Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:45 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: Dena--I am sending you a bunch of e-mails that need to be sent to Randy/Briggs as a "package" in the format Briggs requested. The cover note is entered below...Please copy me and Susan on what is sent to Randy/Briggs Thanks!

Dear Randy,

Attached are the stream of e-mails that constitute the processing by the Curriculum Committee and the Graduate Council of the request from Jerry Bigham to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program and, simultaneously, to establish a Graduate Specialization and a corresponding transcript designation for "Soil Science" within the contours of the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program. This proposal received the unanimous support of the Graduate Council at its last meeting of Fall Quarter and is ready for CAA review. Please let me know when the deactivation request can be sent to the Regents or, alternatively, whether you will be initiating the Regents action.

Best,
elliot

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Friday, October 31, 2008 11:22 AM
To: Jerry Bigham; heywood.1@osu.edu
Cc: Patrick Osmer; Dena Myers; Bobby Moser; Martin, Linda; Randy Smith
Subject:

Dear Jerry and John,

The Curriculum Committee of the Graduate Council discussed your twofold proposal to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program (SSGP), contingent upon the simultaneous approval of a Graduate Specialization in Soil Science within the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program (ENRGP), at its meeting earlier this week. The Curriculum Committee is supportive of both of these proposals, in principle, but seeks clarification on a number of points related to your proposed plans. I think all of the questions and concerns raised can be readily addressed and responded to.

The next scheduled meeting of the Curriculum Committee is on November 18th. If you can successfully address the concerns outlined below in time for endorsement at that meeting, we will be able to take your proposal to the next meeting of the full Graduate Council the following week. This calendar would keep it completely on course with the best case scenario for swift approval based on the date that we received it.

Specifically, the following points need to be addressed—and, ideally, the best way of doing so would be to fold revisions into your proposal documentation so that when it is sent forward to the Graduate Council and, subsequently, to the Council on Academic Affairs and beyond, they will be seeing a document in its most complete and accurate form.

Deactivation Request Letter from Jerry:

1. The Committee recognizes the wisdom of grandfathering current Soil Science graduate students and allowing them the option of transferring to a new Soil Science ENRGP track or, alternatively, completing their graduate degrees in Soil Science as their degree program home. The Committee is, however, concerned about a seeming open-ended time period for degree completion in Soil Science once the deactivation of the program is approved. Can an end date or time period be proposed beyond which all remaining Soil Science graduate students will have to transfer to the ENRGP track to finish their degrees? While not discussed by the Committee, it strikes me

that one possibility for consideration would be an absolute stated end-date for current pre-candidacy and Master's students to complete their degrees in Soil Science and the expiration of candidacy (a date which will vary for students) for current ABDs.

2. Closely related to the issue of grandfathering students is the effective date of suspending admissions to the program. The Committee wishes to confirm its understanding that admissions to the Soil Science Graduate Program will be suspended as soon as your deactivation and specialization proposals are approved by all necessary offices at the university. That is, suspension of new admissions and completion of the program by current students are separable matters not in any way linked to each other. Is this understanding correct?

3. The Committee also requests information about the current Soil Science graduate student pipeline. Specifically, how many students are currently in the program at the Master's level? Doctorate? How many of the doctoral students are ABDs? This contextual data is being sought for informational purposes to better understand the scope of the transition that you will be facing.

Graduate Area Specialization Proposal:

1. The Committee found compelling documentation in the proposal to warrant a Graduate Specialization in Soil Science for students pursuing such a curriculum within the ENRGP. What was "missing" in the proposal was a clearer statement of expectations for students who seek such a specialization. What, specifically, must they "do" to be "credentialed" with a Soil Science Graduate Specialization entered on their transcripts? More specific detail below…

2. Point 3 in the proposal lists the 16 Soil Science courses taught by faculty in the program "and taken by students in this area." Will students have to enroll in all of this course work to obtain the Soil Science transcript designation? If not, what are the specific student requirements that will be imposed in terms of courses and/or credit hours? Is there a required core course for students in the area? Other required courses? Distribution requirements among the courses offered? Presumably, there will be 999 coursework available to these students as well under the ENR banner?

