

## Dutta, Lakshmi

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**From:** Smith, Randy  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2007 6:32 PM  
**To:** 'lobao.1@osu.edu'; 'rakowski.1@osu.edu'  
**Cc:** Dutta, Lakshmi; winer@mps.ohio-state.edu; Smith, Randy; 'ELLIOT SLOTNICK'; Osmer, Patrick (.1); Myers, Brad (.7); 'dickhaut.1@osu.edu'; 'birkenholz.1@osu.edu'; Newcomb, L.H. (.1); 'pfister.1@osu.edu'; Moser, Bobby  
**Subject:** Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology

Linda and Cathy:

Based on a recommendation from the Council on Research and Graduate Studies, the proposal to establish a **Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology** was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on February 7, 2007. Professor Brian L. Winer and I presented the proposal on your behalf. Thank you for attending the meeting and responding to questions/comments.

No additional level of review/approval is required. This action will be included in the Council's Annual Activities Report to the University Senate (June 2007).

This message represents my formal communication with you about this proposal. Please keep a copy of this message for your file(s) on the proposal and I will do the same for the file in the Office of Academic Affairs.

If you have any questions/comments about this action, please contact Professor Winer (winer.12@osu.edu) or me.

Randy

W. Randy Smith  
Vice Provost



Dean of the Graduate School

250 University Hall  
230 North Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210-1366

Phone (614) 292-6031  
Fax (614) 292-3656

December 15, 2006

W. Randy Smith  
Vice Chair, Council on Academic Affairs  
Vice Provost for Curriculum and Institutional Relations  
203 Bricker Hall  
190 North Oval Mall  
Campus

Dear Randy:

The Council on Research and Graduate Studies approved the following proposals during its meeting on December 5, 2006. Attached please find a copy of the proposals as well as my correspondence with the proposing programs that may assist the Council on Academic Affairs during its review.

- Proposal for a name change of the Human and Community Resource Development (HCRD) Graduate Program
- Proposal for a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Geospatial Data and Analysis
- Proposal for a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology
- Proposal for an advanced Chinese Track (Chinese Flagship Program) in East Asian Language and Literatures Graduate Program

Please let me know if you have questions or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

Elliot E. Slotnick  
Associate Dean

Enclosures

c: Dena Meyers

Proposal for a  
Graduate Minor in  
Rural Sociology

Submitted by

Professor Linda Lobao  
Graduate Program in Rural Sociology

Approved by the Council on Research and Graduate Studies  
December 5, 2006

## Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology

Rural Sociology Program  
 Department of Human and Community Resource Development  
 College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

### *1. Introduction to the Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology*

The discipline of Rural Sociology focuses on the study of social life (broadly conceptualized) in rural and non-metropolitan areas, domestic and international. The discipline emerged as part of the Land Grant mission. Rural sociologists have a dual mission. Not only do they conduct research that advances sociological theory and contributes to empirical knowledge, rural sociological research also is intended to produce information relevant to public policy and to local development. Rural sociologists frequently partner with researchers from other disciplines, particularly agricultural economics, geography, anthropology, extension, and communications.

The graduate program in Rural Sociology is located in the Department of Human and Community Resource Development. Our faculty have graduate degrees in Rural Sociology, Sociology, Demography, Latin American Studies, and Anthropology. Some have joint appointments with OSU Extension, OARDC (Ohio Agricultural Research Development Center), the Office of International Programs in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Women's Studies and courtesy appointments in Sociology, Geography, Anthropology, and Social Work. Faculty research involves collaboration with faculty and students from Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics; Geography; City and Regional Planning; Natural Resources; Sociology; and Women's Studies as well as with colleagues from other universities in the U.S. and abroad (Australia, Canada, Egypt, India, Japan, Mexico, Senegal, Uganda, Venezuela).

Our classes teach about rural poverty, agriculture and food systems, environment and natural resources, domestic rural development, public policy analysis, diffusion of innovations, international development theories and policies, citizen organizing for social change, social capital, immigration and rural conflict, rural women's lives in comparative perspective, and the Amish.

A Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology will benefit graduate students from other departments who wish to improve their substantive knowledge of rural sociological theory, empirical research, processes of development and globalization, and the problems faced by people and institutions in small towns, suburbs, and rural areas in the U.S. and abroad. Such training is intended to complement the chosen Ph.D. or Masters major field and will be particularly useful for students whose majors focus on urban life or professional training. A graduate minor in Rural Sociology will introduce greater inter-disciplinarity to their programs and will help them prepare for research, teaching, policy making or other employment in non-metropolitan settings and developing countries.

