

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.10.31

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



RECEIVED

JAN 04 2010

OFFICE OF THE SENATE

January 4, 2010

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

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the Graduate College and College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to rename the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Consumer Economics as the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics.

This proposal has been approved by the College Courses and Curricula Committee and the Graduate College Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz  
Assistant Provost

KAK/dkk

Enclosures

c: D. Dutta  
P. Ellinger  
C. Livingstone  
K. Martensen  
F. Simmons  
A. Winter-Nelson

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

RECEIVED  
DEC - 3 2009  
OFFICE of the PROVOST



Graduate College  
204 Coble Hall, MC-322  
801 South Wright Street  
Champaign, IL 61820-6210  
[www.grad.illinois.edu](http://www.grad.illinois.edu)

November 13, 2009

Kristi Kuntz  
Assistant Provost  
Office of the Provost  
207 Swanlund, MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Request to Rename the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Agricultural and Consumer Economics as the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Agricultural and Applied Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences." The Graduate College Executive Committee did vote unanimously to approve it.

I send it to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

Debasish Dutta  
Dean of the Graduate College

Enclosure

c: P.N. Ellinger  
F.W. Simmons  
A.E. Winter-Nelson

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer  
and Environmental Sciences

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



RECEIVED  
OCT 15 2009  
GRADUATE COLLEGE

October 12, 2009

Dr. Debasish Dutta  
Dean of the Graduate College  
204 Coble Hall  
Campus MC-322

Dear Dr. Dutta:

I am writing to request Graduate College approval for the enclosed proposal from the College of ACES:

- <sup>include  
ms</sup> **Proposal to Rename the *Ph.D. in "Agricultural and Consumer Economics"* as the *Ph.D. in "Agricultural and Applied Economics"***

The proposal has been reviewed and approved by the ACES Courses and Curricula Committee.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

F. William Simmons  
Assistant Dean, College of ACES

FWS/rhc

cc: P. N. Ellinger  
A. E. Winter-Nelson  
ACE C&C File



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## **Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee**

### **PROPOSAL TITLE:**

Proposal to Rename the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in "Agricultural and Consumer Economics" as the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in "Agricultural and Applied Economics" in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences.

### **SPONSOR: COLLEGE CONTACT:**

Robert Hauser, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, 332 Mumford Hall, 1301 West Gregory Drive, MC-710, Phone: 333-8859, r-hauser@illinois.edu

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION:**

The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics wishes to alter the title of its graduate programs from "Agricultural and Consumer Economics" to "Agricultural and Applied Economics". The change will make the title more consistent with the existing curriculum and implies no changes in that curriculum.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics was formed during a college-wide restructuring in 1995 by merging faculty from the Department of Agricultural Economics with faculty from the School of Human Resources and Family Studies. The resulting graduate program took the name of the new department. While this department name continues to reflect the heritage and strength of the unit, it does not effectively communicate the content of the graduate program. We believe that the proposed name change will enhance both our recruitment of students and our placement of graduates.

Graduate students in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics complete a uniform core of courses in applied economics (microeconomic theory and econometrics) and select fields of concentration including: agricultural finance, family and consumer economics, price analysis and marketing, international and policy economics, natural resource and environmental economics, and regional economics. Only a minority of students select consumer economics as a field. Thus, the current name "Agricultural and Consumer Economics" does not accurately reflect the coursework and/or research that most students

pursue while in the department. The more inclusive program label “Agricultural and Applied Economics” more completely encompasses the work of our students.

The choice of the new name is based on a desire to establish consistency with the content of our program and also with our peer programs. In 2008 the American Agriculture Economics Association (AAEA) changed its name to the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association. This is the professional organization with which our department most strongly identifies. This name was selected to reflect new directions that traditional departments are taking while maintaining continuity with the past. In particular, the name is appropriate for the association and our degree programs because it is inclusive of all major areas of emphasis in our field (consumer economics, international development, rural development, natural resources, land use and urbanization, agribusiness, public health, etc.).