3. Also indicated in the proposal (Point 5) is the recognition that Soil Science students take courses in a variety of other disciplines while the core focus for students lies within the program. Please elaborate on the other areas in which Soil Science students are likely to enroll and, more to the point, are there requirements that they must meet outside the courses that you have listed (outside of ENRGP?) to earn the Soil Science transcript designation.

Again, as noted above, the Curriculum Committee was quite supportive of your proposal and the nature of these queries is, clearly, for clarification purposes and amplification of specific points, not an alteration of the thrust of your proposal in any way. The Committee will be happy to return to the processing of the proposal when you have had the opportunity to address the concerns raised in this memo. Please don't hesitate to contact me if and when questions arise.

Best,
elliot

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:45 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: FW:

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2008 4:56 PM
To: 'Jerry Bigham'
Subject: RE:

Dear Jerry,

Apologies, again, for being "off-duty" yesterday. I'll try to address your questions and concerns below.

From: Jerry Bigham [mailto:bigham.1@osu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, November 04, 2008 1:16 PM
To: Elliot Slotnick
Subject: Re:

Elliot:

I would like to ask for some advice about the deactivation request before revising my letter. Regarding questions 1 and 3: We currently have 19 students in the soil science graduate program; 11 of these are PhD's and one is pursuing a combined MS/PhD. The remaining 7 are thesis-track M.S. students. Six of the PhD's are ABD with the latest candidacy exam being taken Wi08. The five-year post candidacy rule would potentially take the last ABD student through Wi13. In fact, we expect all the current ABD students to finish by Sp10. Two students entered the program this quarter, including the combined MS/PhD. We anticipate that this student will finish no later than Sp14.

So, can you tell me what would be viewed as a reasonable completion date(s) by the Curriculum Committee? Our far-end projections would be Wi08 for the ABD's and Sp14 for everyone else. We have not asked any of these students if they are willing to transfer to the ENRGP; nor have we placed any graduation deadlines on them. My guess is that most will transfer without much resistance if we urge them to do so.

@@@@@@@@@@@@ First, I think that you mean Wi13 for the current ABDs above, right? I think I would counsel that date (perhaps one quarter later, Sp13 since we almost always would approve a one-quarter extension for Candidacy) for this particular cohort of students—all ABDs. Sp14 should work for the "new" students since it represents a reasonable time to degree from start to finish. I would hope the new students would fins a transfer to their liking just for efficiency purposes, but while I can't speak for the Committee, it strikes me that they would be accepting of the dates above. My sense is that the inquiry was as much informational in nature as it was aimed at getting a specific "right" answer.

Regarding question #2, our intent is to suspend admissions as soon as we know the soil science program is deactivated and we have a specialization in ENRGP. So, as you have noted, suspension of admission for new students and program completion for existing students are not coupled. I will spell this out in my letter.

############## Perfect, Jerry, thanks. Hope this helps.

Best,
elliot

Thanks,

Jerry

On Oct 31, 2008, at 11:22 AM, Elliot Slotnick wrote:

Dear Jerry and John,

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Deactivation Request Letter from Jerry:

1. The Committee recognizes the wisdom of grandfathering current Soil Science graduate students and allowing them the option of transferring to a new Soil Science ENRGP track or, alternatively, completing their graduate degrees in Soil Science as their degree program home. The Committee is, however, concerned about a seeming open-ended time period for degree completion in Soil Science once the deactivation of the program is approved. Can an end date or time period be proposed beyond which all remaining Soil Science graduate students will have to transfer to the ENRGP track to finish their degrees? While not discussed by the Committee, it strikes me that one possibility for consideration would be an absolute stated end-date for current pre-candidacy and Master's students to complete their degrees in Soil Science and the expiration of candidacy (a date which will vary for students) for current ABDs.

2. Closely related to the issue of grandfathering students is the effective date of suspending admissions to the program. The Committee wishes to confirm its understanding that admissions to the Soil Science Graduate Program will be suspended as soon as your deactivation and specialization proposals are approved by all necessary offices at the university. That is, suspension of new admissions and completion of the program by current students are separable matters not in any way linked to each other. Is this understanding correct?