A feasibility study conducted by our department indicates that a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology would complement the following majors:

~ Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics

- ~ Anthropology
- ~ City and Regional Planning
- ~ Educational Policy and Leadership
- ~ Geography
- ~ Human and Community Resource Development  
(Degree program in Agricultural and Extension Education & Communications)
- ~ Human Nutrition
- ~ Natural Resources
- ~ Public Health
- ~ Social Work
- ~ Sociology
- ~ Teaching and Learning

## 2. Comparison with Peer Institutions

As of Autumn 2005, fewer than a dozen universities offered a Ph.D. or Masters in Rural Sociology. Often Rural Sociology is part of a joint degree such as Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. Rural Sociology also may be a specialization option for the Sociology degree. Graduate Minors in Rural Sociology (or the related Development Sociology) are offered by only five institutions.

<b>Offers MA or PhD in Rural Sociology or as part of a joint degree</b>	<b>RS is a graduate specialization in Sociology</b>	<b>Offers a graduate minor in Rural Sociology or Development Studies</b>
<i>RS degree, stands alone:</i> Iowa State University Cornell South Dakota State Texas A & M Utah State Washington State University of Wisconsin University of Missouri-Columbia <i>The Ohio State University</i>	Colorado State University Kansas State University of Kentucky Michigan State Mississippi State North Carolina State North Dakota State Oregon State Utah State Brigham Young	Louisiana State University University of Missouri-Columbia Cornell Penn State South Dakota State
<i>Joint degree, RS+:</i> Univ. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Kansas State University Louisiana State Penn State		

The Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology proposed for The Ohio State University will be an important part of our program's growth and development in graduate studies and enhance our leadership in the field. It also may help other programs at Ohio State attract and recruit students who are interested in taking Rural Sociology classes as part of their graduate training.

The only other graduate minors offered in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences are the Graduate Minor in Research Methods in Human and Community Resource Development (our department), the Graduate Minor in Soil Science and the Graduate Minor in Environment and Natural Resources. There is no graduate minor offered by the Department of Sociology at Ohio State.

### **3. Enrollment**

We recommend that Rural Sociology offer a graduate minor because our focus on rural life, agriculture and food systems, environmental issues, and community development, among others, and our commitment to both scholarly and applied research will provide excellent background and training for students from the disciplines indicated in section 1. This recommendation is supported by the following experiences.

- a. During conversations with graduate advisors and students in City and Regional Planning; Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics; Anthropology; Social Work; and Educational Policy and Leadership, we already have identified students who are interested in a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology.
- b. In recent years, we have witnessed increasing interest in Rural Sociology courses among graduate students from other programs. Most such students take more than one course. Some have asked Rural Sociology faculty to serve on their exam or thesis and dissertation committees in Education, Geography, Sociology, Social Work, Natural Resources, and Women's Studies.
- c. Comments made by the students enrolled in other programs and who have taken Rural Sociology classes confirm that our classes meet important theoretical and substantive needs in several areas, including rural community development, analysis of spatial inequality, environmental issues, social change, international development and globalization. Students also say they appreciate the focus on diversity in our classes, particularly on class, women, immigrants, and the Amish.
- d. Students from other programs comment that it can be difficult to get approval to take classes outside their departments because non-major classes may not count toward the major program. The opportunity for a graduate minor would validate their interest in taking more Rural Sociology classes. (Some students may include the Rural Sociology focus in their candidacy exams. This has happened already with a few students from Education and Social Work who have taken several Rural Sociology classes and invited Rural Sociology faculty to serve on their committees.)

We estimate that 3-4 students may apply for the minor each year. After the program is established, our goal is to keep the total number of minors enrolled at 8-10 in any given year. Given that our graduate enrollment in Rural Sociology averages 18-25 students per year and new admissions fluctuate annually, we foresee no difficulty including students enrolled in the minor in our graduate courses.

In order to ensure that our department can manage both our own students and those interested in the minor, we will take the following steps.

- a. Students will have to apply for the minor and applicants will be accepted on a space available basis. We will cut back on admission if the demand becomes too high.
- b. All students will take the core seminar, **RS 742 Concepts and Theories in Rural Sociology**, which is offered in alternating years. If demand increases beyond capacity, we will teach it annually.
- c. We will hold spaces in our classes both for our graduate students and for those enrolled in the Graduate Minor, to ensure that they are not closed out of classes.

#### ***4. Sources of Demand for the Graduate Minor***

The feasibility study we conducted leads us to expect that the Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology will attract students primarily from the following majors (in this order of importance) Educational Policy and Leadership, Human and Community Resource Development (Agricultural and Extension Education and Communications), City and Regional Planning, Anthropology, Social Work, Sociology, and Natural Resources. Students from these programs—and from Geography and Public Health—often take our courses. We also believe that the minor will be particularly attractive to students from developing countries and non metropolitan areas in the U.S. and those students planning to seek employment or teach in non metropolitan areas.

