Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Eliminate the Master of Arts (MA) in Economics, Department of Economics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

SPONSOR: George Deltas, Professor and Associate Head, Department of Economics, deltas@illinois.edu, (217) 333-4678

COLLEGE CONTACT: Karen Carney, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Department wishes to eliminate the MA in Economics, as this degree has not been awarded in more than a decade. The Department continues to offer MS and PhD degrees in Economics, as well as a thriving undergraduate major.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Economics has for many years had both an MA and an MS in Economics which were available to students interested in earning a master’s degree as they worked toward the Ph.D degree. Students could not apply to the MA program directly; only students who applied to the MS in Economics with a specialization in Policy Economics could earn a terminal master’s degree. The MA degree has not been awarded in many years. In fact, because this degree is no longer listed in the Academic Catalog or any departmental web site, the department had assumed it had been eliminated years earlier, and only learned of it when the Illinois Board of Higher Education indicated the MA was still listed on its inventory of degrees.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: There are no budgetary implications as a result of eliminating this program.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective upon approval.

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: Since the MA has not been listed in the Academic Catalog for at least 10 years, the only revision that is required is the elimination of is the following statement from the program’s “Overview”: “The department is not admitting students to the MA at this time.”
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:  
[Signature]  
1-10-2017

College Representative:  
[Signature]  
2-23-17

Graduate College Representative:  
[Signature]  
3/17/17
March 17, 2017

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

Dear Professor Francis:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to eliminate the Master of Arts in Economics.

Sincerely,

Kathryn A. Martensen
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: A. McKinney
   G. Deltas
   K. Carney
   J. Hart
February 23, 2017

Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko
Dean, Graduate College
204 Coble Hall MC-322

Dear Dean Chodzko-Zajko:

The Committee on Courses and Curricula, on behalf of the Faculty of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has voted to approve the following proposal:

Eliminate the Master of Arts in Economics

Please let me know if you have any questions on this proposal. This proposal is now ready for review by the Graduate College for proposed implementation upon approval.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Carney
Associate Dean

enclosure

C: Professor George Deltas
Professor Martin Perry

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