields. The Agricultural Education Program has its own rubric (AGED) and course numbers for graduate-level courses and these will be maintained after this transfer. This transfer will not involve changes to the Master of Science in Agricultural Education program. The program's curriculum, requirements and faculty involvement will also remain the same.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Master of Science in Agricultural Education is a critical part of the Agricultural Education Program. The program offers graduate study opportunities for students interested in applied research or program development in the broad field of agricultural education and agricultural sciences, as well as opportunities for students interested in pursuing teacher certification. Graduate-approved AGED courses are taught by members of the Graduate College, which are part of the Agricultural Education Program, or approved clinical or adjunct faculty. Graduate students in the Master of Science in Agricultural Education program are advised by members of the Graduate College who have appointments with the Agricultural Education Program. Graduate stipends for teaching or research assistantships are administered through the Agricultural Education Program. With the implementation of the Agricultural Education Program as part of the College of ACES Office of Academic Programs, it is no longer appropriate for the Department of Human and Community Development to be responsible for accepting, mentoring, funding, or teaching students enrolled in the Master of Science in Agricultural Education.

The establishment of the Agricultural Education Program, the updating and revision of the Master of Science in Agricultural Education, and the establishment of a new undergraduate major (Agricultural Leadership and Sciences Education) as part of the Agricultural Education Program have each been approved through the full approval process as per the UIUC Levels of Governance. Each of these approved proposals included the statement that the “Agricultural Education Program will offer an undergraduate major, Agricultural Leadership and Science Education, and a Master of Science in Agricultural Education.” These approval steps included unit-level, College of ACES, Graduate College (where appropriate), UIUC Provost’s Office, Senate Educational Policy Committee, UIUC Senate, Senates Conference, University of Illinois Board of Trustees, culminating with approval for the BS degree from the Illinois Board of Higher Education on October 4, 2011. These approvals are outlined here:

Proposal to Revise the Master of Science Curriculum in Agricultural Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (including approval through CEEED). (EP.11.22; final approval 05/09/11)

Proposal to Create an Agricultural Leadership and Science Education major, with concentrations in Agricultural Science Education and Agricultural Leadership Education, in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. (EP.11.10; final approval 10/04/11)

Proposal to Establish the Agricultural Education Program in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. (EP.11.09; final approval 12/02/11)

Each of these proposals included approval by the head of the Department of Human and Community Development with signatures on the respective proposal Clearance pages.

The Master of Science Curriculum in Agricultural Education was revised in 2011 to update the curriculum (it had last been updated in 1997) and to align curriculum for resident and online instruction. EP.11.22 explicitly referenced the transition of all components of the Agricultural

Education Program (including the MS curriculum) from the Department of Human and Community Development to the College of ACES.

In addition, a Memorandum of Understanding was developed between the Agricultural Education Program and the College of ACES that outlines the administrative structure of the Program, faculty membership, tenure lines, faculty mentoring committees, promotion and tenure committees, faculty and staff evaluations, and participation in the Program, and other details of the role and functioning of the Program in the College of ACES. This MOU was developed following extensive consultation and conversation with College of ACES faculty representatives serving on the ACES Graduate Educational Policy Committee, Courses and Curriculum Committee, and ACES Executive Committee. All proposals related to the restructuring of the Agricultural Education Program were approved through a faculty vote at a College of ACES Faculty Meeting (04/30/10). Tenure-track faculty members have a tenure home in one of the seven departments in the College of ACES.

BACKGROUND

The Master of Science in Agricultural Education has a long history at the University of Illinois, dating back to the 1950's. Agricultural Education has had administrative homes over the years in the College of Agriculture, the College of Education, and most recently, the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (1995 – present).