Given competition in the job market and the types of issues (and future students) they may encounter in those countries and areas, graduate students at Ohio State will be interested in both the extra credentials offered by a Graduate Minor and in acquiring substantive knowledge of social life and social problems in non metropolitan areas and developing countries.

#### ***5. Curriculum and Advising***

Students will be able to list the minor on their transcripts after successfully completing four Rural Sociology classes (20 credit hours) with a minimum grade of B.

All students will take the following core course:

**RS 742 Concepts and Theories in Rural Sociology** (graduate, 5 credits)  
Examines the sociological significance of "rurality" and the conceptual perspectives applied to major substantive areas in rural sociology, such as community, environment, and agriculture.

Students will select three additional courses. Students will be strongly encouraged to select from among our 700 and 800-level courses and to take no more than one 600-level course as part of the Graduate Minor. (Some Colleges and Departments do not consider 600-level courses to be "graduate level.")

Students will be encouraged to consult with both their major advisor and with a Rural Sociology faculty member. Both will provide direction about which courses will best suit the student's intellectual and applied interests.

The Rural Sociology faculty member also will advise students on selecting courses that will focus the minor program on one of the three specializations (or tracks) in our graduate program:

- ~ *Agriculture and Natural Resources* (primarily domestic)
- ~ *Rural Community Development* (primarily domestic)
- ~ *Development and Social Change* (international and domestic)

In addition to the core course in Rural Sociology, students must complete one of the courses required for the chosen specialization:

- ~ **RS 733 Agriculture and Food Systems** or **RS 766 Environmental Sociology** for the *Agriculture and Natural Resources* specialization
- ~ **RS 888 Social Action in Community Development** for the *Rural Community Development* specialization
- ~ **RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change** for the *Development and Social Change* specialization

Students can choose from the following courses or approved future courses to complete the minor. The Rural Sociology program releases a list of available courses during every registration period.

**RS 622 Amish Society** U G 5 cr.

Analysis of the historical, social, religious, economic, and cultural dimensions of Amish life.

**RS 662N Diffusion of Innovations** U G 5 cr.

Examines the sociological processes involved in the dissemination of new ideas and technologies in developing nations and the U.S. Assesses the consequences of new technologies for farmers, peasants, communities and public well-being.

**RS 666 Rural Poverty** U G 5 cr.

Evaluation of the factors which create and maintain poverty and inequality, with a focus on the rural U.S., developing nations, and the comparative analysis of spatial inequalities.

**RS 678 Women in Rural Society** U G 5 cr.

Women's role in rural society from a comparative perspective, focusing on agriculture, the environment, informal economy, and household production, both in developing and developed countries.

**RS 733 Sociology of Agriculture and Food Systems** G 5 cr.

Overview of sociological theory and research related to agricultural change and food system development, focusing on individual, family, community, economic, and environmental impacts.

**RS 766 Environmental Sociology** G 5 cr.

Sociological approaches to the study of environmental policy with an emphasis on political economy. Analysis of major issues relating to the use and abuse of natural resources, inequalities, and environmental conflicts. Special attention to soil and water issues in rural Ohio.



**RS 788 Sociological Theory Applied to Domestic Development G 5 cr.**

Application of general sociological theories and development research findings to the analysis of domestic rural development; emphasis on consensus and conflict models.

**RS 888 Social Action in Community Development G 5 cr.**

Analysis of the social action process and its application to rural community development. Includes attention to theories of community development, policy analysis, and social problems such as immigration, leadership, and political economy.

**RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change G 5 cr.**

Overview of sociological principles, theories, and practice applied to international development, globalization, and social change with particular attention to rural settings. Includes attention to the influence of sociology on international and national development policies.

Each of the above courses is taught every other year, some in even years and some in odd-numbered years.

**6. Attachments**

- Application form for the minor and Procedures, Program Plan form
- Letter of support from L. H. Newcomb, Senior Associate Dean and Price Chair in Teaching, Advising and Learning on behalf of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences
- Letters of support from
  - ~ Robert Birkenholz, Chair of Human and Community Resource Development (on behalf of the department and the HCRD graduate program [Agricultural and Extension Education & Agricultural Communications])
  - ~ J. Craig Jenkins, Chair and Professor of Sociology
  - ~ Robert Lawson, Professor and Director, School of Educational Policy and Leadership
  - ~ Morton O'Kelly, Professor and Chair of Geography
  - ~ Clark Larsen, Distinguished Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Chair of Anthropology
  - ~ Theresa Early, Associate Professor and Ph.D. Program Director, College of Social Work
  - ~ Kenneth Pearlman, Professor and Head, City and Regional Planning
  - ~ Robert J. Caswell, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, School of Public Health
  - ~ David Kraybill, Professor and Graduate Studies Chair, Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics
  - ~ Barry Shank, Chair of Graduate Studies, Comparative Studies
  - ~ David Hix, Chair, Natural Resources Graduate Studies Committee