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Best,
elliot

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:47 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: FW:
Attachments: Revised Soil Science Deactivation Request.pdf; 2nd Rev. Soil Science Specialization; ATT1510050.htm

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From: Dena Myers
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 11:47 AM
To: 'Susan Williams'; 'montalto.2@osu.edu'; 'Melanie Bales'; Theresa Early; 'kashou.1@osu.edu'
Cc: Elliot Slotnick
Subject: FW:

For Tuesday's CC meeting.

From: Jerry Bigham [mailto:bigham.1@osu.edu]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2008 11:16 AM
To: Elliot Slotnick
Cc: John Heywood; Patrick Osmer; Dena Myers; Bobby Moser; Martin, Linda; Randy Smith; Amy Schmidt; Brian Slater
Subject: Re:

Dear Elliot:

Attached please find a revised soil science deactivation request and a more detailed soil science specialization document. I apologize for not having these materials to you sooner. We put together some fairly detailed information about the cadre of existing soil science graduate students to demonstrate that there are no obvious roadblocks to moving them through the system. Some details of the revised specialization document also needed to be reviewed before sending it forward.

Please let me know if additional changes or information or needed.

Best wishes,

Jerry

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Environment and Natural Resources

210 Kottman Hall
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1085

Phone (614) 292-2265
Fax (614) 292-7432
http://senr.osu.edu

November 12, 2008

Dr. Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost of Graduate Studies &
Dean of the Graduate School
250 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
CAMPUS

Dear Dean Osmer:

I am writing to request action by the Graduate School and other relevant authorities to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program (SSGP) according to guidelines presented on page 26 of the Academic Organization and Curriculum Handbook for 2008. This request is a direct outcome of the recent doctoral program review conducted by the Graduate School and, in particular, to a subsequent request (May 15, 2008) by the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to consider the Soil Science Graduate Program as a candidate for re-structuring.

Our proposal for deactivation is, in fact, contingent upon the parallel approval of a graduate area of specialization in soil science within the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program (ENRGP). Negative impacts to the university or to graduate studies in the discipline of soil science arising from deactivation of the SSGP should be minimized if a soil science specialization is established within ENRGP and if the Fellowship Nomination Cap associated with the SSGP is added to the cap of ENRGP, as previously approved by the Graduate School. Some administrative benefits could also be realized because most faculty and students affiliated with the SSGP have their academic home in the School of Environment and Natural Resources.

If deactivation of the SSGP is approved, we propose to maintain a "legacy" graduate studies committee in soil science to permit those students enrolled prior to deactivation to complete their programs of study. A list of all students in the current SSGP is enclosed for your review. To summarize these data, we currently have 19 students in the SSGP; 11 of these are in the doctoral program and 7 are thesis-track M.S. students. One student is pursuing a combined MS/PhD. Six of the doctoral students are ABD, and the last candidacy exam for this group was completed in Wi08. The 5-year post candidacy rule would potentially take the last ABD student through Wi13. Two students entered the program this quarter, including the combined MS/PhD applicant. We anticipate this student will finish no later than Sp14. Thus, we recommend "absolute end dates" of Wi13 for the post-candidacy PhD students and Sp14 for all other students currently in the SSGP. Any existing students not completed by these dates will be required to transfer to the ENRGP or petition the Graduate School for an extension.

We will, in fact, encourage the transfer of all existing soil science students to the ENRGP when a specialization is available. New admission requests to the SSGP will also be directed to the Soil Science Specialization within ENRGP after it is approved. Once a decision to deactivate is finalized, new admissions to the SSGP will be suspended. The suspension of admission for new students and program completion for existing students are in no way coupled.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Jerry M. Bigham
Professor and Director

Enc.