When the College of Agriculture was reconfigured in 1995 to become the College of ACES, the freestanding Agricultural Education unit was moved to the Department of Human and Community Development in the College of ACES. Whereas the Master of Science in Agricultural Education remained as its own degree program in HCD, the Agricultural Education undergraduate major was then modified to comprise two concentrations within the major of Agricultural and Environmental Communications and Education (AECE). The AECE major included three concentrations: (1) Agricultural Leadership Education; (2) Agricultural Education; and (3) Agricultural Consumer and Environmental Sciences Communication. The latter concentration was approved by IBHE in December 2010 to become a separate degree program major (Agricultural Communications) which is a now joint program offered by the College of ACES and the College of Media, with the latter college serving as the program's administrative home.

The departure of the Agricultural Communications program from the AECE major and the Agricultural Education program created a unique opportunity for the growth and maturation of the academic programs in agricultural education. In addition to creating a new undergraduate degree major in Agricultural Leadership and Science Education, and a revision of the Master of Science curriculum, the program was relocated in 2011-12 from the Department of Human and Community Development to the College of ACES Office of Academic Programs where it serves the entire College through its interdisciplinary academic, research and outreach programs. Relocating the Agricultural Education Program to the College of ACES Office of Academic Programs provides the program with greater visibility in its interdisciplinary, college-wide role, and better serves College faculty who are all engaged in agricultural education as they teach students in the College. The Department of Human and Community Development continues to

maintain its strong programs, including the Human Development and Family Studies undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

Although all necessary approvals were obtained for the relocation of the undergraduate major in Agricultural Leadership and Science Education, we are now requesting formal approval to also move the accompanying Master of Science degree program in Agricultural Education to the College of ACES Office of Academic Programs. It is logical that the Master of Science program be aligned structurally with its undergraduate counterpart, so as to better serve students and faculty.

RATIONALE

The rationale for this proposal is multifold:

(a) The undergraduate curriculum in Agricultural Education is no longer based in the Department of Human and Community Development (HCD). By virtue of approval of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, and the Illinois State Board of Education, the BS program has been moved to the new interdisciplinary Agricultural Education Program, based in the College of ACES. This change was made to better serve the needs of ACES students and faculty; ACES faculty are all engaged in some form of agricultural education and the new configuration of the program enables them to benefit from, and contribute to, a set of academic programs that are interdisciplinary in nature. It is essential that the graduate program be aligned with the undergraduate program. In addition to being in the best interest of graduate and undergraduate students and their faculty who desire a coherent scholastic program, the transfer of the MS program will preserve precious instructional and administrative resources. If the graduate program remains in HCD, the college and campus would continue to incur additional costs for administrative services including advising, degree auditing, computer services, etc. It would also be problematic, confusing, and excessively time-consuming for faculty who would be reporting to two different administrative bodies (the Department of HCD and the College of ACES). For example, whereas the college-situated Agricultural Education Program would be their source of support for undergraduate teaching needs and basic research support functions (submitting grants, receiving start up packages, computer support), faculty would need to access services from HCD to hire graduate assistants, schedule graduate courses and instructional spaces, and assist with graduate degree audits. This is likely to lead to either a duplication of services or unmet needs as one body may assume that the other is handling a key need.

(b) The IBHE and University of Illinois approved the new configuration of the Agricultural Education Program with the understanding that both the graduate and undergraduate degree programs would be integral components of the program. Please see the attached proposal which was approved by the University of Illinois Board of Trustees in December 2011.

(c) Framing the Agricultural Education Program as an interdisciplinary program is intended to offer graduate and undergraduate students a host of advantages that they have not received from the sole department sponsor. For example, students will have direct access to an array of ACES faculty who are actively engaged in educating audiences about agricultural sciences, for example, through animal sciences, horticulture, environmental sciences, food science and human nutrition, and agricultural engineering. Access to faculty members in these

areas was not explicitly structured through the sole department model and we believe that this disadvantaged graduate students from fully integrating science and STEM education models into their professional work and scholarship. Agricultural Education MS students will also benefit through these interactions as new opportunities for research and scholarship (as well as paid assistantships) are likely to emerge. In a complementary fashion, growing numbers of non-Ag Ed graduate students, enrolled in the College of Education, for example, have secured teaching and research assistantships through the newly configured interdisciplinary Agricultural Education Program.