**Application for the Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Undergraduate major and minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Coursework related to Rural Sociology or rural studies:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Statement:**

Please attach a 1-2 page, double-spaced statement of purpose. Explain your interest in pursuing a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology and how the minor will contribute to your career goals. Include relevant information on non-academic preparation for the minor, including Peace Corps and other relevant international experience and Americorps, extension work or other domestic experience.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Advisor signature Date

*Approved by:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Graduate Studies Chair of Graduate Minor Program Date

**Procedures for Applying for a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology**

1. A student interested in pursuing the graduate minor in Rural Sociology is advised to consult with the advisor in the home department. The Rural Sociology Program cannot advise students on how the minor can be incorporated into their coursework. Through consultation with the advisor, students will determine how to fit Rural Sociology coursework into their plan of study.
2. A student must apply for admission into the Graduate Minor using this form. Graduate Minor application for admission forms may be turned in during the first two weeks of every quarter.
3. Shortly after receipt of the completed application form, the Graduate Studies Chair of the Rural Sociology Program will send the student an acknowledgement indicating whether or not the applicant has been accepted.
4. If accepted, students will receive a letter from the Graduate Chair in Rural Sociology and a copy of the application form and letter of acceptance will be submitted to the student's home department for the student's file. The Graduate School also will send the student an acknowledgement letter or memo.
5. After acceptance, the student will meet with an assigned faculty member in Rural Sociology and design a program of study. The student and the Rural Sociology advisor will complete a Graduate Minor Program Form (plan of study). When requirements for the minor have been completed, documentation will be submitted to the home department and to the Graduate School.
6. Copies of the completed Graduate Minor Program Form will be given to the Graduate School and the Graduate Studies Committee Chair from the student's home graduate program. The original will be retained by the graduate program in Rural Sociology. Completed Graduate Minor Program Forms may be turned in during the first two weeks of every quarter.
7. The student must adhere to the curriculum for the Graduate Minor as indicated on the approved Graduate Minor Program Form. If changes in the approved curriculum are necessary, the student must complete a new Graduate Minor Program Form and once again obtain approval via steps 1-6 above.
8. Upon application to graduate, the student must complete the Graduate Minor Transcript Designation Form obtained from the Graduate School.
9. The Graduate School will match the courses completed with those in the approved Graduate Minor Program Form. Departures from the approved Graduate Minor program plan could lead to a loss of transcript designation.

**Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology**  
**Graduate Minor Program Plan Form**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Rural Sociology Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Home department of graduate major: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate advisor in home department: \_\_\_\_\_

**Graduate Minor specialization (track) (select one):**

*Agriculture and Natural Resources* \_\_\_\_\_

*Rural Community Development* \_\_\_\_\_

*Development and Social Change* \_\_\_\_\_

**Plan of study**

*RS 742 Concepts & Theories 5 cr. (required)*

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one 5-credit course from the following selection of core courses:**

For specialization in Agriculture and Natural Resources:

*RS 733 Agriculture and Food Systems or RS 766 Environmental Sociology*

For specialization in Rural Community Development:

*RS 888 Social Action in Community Development*

For specialization in Development and Social Change:

*RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change*

Course Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Select two 5-credit courses from the following options:**

RS 622 Amish Society

RS 662N Diffusion of Innovations

RS 666 Rural Poverty

RS 678 Women in Rural Society

RS 733 Sociology of Agriculture and Food Systems

RS 766 Environmental Sociology

RS 788 Sociological Theory Applied to Domestic Development

RS 888 Social Action in Community Development

RS 892 Rural Sociology of Development and Social Change

1<sup>st</sup> Course Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Course Selected: \_\_\_\_\_

Quarter taken: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENTS WILL GET CREDIT ONLY FOR COURSES WITH A MINIMUM GRADE OF B

**Acceptance of Program Plan:**

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Rural Sociology advisor \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Upon Completion:**

Date coursework completed for Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \*

Papers submitted to Graduate School and Grad Studies Committee of the Home Department:

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rural Sociology Graduate Advisor



College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Room 100  
2120 Fyffe Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1066

Phone (614) 292-6891  
Fax (614) 292-1218

TO: Bob Birkenholz  
FR: L.H. Newcomb  
Senior Associate Dean  
Price Chair in Teaching, Advising and Learning  
DA: October 18, 2006  
RE: Rural Sociology

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences heartily endorses your request for support for a "Minor in Rural Sociology". The proposal is well developed and will provide an important enhancement for the graduate education experience of students who select it.