c. Bobby Moser
Linda Martin
John Heywood
Brian Slater
Don Eckert
Amy Schmidt

SOIL SCIENCE STUDENTS as of November 4, 2008

Last Name	First Name	Email	Gender	Degree	GPA	Candidacy	Advisor	Start Qtr	Grad Qtr?	Financial Awards
Anderson	Richard	anderson.1347@osu.edu	M	PhD	3.72	**S-AU07**	Nicholas Basta	AU05	AU08	Graduate Enrichment Fellowship; Marc Morin Scholarship; Himes Endowment Associateship
Bardhan	Sougata	bardhan.2@osu.edu	M	PhD	3.52	**S-WI07**	Warren Dick	WI03	SP09	North Central Region-Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Award; Alumni Graduate Research Award
Bast	Laura	bast.6@osu.edu	F	MS	3.69	NRE7	Donald Eckert	WI07	SP09	
Burum	Alexander	burum.1@osu.edu	M	MS/PhD		SP11	Karrie-Ann Kubatko	AU08	SP14	
Diedrick	Keith	diedrick.2@osu.edu	M	PhD	3.74	WI10	Robert Mullen	SP08	SP10	USDA National Needs Graduate Fellowship, 2008-2009
Florence	Darlene	florence.26@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.36	SP09	Warren Dick	AU07	SP13	
Goodman	Jenette	goodman.142@osu.edu	F	MS	4.00		Brian Slater	WI08	SP10	
Henry	David	henry.299@osu.edu	M	MS	3.94		Edward McCoy	WI08	SP10	
Jagadamma	Sindhu	jagadamma.1@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.98	**S-SU07**	Rattan Lal	AU03	AU08	Ford Foundation International Fellowship; OARDC Graduate Student Research Grant; Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Association of Agricultural Scientists of Indian Origin
Kolka-Jonsson	Pall	kolka-jonsson.2@osu.edu	M	PhD		WI10	Brian Slater	SP08	SP14	
Lane	Matthew	lane.114@osu.edu	M	MS			Richard Dick	AU08	SP10	
Mishra	Uma	mishra.24@osu.edu	M	PhD	3.63	**S-WI08**	Rattan Lal	WI06	SP09	
Nakano	Natsuko	nakano.8@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.32	**S-SP06**	Warren Dick	AU04	SP09	USDA National Needs Graduate Fellowship, 2008-2009
Ringler	Joseph	ringler.16@osu.edu	M	MS	3.69		Brian Slater	WI07	SP09	
Roy-Chowdhury	Taniya	roy-chowdhury.2@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.34	SP09	Richard Dick	AU07	SP13	University Fellowship
Tirado-Corbala	Rebecca	tirado-corbala.1@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.69	AU08; U-SU08	Brian Slater	SP06	SP10	
Undercoffer	Jason	undercoffer.2@osu.edu	M	MS	4.00		Nicholas Basta	AU06	WI09	
Whitacre	Shane	whitacre.39@osu.edu	M	MS	3.85		Nicholas Basta	AU06	SP09	
Yousef	Lina	yousef.13@osu.edu	F	PhD	3.94	**S-AU07**	Warren Dick	WI06	SP10	Alumni Graduate Research Award; USDA National Needs Graduate Fellowship

The bolded items in the candidacy column indicate post-candidacy students (and the quarter they successfully completed the candidacy exam).

Graduate Area of Specialization in
Soil Science

Natural Resources Graduate Program
The Ohio State University

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1. Statement of justification explaining why your program merits an Area of Specialization and transcript designation within the Graduate Program in Natural Resources.

Soil Science is a well-recognized academic discipline that is served by an International Union of national organizations. The Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) is a progressive scientific society that fosters the transfer of knowledge and practices to sustain the global soil resource. Founded in 1936, the SSSA is professional home for 6,000+ members dedicated to advancing the field of soil science. It supports research, education and outreach about soils in relation to crop production, environmental quality, ecosystem sustainability, bioremediation, waste management, and wise land use.

Graduate research in soil science has been possible at Ohio State since 1905. The first M.S. degree was awarded in 1910 and the first Ph.D. in 1922. Throughout much of its history, graduate education in soil science was conducted through the Agronomy Graduate Program (soil science + crop science). In 1995, the Agronomy Graduate Program was re-titled and focused entirely on soil science. Because of its long history and outstanding graduates, the program has had a major influence on research in the discipline and has gained an international reputation for excellence and achievement. Approximately 25 graduates are currently members of the professoriate at 20 public and private institutions in the United States. Twelve other graduates serve similar roles at international universities. Many others are employed by state and federal agencies and by national laboratories in this and other countries.