(d) The enhancement of interdisciplinary graduate education has long been a strategic objective of our campus. The movement of the Ag Ed MS program to the new interdisciplinary program will certainly advance our achievement of this objective. We have learned a great deal about successful interdisciplinary graduate programs, such as Nutritional Sciences and Neuroscience, and so we are modeling the Ag Ed Program, in part, on these outstanding programs.

(e) Most importantly, graduate students in the Ag Ed MS program are not well served by the current model. The majority of faculty members in HCD are aligned with the graduate and undergraduate programs in Human Development and Family Studies and are not well versed in the academic and research areas associated with Agricultural Education. Therefore, Ag Ed MS students are not likely to seek out HDFS faculty members for coursework, mentorship, or service on their thesis committees. And, given their different research and professional interests, Ag Ed graduate students are not typically awarded graduate assistantships through HCD faculty other than those linked to Ag Ed. Other than Dr. David Rosch, an Ag Education assistant professor who holds his tenure line through HCD, none of the HCD faculty members teach courses that are specific to the Ag Ed curricula. All Ag Ed graduate courses are taught by Ag Ed faculty members or ACES faculty members who are affiliated with the program. HCD has approved the transfer of the Agricultural Education curriculum to the College of ACES because it wishes to focus its instructional programs and scholarship on issues more central to human development and family studies; HCD no longer considers agricultural education to be part of its central mission. The transfer of the undergraduate program in Ag Ed to the new interdisciplinary model is proving successful, particularly in terms of course enrollments and the placement of graduates in relevant positions. We strongly believe that graduate students in agricultural education will also be better served through the proposed interdisciplinary configuration.

(f) The MS Program in Agricultural Education at Illinois is the major source of graduate degrees for practicing teachers of agricultural education, at the secondary level, in the State of Illinois. The Illinois organization Facilitating and Coordinating Agricultural Education (FCAE) estimates that there are currently 15 unfilled positions for MS level agricultural educators in Illinois public schools in addition to multiple employment opportunities for agricultural educators in business and organizational contexts in Illinois. Thus, there is a need in Illinois for this program.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

a. Additional staff and dollars needed: The current program has two faculty members who provide instruction in the graduate-level AGED courses (one clinical associate professor and one tenure-track faculty member). The Associate Dean of ACES Academic Programs, who holds a Graduate College faculty appointment, serves as the Program Director. A search is underway to hire one additional tenure-track faculty member who would also be a member of the Graduate College. These instructional staff will be able to meet the demands of teaching the graduate courses, as well as advising graduate students. In addition, the Agricultural Education Program has one full-time and two visiting teaching associates that provide undergraduate instruction. The Program has one full-time office manager staff member. No additional funding will be required as a result of this program transfer beyond the funding already provided.

b. Internal reallocations (e.g., changes in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.): The Program will not require internal reallocations beyond those already initiated or planned. The addition of the tenure-track faculty member hire mentioned above will off-set the expected growth in the graduate program.

The movement of the MS program in Agricultural Education will come with no increased burden for faculty. The same faculty who are currently teaching Ag Ed graduate students (through HCD) will continue to teach these students through the Agricultural Education Program. Furthermore, their teaching loads will not increase with the transfer of the MS program. At present, the faculty members with teaching responsibilities to graduate students enrolled in the MS Ag Ed Program include Dr. David Rosch, Dr. Richard Clark, and Dr. Kari Keating. Dr. Laurie Kramer serves as Program Director and Dr. Walter Hurley coordinates a faculty affiliate program which enables ACES faculty members to participate in the teaching, research and outreach missions of the Agricultural Education Program. **An additional tenure-track assistant professor, Erica Thieman who will join the faculty in August 2013, will have responsibilities to the graduate program.** Affiliate faculty are currently being recruited, but presently include Dr. Prasanta Kalita, Dr. Soo Lee, and Dr. Walter Hurley; all of these faculty members have been recognized for being outstanding and dedicated teachers on our campus. Furthermore, the Agricultural Education Program includes three additional Teaching Associates (Corey Flournoy, Brandy Krapf and Debra Korte) who, although they do not teach graduate courses per se, offer guidance and support to graduate students through their years of experience as professional agricultural educators. Taken together, this is a substantial increase in teaching capacity from the historical sole department model which, in the past 15 years, had assigned only 2 or 3 faculty members to oversee both the undergraduate and graduate programs.