LHN/cpp  
cc: Bob Moser

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 # of pages 12

To	Lakshmi	From	G. Dyrick
Co.		Co.	
Dept.	Ac. Affairs	Phone #	8-3678
Fax #	2-3658	Fax #	2-7007

**14**

Department of Sociology

300 Bricker Hall  
190 North Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210-1353  
Phone 614-292-6681  
FAX 614-292-6687

27 September 2006

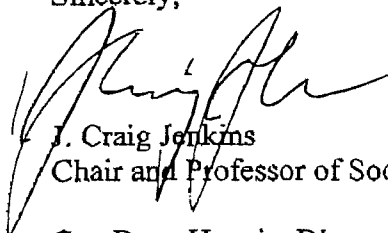
Prof. Cathy Rakowski  
Rural Sociology Program  
Dept. of Human and Community Resource Development  
2120 Fyffe Rd.  
Ohio State University  
Columbus OH 43210

Dear Cathy:

I have read the proposal for a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology and find this is an excellent proposal that will complement the existing MA and PhD programs in Sociology at Ohio State. The design and structure of this program meets strong standards for academic excellence. There will likely be some graduate students in Sociology who will be interested in this minor as part of their program.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

J. Craig Jenkins  
Chair and Professor of Sociology

Cc: Dana Haynie, Director of Graduate Studies

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

**15****Department of Human and Community Resource Development**208 Agricultural Administration Building  
2120 Fyffe Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1067

October 10, 2006

Phone (614) 292-6321  
Fax (614) 292-7007

To Whom It May Concern:

SUBJECT: Rural Sociology graduate minor

This letter is offered in strong support for the proposed graduate minor in Rural Sociology. Faculty in our department unanimously approved the proposal and are anxious to move forward with its implementation after the necessary approvals have been attained.

Graduate students from a broad range of master's and doctoral programs throughout the OSU campus may be served by the proposed program. The curriculum will include a core course on Rural Sociology Theory, one specialized course in Rural Sociology, and at least two additional courses that may be tailored to the students' own interests. However, at a minimum, the minor will require at least 20 graduate credit hours in Rural Sociology courses.

Students with academic or career interests in development issues in rural areas would be well-advised to consider a graduate minor in Rural Sociology. Specific topics include rural poverty, environment and natural resources, diffusion of innovations, social capital, women's issues, land use, and the Amish to list only a few areas of study. Therefore, a graduate minor may be appropriate for graduate students with a broad range of interests.

Our graduate faculty in Rural Sociology are committed to serving the needs of students who select this graduate minor. Faculty advisors are available to work with students to select courses to fulfill the minor requirements. Also, the necessary courses will be taught on a regular basis to ensure that students can complete the requirements in a timely manner.

Therefore, on behalf of the Department of Human and Community Resource Development, I firmly support the proposed graduate minor in Rural Sociology and encourage its approval.

Please contact me, if you have questions or need any additional information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. Birkenholz".

Robert J. Birkenholz  
Professor and Chair

RJB/tao

cc Cathy Rakowski  
Jeff Sharp

RJB/tao

*Agricultural Communication • Agricultural Education • Extension Education • Rural Sociology • Vocational Education*





College of Education  
School of Educational  
Policy and Leadership

121 Ramseyer Hall  
29 West Woodruff Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43210-1177 USA  
Fax 614-292-7900

August 29, 2006

Dr. Cathy A. Rakowski  
Associate Professor  
208 Agricultural Administration Building  
2120 Fyffe Road  
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Rakowski:

On behalf of the School of Educational Policy and Leadership in the College of Education and Human Ecology, I am pleased to support the proposal to offer a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. A Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology would benefit many of our graduate students in the areas of Social and Cultural Foundations as well as Educational Administration. Many of our students have expressed an interest in a wider curriculum containing social change, international development and globalization as well as more policy analysis. According to your proposal all of these areas would be addressed.

Adding the Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology is a positive step toward program growth at the graduate level and an opportunity to move The Ohio State University forward among peer institutions. It would be an attractive recruiting tool for other programs as well.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Lawson  
Professor and Director



Department of Geography

1036 Derby Hall  
154 North Oval Mall  
Columbus, OH 43210-1361  
Phone 614-292-2514  
Fax 614-292-6213

August 29, 2006

Robert Birkenholz  
Chair  
Human & Community Resource Development  
208 Agricultural Administration  
2120 Fyffe Road  
CAMPUS

Dear Bob:

I am pleased to send this short note in support of your efforts to form a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. I contacted several members of my department and all expressed enthusiasm for the opportunity for graduate students, in general, to have access to interdisciplinary programs. Some, with recent experience from other universities, suggested that this kind of collaboration with allied disciplines is a natural linkage for geographers.