As we attempt to recruit new students and to place our graduates, it is useful to have a major title that is consistent with similar programs at our peer institutions. Examples include:

- Cornell University- Degree title: Applied Economics and Management
- University of Wisconsin- Degree title: Agricultural and Applied Economics
- Clemson University- Degree title: Applied Economics and Statistics
- University of Georgia- Degree title: Agricultural and Applied Economics
- Auburn University- Degree title: Applied Economics
- University of California, Berkeley-Degree title: Agricultural and Resource Economics

We feel that the proposed M.S. and Ph.D. title name change will enable our department to draw more and stronger graduate applications and will benefit students by more accurately reflecting the content of their studies in the Department of ACE. While the reputation of this department is sufficient to attract students from our traditional sources and to place graduates in traditional positions, we feel that the revised title will give the Department easier access to students from backgrounds outside of the land-grant system and will assist in placing our graduates in industry and in international situations.

#### **BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:**

##### **Additional staff and dollars needed**

We foresee no budgetary or staff impacts from changing the name of our graduate degree programs. We anticipate an increase in graduate applications, but we plan to maintain the current size of our M.S. and Ph.D. admissions while increasing the selectivity.

- a. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.) NONE
- b. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments. NONE
- c. Impact on the University Library. NONE
- d. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. NONE

#### **DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:**

20 August, 2009.



## STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

The only change in the statement in the Programs of Study Catalog would appear in the designation of the major under graduate programs. The major would change from "Agricultural and Consumer Economics" to "Agricultural and Applied Economics". The current entry, with only this change in place, is reproduced below.

Head of the Department: Paul Ellinger  
Director of Graduate Studies: Alex E. Winter-Nelson  
326 Mumford Hall, MC-710  
1301 West Gregory Drive  
Urbana, IL 61801  
(217) 333-1810  
Fax: (217) 333-5538  
E-mail: [ace-grad@illinois.edu](mailto:ace-grad@illinois.edu)  
**Major:** Agricultural and Applied Economics  
**Degrees offered:** M.S. and Ph.D.

**Medical Scholars Program:** Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Agricultural and Applied Economics and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) through the [Medical Scholars Program](#)

## Graduate Degree Programs

The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE) offers courses of study that lead to the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy degrees. Applicants with a baccalaureate degree are initially admitted to the M.S. program. Students who fulfill specific requirements in the first year of the M.S. program may request transfer into the Ph.D. program.

## Admission

Graduate College requirements apply, including a 3.0 (A = 4.0) GPA for the last two years of undergraduate coursework and any graduate work completed. International applicants whose native language is not English must have a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL iBT) score of at least 88 (230 computer-based and 570 paper-based) or an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic examination overall score of at least 6.5 with a minimum sub-section score of 6 in each of the four modules (speaking, listening, writing, and reading). Graduate Record Examination (GRE) general test scores are required for candidates seeking financial aid and are requested for all applicants. Applicants to the Ph.D. program are requested to provide a sample of their academic writing. Students having an inadequate background in theory or quantitative methods will be asked to take additional coursework to prepare for graduate study. An applicant with a master's degree in an appropriate discipline will be considered for the Ph.D. degree. Students may commence study in either semester, but initial enrollment in fall semester is preferable.

## Degree Requirements

\*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's [Graduate Program information](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

## Master of Science

Required Courses	Required Hours
ACE 500 or ECON 500	4

6 hours in quantitative and research methods from departmental list (these do not count toward the 500 level course requirement)	6
<b>Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree):</b>	8 max
<b>Total Hours</b>	32 (only 2 hours of ACE 566 may count towards total)
<b>Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:</b>	8 at the 500 level, not including 566, 599 or independent study
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12
<b>Other Requirements:*</b>	
<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	3.0

The M.S. offers considerable flexibility. Students using the degree as a foundation for a doctorate emphasize economic theory and analytical research tools. Students seeking the terminal master's degree focus their study on the concepts and analytical techniques used by analysts and managers in industries, governments, and other organizations.

Students must earn a 3.0 (A = 4.0) GPA for a minimum of 32 graduate hours of credit. A thesis is prepared under the supervision of a faculty advisory committee. The thesis is defended in a formal oral examination, which usually coincides with an open departmental seminar, administered by the thesis committee.