Graduate enrollment of resident students is likely to experience only modest growth, from the current 5, to 10, students. Enrollment of students in the online coursework is likely to grow in accord with the need of practicing secondary Ag Ed teachers to earn a Master's degree in order to retain and advance in their positions. At full capacity, we anticipate approximately 20-25 students in the online version of the Master's program.

A wide array of courses is currently available to students and will continue to be available to future students. **To meet the needs of both residential and online students, courses are presented using both modalities of instruction, although not in the same semester.** Further, some graduate

courses are offered on an every other year basis. This requires careful advising and monitoring of student progress, which is possible because of the personal nature of this program.

The processes of admissions, advising and mentoring are coordinated by Drs. Rosch and Clark, with Dr. Rosch serving as the Director of Graduate Studies. The additional tenure track assistant professor anticipated by Fall 2013 will also assist with graduate student advising and mentorship.

Student mentoring will also be provided by Faculty Affiliates to the program, almost all of whom are tenure track faculty members in one of the ACES departments.

All faculty and graduate students will be housed in close proximity in Bevier Hall.

An Agricultural Education Grievance Committee will be established enabling graduate students to have a mechanism for voicing any concerns they have as well as for issuing concerns about grading, unfair or unethical treatment, or other problems. The Committee will include two elected graduate student representatives as well as three faculty members.

A Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) will be appointed by the Dean of the College of ACES to support the Program Director and offer advice and guidance to support the further development of teaching, research and outreach programs. The FAC will be composed of three or four senior faculty members from ACES who have an interest in agricultural education. This FAC will help set specific progress indicators and timelines for the program to achieve including: instructional units, number of undergraduate majors and graduate students, research productivity (publications, funding, national preeminence), and student placement. The FAC will provide a brief report to the Dean of the College of ACES on an annual basis that describes the current status of the program of achieving these stated aims and includes recommendations for further development. Progress on these indicators will also be reviewed annually by the Administrative and Executive Committees of the College of ACES. Members of the FAC will include the heads of units that serve as the tenure homes of Ag Ed faculty, key affiliate faculty, and other faculty in ACES who are interested in educating students about agriculture. Each member of the FAC will be asked to serve a 2-year term. However, as we launch this new advisory group, we will request that 2 members be retained for one extra year of service in order to develop a rotation schedule that includes some experienced advisory members.

An external advisory committee for the Agricultural Education Program has been in place and has provided important feedback and guidance to the Program Director for the past 3 years.

c. Effect on course enrollment in other departments and explanation of discussions with representatives of those departments: Students in the Master of Science in Agricultural Education curriculum already are taking AGED courses as well as courses in other departments. This transfer will not affect enrollment in these other departments.

d. Impact on the library, computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.: The proposed transfer of the Master of Science in Agricultural Education will not create any additional hardships on current UIUC academic facilities and services, including but not limited to library use, computing use, or any additional equipment.