In view of the solid connections with several faculty in your department, including Linda Lobao, Cathy Rakowski and Jeff Sharp, we expect that a small number of our students, perhaps one or two per year, would take advantage of the opportunity envisaged in your proposal. We certainly value the collegial connections between our areas, and look forward to seeing further emerging linkages as our relatively young faculty here takes advantage of the interdisciplinary resources on campus. I know that a great deal of background preparation goes into these proposals, having collaborated ourselves just recently on an interdisciplinary specialization. I have high hopes that your efforts in this area receive committee approval at the next level. We certainly wish you all the best in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Morton O'Kelly  
Professor & Chair  
Department of Geography

cc: Cathy Rakowski

Date: Wed, 06 Sep 2006 07:43:45 -0500  
From: "Clark S. Larsen" <larsen.53@osu.edu>  
Subject: Re: letter of support for Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology  
X-Sender: larsen.53@pop.service.ohio-state.edu  
To: CATHY RAKOWSKI <rakowski.1@osu.edu>  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 6.1.2.0  
X-Spam-Score: 0.00 () [Tag at 5.00] HTML\_MESSAGE  
X-CanItPRO-Stream: 11\_tagonly\_no\_subject  
X-CanIt-Stats-ID: Bayes signature not available  
X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.12  
Original-recipient: rfc822;rakowski.1@osu.edu

Dear Cathy,

This email serves as the Department of Anthropology's letter of support for the Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. The minor looks very comp looks very comprehensive and will serve as an important program, especially relating to Sociology and allied disciplines. Good luck with the minor!

Best regards,

Clark Larsen

Clark Spencer Larsen  
Distinguished Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Chair, Department of Anthropology

Dr. Clark Spencer Larsen  
Department of Anthropology  
244 Lord Hall, 124 West 17th Avenue  
The Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1364

Phone: 614-292-4117  
Fax: 614-292-4155  
Email: larsen.53@osu.edu

OSU Department of Anthropology: <http://anthropology.ohio-state.edu>  
American Journal of Physical Anthropology: <http://www.interscience.wiley.com/jpages/0002-9483/>  
Bioarchaeology Research Laboratory: <http://anthropology.ohio-state.edu/bigarch/index.htm>



College of Social Work

Stillman Hall  
1947 College Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1162

Phone (614) 292-6288  
Fax (614) 292-6940

August 21, 2006

Dr. Elliot Slotnick  
Associate Dean  
Graduate School  
Campus

Dear Elliot:

I am writing to enthusiastically support creation of a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. As you know, I have recently been appointed the director of the Doctoral Program in Social Work and am working with the doctoral program committee on a comprehensive review and revision of the doctoral program. For a portion of the required courses, students in our program identify a specialization in a substantive area that must include courses outside of social work. Therefore, our program committee is very interested in packages of courses that are readily identifiable as articulating a specialization area. The Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology would be very useful to our students for this purpose.

Over the past several years, a number of doctoral students in social work have taken courses that would be in the minor, as part of their specialization hours. These have included both domestic and foreign students who were exploring issues of social development and social change in a variety of contexts. The rural sociology content has added greatly to our students' work, and having a formalized minor would be important documentation of the interdisciplinarity of their education. Our students are interested in adding to their credentials through mechanisms such as this, and we are interested in training and credentials that will help them stand out in the academic employment market.

Sincerely,

Theresa J. Early, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor and Ph.D. Program Director

cc: Cathy Rakowski

Date: Thu, 21 Sep 2006 14:33:23 -0400  
From: Kenneth Pearlman <pearlman.1@osu.edu>  
Subject: Re: RS graduate minor  
X-Sender: pearlman.1@pop.service.ohio-state.edu  
To: Cathy Rakowski <rakowski.1@osu.edu>  
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 6.0.0.22  
X-Spam-Score: 0.00 () [Tag at 5.00]  
X-CanItPRO-Stream: 11\_tagonly\_no\_subject  
X-Canit-Stats-ID: Bayes signature not available  
X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.12  
Original-recipient: rfc822;rakowski.1@osu.edu

Cathy,

I have looked over the proposal for the graduate minor in Rural Sociology and I strongly support it. I certainly believe that there will be City and Regional Planning students that would want to take it. It provides an excellent complement to our program.

Ken

Kenneth Pearlman  
Professor and Head, City and Regional Planning

At 11:10 AM 9/20/2006, you wrote:

I attach the minor proposal. We really do believe that this will be attractive to CRP students since we have had so many take some of our grad classes. Thanks, Ken.