Historically, the soil science discipline emerged from mainstream agriculture where it still plays a major role in addressing issues of international food security and human health. In the 1980's, the importance of soil science to numerous environmental issues (acid rain, climate change, brown-fields, wetlands, biodiversity, water quality, waste management, etc.) became apparent, and scientists with this disciplinary expertise were increasingly asked to address research questions outside the scope of traditional agriculture. For this reason, soil science graduate faculty members have also been active participants in both the Natural Resources Graduate Program and the interdisciplinary Environmental Science Graduate Program (ESGP) at Ohio State. Two soil science graduate faculty members have, in fact, served as previous directors of ESGP.

Soil science continues to play a pivotal role in natural resource, environmental, and agricultural issues at both national and international scales. Consequently, the Soil Science Graduate Faculty can be expected to sustain their contributions to these major thematic areas. The soil science faculty is housed in the School of Environment and Natural Resources (SENR) where the Soil Science and Natural Resources Graduate Programs currently co-exist as activities supported by SENR. A re-alignment of Soil

Science as an area of specialization with a corresponding transcript designation in the Natural Resources Graduate Program makes programmatic sense and has obvious administrative advantages.

2. Graduate Faculty Members

Name	Rank	Appointment
Nicholas Basta	Professor	P
Jerry Bigham	Professor	P
Frank Calhoun	Professor	P
Richard Dick	Professor	P
Warren Dick	Professor	P
Don Eckert	Professor	P
Dawn Ferris	Assistant Professor	P
Rafiq Islam	Adj. Assistant Professor	M
Karrie-Ann Kubatko	Assistant Professor	P
Rattan Lal	Professor	P
Brian Lower	Assistant Professor	P
Ed McCoy	Associate Professor	P
Robert Mullen	Assistant Professor	P
Brian Slater	Associate Professor	P
Olli Tuovinen	Professor	P

3. Coursework in Soil Science.

Students receiving a Graduate Specialization in Soil Science must complete at least 23 credit hours of course work (including at least 18 hours for graduate credit) from the following list of approved soil science courses (or their equivalent at another institution). ENR 650, 655, 660, and 665 (or their equivalent at another institution) are core courses at the M.S. level, and Ph.D. students must complete ENR 720, 730, and 740 (or their equivalent at another institution).

ENR 300.01 Introduction to Soil Science, 3 credits
ENR 300.02 Soil Science Laboratory, 2 credits
ENR 442 Soil Management
ENR 580 Soil Fertility and Fertilizers

ENR 630 Soils of Forest Ecosystems, 3 credits
ENR 645 Soils of the Tropics, 3 credits
ENR 650 Soil Landscapes: Morphology, Genesis & Classification, 5 credits
ENR 655 The Soil Physical Environment, 4 credits
ENR 660 Soil Chemical Processes and Environmental Quality, 5 credits
ENR 665 Biology of Soil Ecosystems, 4 credits
ENR 671 Soil Physics, 5 credits
ENR 675 Environmental Fate and Impact of Contaminants in Soil and Water, 4 credits
ENR 720 Characterization of Soil in the Field and Laboratory, 3 credits

ENR 730 Computer Simulation of Soil Hydrological and Biogeochemical Processes, 3 cr.
ENR 740 Field Soil Investigation: Soil Chemistry, Fertility and Biology, 3 credits
ENR 753 Soil Mineralogy, 5 credits
ENR 761 Soil Biochemistry, 4 credits
ENR 871 Advanced Soil Physics, 3 credits
ENR 872 Surface and Colloid Chemistry of Soils, 3 credits
ENR 899.04 Soil Science Seminar, 2-5 credits
ENR 993.01 Soil Science Instruction, 3, 5credits
ENR 999 Research, 1-18 credits

4. Theses and dissertations produced by graduate students advised by soil science graduate faculty since 2003, including those completed in other graduate programs at OSU (*) or at other universities before the adviser joined our faculty (**).

Ph.D. Dissertations

**Diedhiou, Sire. 2007. Influence of native shrubs on microbial and C dynamics in soils in Sub-Sahalean Africa.

**Dossa, Ekwe. 2007. Nitrogen and phosphorus cycling in relation to shrubs ecology in Senegal.

Mestalan, Silvia. 2007. Impact of long-term no till and plow till on soil properties and nutrient cycling.