Clearances: (Clearances should include signatures [sponsor, department head, dean] and dates of approval)

Walter H. Hewley
Agricultural Education Program Representative:

8/8/12
Date:

Robert H. H. H.
Human & Community Development Representative:

8/8/12
Date:

Raunio Kramer
ACES Office of Academic Programs Representative:

8-16-12
Date:

John J. J.
College of ACES Representative:

8-16-12
Date:

Adree Solo D.
Graduate College Representative:

1/9/13
Date:

From: Hodge, Nicole Jean on behalf of Kuntz, Kristi A
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2012 3:55 PM
To: Kramer, Laurie F
Cc: Simmons, F William; Chappell, Robert H Jr; Livingstone, Carol J; Miller, Gay Y; Stites, Alonda Anne; Kuntz, Kristi A; Sappenfield, Mary A
Subject: Implementation - Rename Agricultural Leadership and Science Education Program to the Agricultural Education Program

January 13, 2012

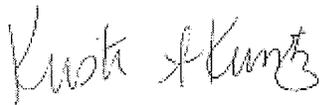
Laurie Kramer
101 Mumford Hall
MC-710

Dear Laurie,

The proposal from the College of ACES to rename the Agricultural Leadership and Science Education Program to the Agricultural Education Program has been approved by the Senate and Board of Trustees (12/2/11).

You are free to implement this program.

Sincerely,



Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

c: C. Livingstone
G. Miller
F. W. Simmons
A. Stites

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.13.30

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



January 11, 2013

Gay Miller, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program.

This proposal has been approved by the Graduate College and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences Committee on Courses and Curricula. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,



Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: A. Edwards
R. Hughes
W. Hurley
L. Kramer
M. Lowry
F. Simmons

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Graduate College

204 Coble Hall
801 South Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820-6210



Executive Committee

January 9, 2013

2012-2013 Members

Debasish Dutta, *Chair*

Members

Barry Ackerson

David Ceperley

Lin-Feng Chen

Kent Choquette

Jennifer Cole

Brooke Elliott

Susan Garnsey

David Hays

Christine Jenkins

Ashleigh Jones

Tina Mattila

Ramona Oswald

Yoon Pak

Joseph Rosenblatt

Alex Winter-Nelson

Assata Zerai

Kristi Kuntz
Office of the Provost
207 Swanlund MC-304

Dear Kristi,

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program in the College of ACES." The Graduate College Executive Committee has approved this proposal. I send it to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

Andrea Golato
Associate Dean, Graduate College

C: R. Hughes
W. Hurley
L. Kramer
M. Lowry
F. Simmons

Name of existing Illinois (UIUC) degree: _____

Name of non-Illinois partnering institution: _____

Location of non-Illinois partnering institution:

State of Illinois US State: _____ Foreign country: _____

- B. Proposal to create a new academic unit (college, school, department, program or other academic unit):

Name of proposed new unit: _____

- C. Proposal to rename an existing academic unit (college, school, department, or other academic unit):

Current name of unit: _____

Proposed new name of unit: _____

- D. Proposal to reorganize existing units (colleges, schools, departments, or program):

1. Proposal to change the status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department)

Name of current unit including status: _____

2. Proposal to transfer an existing unit:

Current unit's name and home: MS in Agricultural Education in the Department of Human and Community Development

Proposed new home for the unit: Agricultural Education Program in the College of ACES

3. Proposal to merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B):

Name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Proposed name and college of new (merged) unit: _____

4. Proposal to terminate an existing unit:

Current unit's name and status: _____

- E. **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Nature of the proposal: _____

Revised 10/2012

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Academic Programs
128 Mumford Hall, MC-710
1301 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



RECEIVED
AUG 21 2012
GRADUATE COLLEGE

August 16, 2012

Mary Lowry, Director
Academic Programs & Policy
Graduate College
222 Coble Hall
Campus MC-322

Dear Mary:

I am writing to request the Graduate College's approval for the following proposal:

- **Transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program in the College of ACES** → It was our understanding that the substance of this proposal had been approved already, as part of the proposals to create the Agricultural Education Program and its academic offerings. We are resubmitting it now for the sake of accuracy and as a matter of record.

Supporting documentation from the Agricultural Education Program is enclosed.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

F. William Simmons
Assistant Dean, College of ACES

FWS/rhc

cc: R. Hughes, Jr.
W. L. Hurley
L. F. Kramer
AGED C&C File