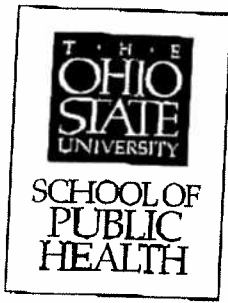
Cathy

Content-Type: text/plain; name="CANIT-VOTING-LINKS-60292774-50889f5b3e78.txt"  
Content-Disposition: inline;  
filename="CANIT-VOTING-LINKS-60292774-50889f5b3e78.txt"  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
MIME-Version: 1.0  
X-Mailer: MIME-tools 5.420 (Entity 5.420)

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BEGIN-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS

Teach CanIt if this mail (ID 60292774) is spam:  
Spam: <https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=s&i=60292774&m=50889f5b3e78>  
Not spam: <https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=n&i=60292774&m=50889f5b3e78>  
Forget vote: <https://antispam.osu.edu/b.php?c=f&i=60292774&m=50889f5b3e78>

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END-ANTISPAM-VOTING-LINKS



School of Public Health  
Graduate Studies Office

**21**  
 M-006 Starling-Loving Hall  
 320 West 10th Avenue  
 Columbus, OH 43210-1240  
 Phone: (614) 293-3907  
 Fax: (614) 293-5412

August 11, 2006

Cathy A. Rakowski  
 Associate Professor  
 Department of Human and Community Resource Development  
 309 Agricultural Administration  
 2120 Fyffe Road  
 CAMPUS

Dear Professor Rakowski:

The School of Public Health is happy to support the proposed Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. Students in several of the specializations within the MPH, MS, and PhD in public health might find this an appropriate addition to their programs. For instance, we have an ongoing research program in injury epidemiology, including a special emphasis on injury to children working on farms, and projects related to cancer risk among the Amish. Some of our students are also quite interested in issues of health disparities, both in domestic and international settings, and could benefit from your offerings in development and social change.

We would of course also welcome any of your students who find courses in public health to be of interest. We look forward to the approval and implementation of your Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Caswell  
 Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

**22**



Department of  
Agricultural, Environmental,  
and Developmental Economics

Agricultural Administration Building  
2120 Fyffe Road  
Columbus, OH 43210-1067

Phone 614-292-7911

FAX 614-292-4749

Website: <http://aede.ag.ohio-state.edu/>

June 2, 2006

Professor Cathy A. Rakowski  
Dept. of Human and Community Resource Development  
Campus

Dear Cathy:

We have reviewed your proposal for a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. We are supportive of this effort and anticipate that some of our students may elect to take this minor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'David Kraybill'.

David Kraybill  
Professor and Graduate Studies Chair

Date: Sat, 17 Dec 2005 07:00:18 -0500  
 From: Barry Shank <shank.46@osu.edu>  
 Subject: Rural Sociology Graduate Minor  
 To: rakowski.1@osu.edu  
 Cc: Gene Holland <holland.1@osu.edu>, Thomas Kasulis <kasulis.1@osu.edu>, Margaret Lynd <lynd.1@osu.edu>, Sabra Webber <webber.1@osu.edu>, ALANA KUMBIER <kumbier.1@osu.edu>  
 X-Accept-Language: en-us, en  
 User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; U; PPC Mac OS X Mach-O; en-US; rv:1.7.2) Gecko/20040804 Netscape/7.2  
 X-MIMEDefang-Relay-1d49b0a468d685d5bf37421af8522f88ee43847b: 65.24.5.138  
 X-Virus-Scanned: Symantec AntiVirus Scan Engine  
 X-Spam-Score: 0.50 () [Tag at 5.00] FROM\_ENDS\_IN\_NUMS  
 X-CanItPRO-Stream: rakowski.1 redirected to 11\_tagonly\_no\_subject  
 X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.130  
 X-Authentication-warning: defang16.it.ohio-state.edu: defang set sender to <shank.46@osu.edu> using -f  
 Original-recipient: rfc822;rakowski.1@osu.edu

Dear Cathy Rakowski,

I write as chair of graduate studies in the department of Comparative Studies. Our committee has examined your proposal, and we are happy to support it. We have no concerns whatsoever. Please consider this email to be an endorsement of your proposal.  
 Yours,

Barry Shank  
 Chair, Graduate Studies  
 Comparative Studies



Date: Tue, 10 Oct 2006 13:47:28 -0400  
 From: "David M. Hix" <hix.6@osu.edu>  
 Subject: Our letter of support for the Minor in Rural Sociology  
 To: Cathy Rakowski <rakowski.1@osu.edu>  
 Cc: hix.6@osu.edu, trachsel.1@osu.edu  
 X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 6.2.3.4  
 X-MIMEDefang-Relay-89167b66339720c294cd81d33948afd6488b114f: 164.107.34.229  
 X-Spam-Score: 0.00 () [Tag at 5.00]  
 X-CanItPRO-Stream: 11\_tagonly\_no\_subject  
 X-CanIt-Stats-ID: Bayes signature not available  
 X-Scanned-By: CanIt (www.roaringpenguin.com) on 128.146.216.78  
 X-Authentication-warning: defang9.net.ohio-state.edu: defang set sender to <hix.6@osu.edu> using -f

6 October 2006

Dr. Cathy Rakowski  
 Dept. of Human and Community Resource Development  
 College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Science  
 The Ohio State University  
 Columbus campus

Dear Dr. Cathy:

In response to your earlier e-mail, the Natural Resources Graduate Studies Committee met on Oct. 3 and reviewed the proposal for a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology.

