



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Elimination of the Horticulture major in the Department of Crop Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

SPONSOR: Frederic L. Kolb, Cavanah Professor of Plant Breeding and Genetics, Crop Sciences Teaching Coordinator, 333-9485, f-kolb@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: Soo-Yeun Lee, Assistant Dean, Academic Programs, 333-3380, soolee@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Department of Crop Sciences proposes the elimination of the Horticulture major in the Department of Crop Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Crop Sciences proposes to eliminate Horticulture as a major and incorporate the horticulture students into the Crop Sciences major. Several years ago the horticulture program merged into the Department of Crop Sciences. The current Horticulture major has two concentrations with 23 (77%) students in Specialty Crops and 7 (23%) students in Sustainable Landscapes. The demand for students in the ornamental horticulture industry has been declining. Also, due to the loss of some faculty and Teaching Associate positions in the department, strength in the ornamental horticulture area has declined making it difficult to offer the classes needed in that area. Thus, the proposed change is in response to several factors including loss of capability to deliver classes and lack of demand from students (low enrollments in classes). Decline in students majoring in ornamental horticulture is also occurring at other institutions. Current students will be allowed to complete their current programs of study.

The proposed changes are supported by the faculty in the department, including most of the faculty in the horticulture area. In the faculty vote, 91% (29/32) voted in favor of eliminating the Horticulture major.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: *(Please respond to each of the following questions. Place your response right after each item. See [Appendix A](#) for questions required of new degree program proposals as well additional notes regarding budgetary and staff implications.)*

Additional staff and dollars needed

The proposed revisions do not create a need for additional resources; however, in order for the department to incorporate the students into the Crop Sciences program there is a need to commit to current staffing levels. It is understood within the department that funds will be required to

continue to pay existing Academic Professionals who are involved in providing instruction in several horticulture courses both new and already established.

Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.)

Our intent is to maintain the HORT rubric in the Crop Sciences Department, and continue to offer classes under this rubric with the current faculty and academic professionals teaching them. In this past academic year, several horticulture courses have been discontinued due to low enrollment, and new courses are being developed that are more aligned with current interests in horticulture. The intent is to build the enrollment in these courses that will be more beneficial to students going into careers in emerging specialties in horticulture. There is capacity available, and the faculty members in the horticulture area are willing to develop revised classes and teach classes with larger enrollments. See related proposal to create a concentration in Horticultural Food Systems within the major in Crop Sciences.

Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments

No changes in class enrollments outside of ACES are anticipated as a result of this change. It is anticipated that students who would have selected a major in Horticulture will now select a major in Crop Sciences, and take similar required courses outside the Crop Sciences Department.

Impact on the University Library

No impact is expected. Please see attached letter from ACES library

Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.

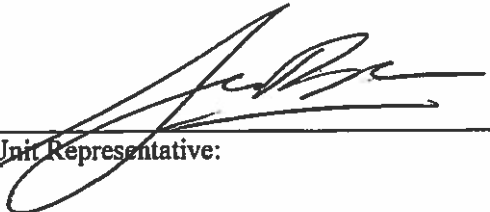
No impact is expected on computer labs.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: We would like to implement these revisions as soon as possible, but we understand that they must be approved at a number of levels. Ideally, we would like to have the effective date be Fall semester of 2015.

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: The Crop Sciences Department proposes that the Horticulture major be removed completely from the Academic Catalog in the upcoming publication for the 2015-2016 academic year.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)

Signatures:



Unit Representative:

2/10/2015
Date:



College Representative:

2/10/15
Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

**Appendix A:
(Budgetary and Staff Implications)
Appendix B:**

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN**

University Library
Office of Dean of Libraries
and University Librarian
230 Main Library, MC-522
1408 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



December 19, 2014

Frederic L. Kolb
Cavanah Professor of Plant Breeding and Genetics
Crop Sciences Teaching Coordinator
AE-120 Turner Hall
1102 S Goodwin
M/C 046

Dear Dr. Kolb:

Thank you for giving the University Library the opportunity to review the Department of Crop Science's proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy. Per the proposal sent to the University Library, the department is recommending the elimination of the Horticulture major and the establishment of a concentration in Horticultural Food Systems leading to the Bachelor of Science. Additionally, the proposal recommends the revision of two concentrations (Crop Agribusiness and Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology) and the revision of the Horticulture minor in the Department of Crop Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

Based upon a review of the draft proposal that we received from you on December 18, 2014, it is our belief that there will be no significant impact on our operations or collections.

If additional services or materials are required as the program develops, we will be happy to discuss those needs as they emerge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John P. Wilkin', with a large flourish extending to the right.

John P. Wilkin
Janita J. and Robert E. Simpson
Dean of Libraries and University Librarian

c: Thomas Teper
Robert "Pat" Allen

From: Allen, Robert Stanton
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2014 4:27 PM
To: Kolb, Frederic L; Teper, Thomas H
Cc: Ward, Megan Marie
Subject: RE: Crop Sciences curriculum changes

Hi Fred.

I have looked over the proposed changes and no impact on the ACES Library is anticipated as a result of the proposed changes to the curriculum in the Department of Crop Sciences.

I am also copying our Associate Dean of Libraries & Associate University Librarian for Collections and Technical Services, Tom Teper, as he typically deals with these changes eventually.

Robert S. (Pat) Allen
Associate Professor of Library Administration Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental
Sciences (ACES) Librarian

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



February 11, 2015

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 College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to terminate the Bachelor of Science in Horticulture.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathryn A. Martensen".

Kathryn A. Martensen
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: S. Lee
M. Lowry
F. Kolb
M. Ward
A. Edwards



**Senate Educational Policy Committee
Proposal Check Sheet**

PROPOSAL TITLE Elimination of the Horticulture major in the Department of Crop Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

PROPOSAL TYPE (Please select all that apply below):

A. **Program and degree proposals**

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes No

Degree proposal (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.)

New degree — please name the new degree: _____

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised: _____

Major proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: _____

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised: _____

Concentration proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: _____

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be revised: _____

Minor proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: _____

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: _____

Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

degree major concentration minor

Please provide the current name: _____

Please provide the proposed new name: _____

Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: Horticulture

Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution

Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: _____

Please name the partnering institution: _____

Proposal for renaming existing academic units (college, school, department, or program)

Please provide the unit's current name: _____

Please provide the unit's proposed new name: _____

Proposal for reorganizing existing units (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)

Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: _____

Transfer an existing unit

Please provide the current unit's name and home: _____

Please provide the new home for the unit: _____

Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)

Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: _____

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

Please indicate the nature of the proposal: _____