



University Council

January 15, 2021

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2020-2021

John Maerz, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Nicholas Fuhrman

Arts and Sciences – Jonathan Evans (Arts)

Rodney Mauricio (Sciences)

Business – Jim Carson

Ecology – Amanda Rugenski

Education – David Jackson

Engineering – E.W. Tollner

Environment and Design – Ashley Steffens

Family and Consumer Sciences – Sheri Worthy

Forestry and Natural Resources – Joseph Dahlen

Journalism and Mass Communication – Dodie Cantrell-Bickley

Law – Randy Beck

Pharmacy – Michelle McElhannon

Public and International Affairs – Jeffrey Berejikian

Public Health – Brittani Harmon

Social Work – Harold Briggs

Veterinary Medicine – Susan Sanchez

Graduate School – Wendy Ruona

Ex-Officio – Provost S. Jack Hu

Undergraduate Student Representative – Jeremiah de Sesto

Graduate Student Representative – Gerena Walker

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to terminate the major in Soil, Water, and Environmental Sciences (M.S.) will be an agenda item for the January 22, 2021, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

John Maerz, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu  
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

# PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Date:** September 9, 2020

**School/College:** College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**Department/Division:** Crop and Soil Sciences

**Program (Major and Degree):** Soil, Water, and Environmental Sciences (M.S.)

**Which campus(es) offer this program?** Athens

**Deactivation or Termination?** Termination

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2021

**Last date students will be admitted to this program:** No students are currently enrolled

**Last date students will graduate from this program:** No students are currently enrolled

## **Program Abstract:**

Faculty from the University of Georgia, Auburn University, Clemson University, University of Kentucky, North Carolina State University, Ohio State University, and Texas Tech University proposed to establish an interdisciplinary graduate (master's) degree in Soil, Water, and Environmental Sciences by distance education. This degree was offered through the AG\*IDEA program (Agriculture Interactive Distance Education Alliance, <http://www.agidea.org/>). The graduate degree program was comprised of required core courses in biology, chemistry, physics, hydrology, and pedology, in addition to electives that provided flexibility to tailor the degree program to meet individual interest and career needs.

## **1. State the reasons for deactivating or terminating the program and provide copies of any relevant documents.**

Soil, Water, and Environmental Sciences (M.S.) was created in conjunction through AG\*IDEA and multiple institutions, but the program was never launched formally. The program was not advertised, no students enrolled, and the program is not active. Additionally, the degree is no longer offered by AG\*IDEA. CRSS faculty voted to terminate this program in March 2018.

## **2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the deactivation or termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the deactivation or termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.**

The faculty discussed the inactivity of this program and voted to terminate the program in March 2018. The faculty who planned to teach in this program have either retired or are teaching in other active programs.

## **3. What will be done to insure that deactivation or termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?**

Teaching efforts have been allocated to other programs, so the termination of this program will have no effect on other programs.

## Documentation of Approval and Notification

**Proposal:** Termination of the Major in Soil, Water, and Environmental Sciences (M.S.)

**College:** College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**Department:** Crop and Soil Sciences

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2021

Department:

- Crop and Soil Sciences Department Head, Dr. Janine Sherrier, 9/9/20

School/College:

- College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Interim Dean, Dr. Joe West, 9/9/20

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Dean, Dr. Ron Walcott, 10/14/20