We compliment your program on presenting a clear and thoughtful proposal. The members of the committee noted the frequency that our students take courses in your department, and the possibilities for some of them deciding to work on the minor.

I would like to let you know that on 20 July 2006 the OSU Council on Academic Affairs (CAA) approved the graduate Minor in Environment and Natural Resources. We are happy that our minor is now available, and it compliments the others offered within the college, as will your minor in the future.

Thus, we had no other comments, and we offer our full support for the proposal.

Please contact me or Andrea Trachsel(.1) if any additional information is required, or if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

David M. Hix, Ph.D.  
 Chair, Natural Resources Graduate Studies Committee  
 The Ohio State University  
 2021 Coffey Road Columbus, OH 43210-1085  
 E-mail: (hix.6@osu.edu) Tel: (614) 292-1394 Fax: (614) 292-7432

**Dutta, Lakshmi**

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**From:** Elliot Slotnick [slotnick.1@gradsch.ohio-state.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 02, 2007 2:00 PM  
**To:** Dutta, Lakshmi  
**Subject:** FW: Rural Soc minor

This ends the electronic trail on this one...  
e

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**From:** Elliot Slotnick  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 30, 2006 11:03 AM  
**To:** 'Linda Lobao'  
**Cc:** Kathleen Wallace; 'Dena Myers'; Susan Reeser  
**Subject:** RE: Rural Soc minor

Dear Linda,

Just a brief note to let you know that your proposal for the delivery of a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology was approved at the meeting of our Curriculum Committee earlier this week. The proposal will now be brought to the next meeting of the full Research and Graduate Council to be held from 3:30-5:30pm on Tuesday, December 5th. Susan Reeser will be in touch with you regarding the specific scheduling of your proposal for a discussion and vote. It would be very helpful if you, or your representative, are able to attend the relevant portion of the meeting to say a few words about the proposal and to answer any questions that are raised from the floor. I will be out of town next week, but Assistant Dean Kathy Wallace will introduce the proposal reporting on behalf of the Curriculum Committee.

Following the approval of your proposal by the full Council, we will forward it to Randy Smith for continued processing by CAA.

Best,

elliott

**From:** Linda Lobao [mailto:lobao.1@osu.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2006 4:48 PM  
**To:** Elliot Slotnick  
**Cc:** Cathy Rakowski  
**Subject:** Re:

Hi Elliot-- Thanks-- you know of course that Cathy Rakowski was responsible for it all. I'll get you the electronic copy.

Best, Linda

At 03:52 PM 10/24/2006, you wrote:

Hi Linda,

I received a hard copy of your proposal for developing a Graduate Minor in Rural Sociology. Sounds like a good idea! Our Curriculum Committee which, I hope, will begin to meet in November, generally works with electronic submissions. Might you be able to send me your proposal in electronic form? I will distribute it to Committee members and, of course, keep in touch with you as the process unfolds.

2/2/2007

**Dutta, Lakshmi**

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**From:** Elliot Slotnick [slotnick.1@gradsch.ohio-state.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 02, 2007 2:00 PM  
**To:** Dutta, Lakshmi  
**Subject:** FW: Rural Soc minor

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**From:** Elliot Slotnick  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2006 2:09 PM  
**To:** 'Linda Lobao'  
**Cc:** 'Dena Myers'  
**Subject:** RE: Rural Soc minor

Thanks, Linda—that's fine. We can make hard copies of the letters and do the rest electronically.

Hope all is well—long time, no see...

Cheers,  
e

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**From:** Linda Lobao [mailto:lobao.1@osu.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2006 5:54 PM  
**To:** Elliot Slotnick  
**Subject:** RE: Rural Soc minor

Hi Elliot-- And Cathy is a wonderful women to have behind you! She had a small grant to work on this. We don't have the letters of support electronically, however--hope that is okay. Thanks again.

Linda

At 04:50 PM 10/24/2006, you wrote:

Ah, there's always a woman behind the woman behind the throneor something like that. Thanks!  
e

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**From:** Linda Lobao [mailto:lobao.1@osu.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2006 4:48 PM  
**To:** Elliot Slotnick  
**Cc:** Cathy Rakowski  
**Subject:** Re:

Hi Elliot-- Thanks-- you know of course that Cathy Rakowski was responsible for it all. I'll get you the electronic copy.

Best, Linda

2/2/2007

At 03:52 PM 10/24/2006, you wrote:

Hi Linda,

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Best,  
elliot

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