## Doctor of Philosophy

Required Courses	Required Hours
Core courses	24-28
8 hours in ACE at the 500 level to define primary field	8
4 hours (minimum) of quantitative methods beyond the courses specified in the core	4
8 additional hours (minimum) in quantitative methods, methods, theory, complementary field, or other area to strengthen or diversify the student's program	8
<b>Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree):</b>	32 max
<b>Total Hours</b>	64
<b>Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:</b>	16 excluding indep study, 599 and core courses
<b>Other Requirements:*</b>	A written paper in the form of a journal article approved by the research paper committee and presented at a department conference.
<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	3.0
<b>Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD?</b>	Yes, but students meeting specific conditions may petition to move from the M.S. to the Ph.D. program after three semesters.
<b>Written Core Exam Required</b>	Yes
<b>Preliminary Exam Required</b>	Yes
<b>Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required</b>	Yes
<b>Dissertation Deposit Required</b>	Yes

The Doctor of Philosophy is a research-oriented degree that prepares successful candidates for positions in higher education, governmental agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the research and management functions of the private sector. In consultation with a faculty advisor, students develop an area of specialization to fit their career aspirations. Typical areas of specialization include agricultural finance; family and consumer economics; price analysis and agricultural marketing;



farm and agribusiness management; international and policy economics; natural resource, production, and environmental economics; and regional economics and public policy.

Students pursue coursework in theory, quantitative methods, and their area of specialization; pass a written core exam, a second-year research paper requirement, an oral preliminary examination which includes the formal proposal for dissertation research; and complete and defend a dissertation. The core courses cover the theory and quantitative methods upon which advanced research, teaching, and service in ACE are based. The specialty courses build on the knowledge gained in the core courses and provide an understanding of the application of economic theory and the tools of economic analysis. Students are encouraged to complete substantial coursework in other departments, such as economics, finance, and business administration.

A 3.0 (A = 4.0) GPA is required in all courses completed in the program.

## Medical Scholars Program

The Medical Scholars Program permits highly qualified students to integrate the study of medicine with study for a graduate degree in a second discipline, including Agricultural and Applied Economics. Students may apply to the Medical Scholars Program prior to beginning graduate school or while in the graduate program. Applicants to the Medical Scholars Program must meet the admissions standards for and be accepted into both the doctoral graduate program and the College of Medicine. Students in the dual degree program must meet the specific requirements for both the medical and graduate degrees. On average, students take eight years to complete both degrees. Further information on this program is available by contacting the Medical Scholars Program, 125 Medical Sciences Building, (217) 333-8146 or at [www.med.illinois.edu/msp](http://www.med.illinois.edu/msp).

## Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program and is strongly recommended for those intending to pursue an academic career.

## Faculty Research Interests

The mission of the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics is to improve the economic and environmental well being of producers, consumers, and families. Drawing on economics, business, and law, the department analyzes issues related to individuals and families, agriculture and natural resources, and food — all ranging in scope from local to global. The department pursues its mission through rigorous baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral curricula, through research that advances knowledge and solves problems, and through public service.

## Financial Aid

Graduate fellowships, assistantships, and tuition and fee waivers are awarded on a competitive basis.

**Fellowships.** The department offers fellowships from internal resources and by nominating students for college and campus fellowships. These fellowships, often combined with assistantship support, provide monetary stipends and, in most cases, exemptions from tuition and some student fees. Recipients must register for the equivalent of at least 12 hours of graduate credit in each semester and four hours in an eight-week summer session. Fellowship holders are encouraged to involve themselves with research and teaching in the department.

**Assistantships.** Research and teaching assistantships provide an opportunity for graduate students to work with faculty. Most research assistantships are funded by grants and contracts involving the analysis of contemporary issues. Most assistantships carry waivers of tuition and some fees.

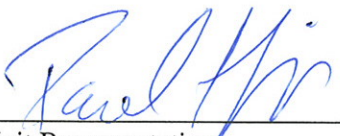
**Tuition and Fee Waivers.** Waivers may be awarded. In most cases they are awarded to students with fellowship support from certain external programs.





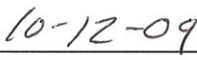
**CLEARANCES:**


Signatures:

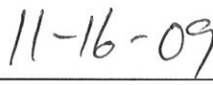
  
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Unit Representative:

  
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Educational Policy Committee Representative:

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