



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Termination of the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology, Department of Plant Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

SPONSOR: Feng Sheng Hu, Professor and Head, Department of Plant Biology, 244-2982, fshu@life.illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: Diane Musumeci, Associate Dean, LAS, 333-1350, musumeci@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Department of Plant Biology proposes to terminate the Illinois Professional Science Master's (PSM) concentration in the MS in Plant Biology. Currently, the Department of Plant Biology and the Illinois PSM program, a unit of the Graduate College, jointly administer the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology program. The companion proposal, *Establish a New Major Leading to a Master's of Science in Plant Biotechnology in Conjunction with a Professional Science Master's Concentration within the Department of Plant Biology, College of LAS*, describes a new graduate major, Plant Biotechnology, which the Department proposes to substitute for the PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology. With the approval of the new Plant Biotechnology major, students currently enrolled in the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology will be given the option to complete the requirements for the new major and to select the new Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biotechnology prior to graduation. The thesis and non-thesis MS in Plant Biology will be retained.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Plant Biology developed a plan to offer one graduate program leading to a Professional Science Master's degree in the plant-based sciences and established the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology to start in Fall 2011. The PSM offers a blend of graduate science and business knowledge that addresses specific industry needs and opportunities, thereby helping students to transition successfully from their academic education to management-level industry and government careers. The ability of our PSM program to effectively accomplish this goal necessitates that we establish partnerships with relevant industries, provide a graduate curriculum that is targeted to industry needs and communicate our mission to prospective students. To date, efforts to optimize industry linkages and promote the program to students have been hampered by limitations imposed by both the name and content of the current Illinois PSM in Plant Biology. Hence we propose to terminate this program and replace it with a new Plant Biotechnology major that, in combination with the Illinois PSM concentration, will more clearly communicate our objectives and effectively serve the needs of both business partners and students.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed.

There are no costs associated with termination of the Illinois PSM in Plant Biology and no staff will be affected.

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

No internal reallocations are anticipated. Many of the science courses approved as electives for the existing Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology program are currently taken by most of the PSM students. Enrollments in these classes will not be significantly affected by termination of the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology because similar enrollments are anticipated when students take these courses as required by the new major in Plant Biotechnology in partial fulfillment of the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biotechnology.

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

See explanation for “b”.

- d. Impact on the University Library.

None

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

None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval of the MS in Plant Biotechnology

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

See the proposal “*Establish a New Major Leading to a Master’s of Science in Plant Biotechnology in Conjunction with a Professional Science Master’s Concentration within the Department of Plant Biology, College of LAS*” for a full listing of the Plant Biology POS. Below is the MS in Plant Biology section only:

Master of Science, Plant Biology

Required Courses:	Plant Biology Thesis option - Required Hours	Plant Biology Non-thesis option - Required Hours

Course hours distributed among three of the following areas of plant biology: anatomy, biochemistry, development, ecology, evolution, genetics, molecular biology, physiology, and systematics (4 of these hours must be outside the immediate research interests of the student)	12	12
Individual Topics, IB 590 (min/max applied toward degree):		max 8
Language Requirement:	Discretion of advisor	Discretion of advisor
Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree):	max 8	N/A
Total Hours	32	32
Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:	12	12
Other Requirements:		
Minimum GPA:	3.0	3.0

The requirement of a thesis for the M.S. degree in Plant Biology is determined in consultation with the candidate's adviser. The program is normally completed within two years. Candidates are expected to complete at least 32 semester hours of graduate coursework and research agreed upon with a faculty adviser.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) - - These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

Signatures:

JK 6/18/12
Unit Representative: _____ Date: _____

Diane Luoma _____ 6/29/12
College Representative: _____ Date: _____

Adrian Polow _____ 12/14/12
Graduate College Representative: _____ Date: _____

Cecilia DeLuca
School: Integrative Biology

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

EP.13.25

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 Liberal Arts and Sciences to terminate the Illinois Professional Science concentration in the Master of Science in Plant Biology.

This proposal has been approved by the Graduate College Executive Committee and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Courses and Curriculum Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

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

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: K. Carney
E. DeLucia
A. Edwards
F. Hu
J. Huber
M. Lowry
K. Sightler

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Senate Committee on Educational Policy
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Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

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OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Graduate College

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

Executive Committee

December 14, 2012

2012-2013 Members

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Members

Barry Ackerson

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Kent Choquette

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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 are the proposals entitled "Termination of the Illinois PSM Concentration in the MS in Plant Biology in the Department of Plant Biology, College of LAS" and "Establish a New Major Leading to a Master's of Science in Plant Biotechnology in Conjunction with a Professional Science Master's Concentration within the Department of Plant Biology, College of LAS." These proposals have been reviewed and approved together by the Graduate College Executive Committee because they supplement one another. I send them to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Golato".

Andrea Golato
Associate Dean, Graduate College

c: K. Carney
E. DeLucia
F. Hu
J. Huber
M. Lowry
K. Sightler