

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



February 22, 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 College of Engineering to eliminate the undergraduate minor in Food and Bioprocess in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

This proposal has been approved by the College of Engineering Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi A. Kuntz".

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/dkk

Enclosures

c: I. Adesida
C. Livingstone
M. Pleck
K. Ting
C. Tucker

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Engineering
Office of the Associate Dean for
Undergraduate Programs
206 Engineering Hall, MC-272
1308 West Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801



February 2, 2010

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost
217 Swanlund Administration Building, MC-304

Dear Ms. Kuntz:

The following program revision has been administratively approved by the Undergraduate Programs Office of the College of Engineering:

Discontinuance of the Undergraduate Food and Bioprocess Engineering Minor Sponsored by the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering and College of Engineering

A proposal in Senate Educational Policy Committee format is attached for processing this request.

This program revision is related to the proposal EP.10.19 (Revision to the B.S. Degree in Agricultural and Biological Engineering) approved by the Senate Educational Policy Committee on Jan. 25. However, realization of the tie of this proposal to EP.10.19 did not occur until Senate EPC's action.

The rationale for the discontinuance of the Minor is straightforward: with the restructuring of B.S. in Agricultural and Biological Engineering (EP.10.19), two new Banner Concentrations (Agricultural Engineering and Biological Engineering) are being created and the existing Concentration in Food and Bioprocess Engineering is being discontinued. Moreover, the Minor has been completed by only one student in the past decade, has no students currently enrolled, and rarely receives inquiries.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Charles L. Tucker III'.

Charles L. Tucker III
Associate Dean
Office of Undergraduate Programs

c: I. Adesida
K.C. Ting
M. Pleck



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Discontinuance of the Undergraduate Minor in Food and Bioprocess Engineering Sponsored by the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Administered by the College of Engineering.

SPONSOR: Alan C. Hansen, Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, 333-2969, achansen@illinois.edu.

COLLEGE CONTACT: Charles L. Tucker III, Associate Dean, College of Engineering, 244-3822, ctucker@illinois.edu.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Discontinuance of the Undergraduate Minor in Food and Bioprocess Engineering.

JUSTIFICATION:

A discontinuance of the Minor in Food and Bioprocess Engineering (FBE) is proposed due to a restructuring of the B.S. in Agricultural and Biological Engineering and very small enrolment numbers for this minor over the last 10 years. The B.S. curriculum, in a proposal now under Senate review, is being restructured to create two new Banner Concentrations in Agricultural Engineering and Biological Engineering respectively and simultaneously discontinuing the existing Concentration in Food and Bioprocess Engineering. Students interested in the food and bioprocess engineering domain will still be able to take courses related to this area as part of the ABE B.S. degree by selecting a Specialization in Food and Bioprocess Engineering within the Biological Engineering Concentration.

In the mid 1990s, the College instituted the FBE Minor in response to a perceived need for training students in this area. However, in the last ten years, official records show only one student has graduated with this Minor and inquiries from students interested in the Minor have been rare. The low enrolment in the FBE Minor is attributed to the fact that even though the food and bioprocess engineering focus would be of most interest to Chemical Engineering (ChE) majors, the ChE curriculum is highly structured, with few credits allowed for technical electives. As a result, it is very difficult for ChE students to take courses for the FBE Minor along with courses for their major. Hence if a student were interested in the Minor, he or she would likely end up taking them at the very end of their B.S. tenure, somewhat extending the time to graduate. However, students that enroll in Chemical Engineering, after receiving their B.S., can be enrolled as Masters students in Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN), complete one additional year of work in food science related courses (which are similar to the list for the FBE Minor) and receive a non-thesis M.S. degree in FSHN. As a result, this approach would be more attractive to them in terms of receiving an M.S. degree as opposed to a minor.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- a. *Additional staff and dollars needed:* None.
- b. *Internal reallocations:* None. ABE courses prescribed by the Minor will continue to be offered in the ABE B.S. curriculum. Enrollment reductions in these courses will be negligible as a result of the discontinuance of the Minor.
- c. *Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments:* Negligible. Enrollment reductions in FSHN courses required by or elective for the Minor will be insignificant as a result of the discontinuance of the Minor.
- d. *Impact on the University Library:* None.
- e. *Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. –* None.

IMPLICATIONS FOR ENROLLED STUDENTS:

None. No students are currently enrolled in the Minor. Election of the Minor by new students has been suspended pending the consideration of this proposal.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:

Fall 2010; contingent on final approval of ABE B.S. revision proposal EP.10.19.

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

The changes to the *Programs of Study* will be reflected by the removal of the Food and Bioprocess Engineering Minor from the (i) Table of Contents and (ii) descriptive text section in the College of Engineering Program Information section of the *Programs of Study* (currently http://courses.uiuc.edu/cis/programs/urbana/2009/fall/undergrad/engin/about_engin.html).