Subburayalu, Sakthi K. 2007. Application of machine learning for soil survey updates: A case study in southeastern Ohio.

**Moore, Jennifer. 2006. Microbial Diversity and Carbon Sequestration in Soils of Old Growth and Young Forest Ecosystems.

Beak, Douglas G. 2005. Lead and arsenic and lead speciation and bioaccessibility following sorption on oxide mineral surfaces.

**Fernandez, Marcello. 2005. Soil microbial community succession and activity during organic matter decomposition.

*von Fahnestock, Michael. 2005. Niche application of in-vessel composting.

Zinn, Yuri L. 2005. Textural, mineralogical and structural controls on soil organic carbon retention in the Brazilian Cerrados.

Gagliano, Wendy. 2004. Biogeochemical characterizations of a wetland constructed for acid mine drainage remediation.

Mulumba, Lukman. 2004. Land Use Effects on Soil Quality and Productivity in the Lake Victoria Basin in Uganda.

**Si, Jitao. 2004. Assessing the effect of soil properties on bioavailability and phytotoxicity of heavy metals.

**Armstrong, F.P. 2003. Extractability and bioavailability of arsenic in soils and the effect on iron remediation efforts.

**Dayton, E.A. 2003. Relative contribution of soil properties to modifying the phytotoxicity and bioaccumulation of cadmium, lead and zinc to lettuce.

*He, Yongtian. 2003. Chromium reduction/immobilization under high pH and high ionic strength conditions.

*Kim, Sang-Jun. 2003. Bioaugmentation for the remediation of pesticide-contaminated soil with microorganisms directly enriched in soil or compost.

**Schroder, J.L. 2003. Bioavailability and toxicity of heavy metals in contaminated soils to human and ecological receptors.

M.S. Theses

*Selhorst, Adam L. 2007. Carbon sequestration and emissions due to golf course turfgrass development and maintenance in Central Ohio.

*Viswakumar, Anjali. 2007. Evaluation of four buffer solutions for determining the lime requirement for Ohio soils.

*Foster, Jill. 2006. The effect of dosing vehicle and arsenic speciation on arsenic bioaccessibility in smelter contaminated soil.

*Yu, Shuo. 2006. Determination of nickel availability by urease activity.

Demyan M. Scott. 2006. Chemical and physical changes in twenty-five year-old minesoils in southeast Ohio.

*Elder, Jacob W. 2006. Tillage effects on physical properties and processes of organic soils in north central Ohio.

Emery, E. Hayden. 2006. Effects of organic versus conventional farming methods on physical and chemical soil quality indicators.

Hurdzan, Christopher M. 2006. Biodegradation and release of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons from natural organic matter surrogates.

*Taylor, Eric. 2006. Nonspecific and specific forces of interaction between *Acidithiobacillus ferrooxidans* and solid surfaces as determined by atomic force microscopy.

**Washburn, Jennifer. 2006. Forest stand age in relation to C sequestration.

**Banners, Candace. 2005. No-tillage vegetable production and soil ecology.

Bardhan, Sougata. 2005. Formulating soilless greenhouse and nursery media using clean coal combustion products and organic waste.

Jagadamma, Sindhu. 2005. Nitrogen fertilization and cropping systems effects on soil carbon pools in an Argiudoll in west central Illinois.

*Tanzosh, Joyce Kathleen. 2005. Soil carbon dynamics and gaseous emissions in riparian zones in Coshocton, Ohio.

Burgess, Donald W. 2004. Effect of silicon and magnesium on fragipan strength.

Mathews-Williamson, Monica. 2004. Decrease in calcium chloride extractable and bioaccessible arsenic from CCA-contaminated soil by treatment with poorly crystalline iron or aluminum oxides.

**Ochai, Naiyuki. 2004. Green manure amendment effects on Verticilium wilt disease suppression and soil ecology.

**Cesepes, Cecilia. 2003. Paper sludge amendments in relation to soil ecology and soil borne disease suppression.

*Deshmukh, Vaidehi. 2003. Anaerobic biodegradation of atrazine by native microbial populations in agricultural soils.

*Dilley, Mark. 2003. Atrazine fate and transport in a created, flow-through emergent marsh: An examination of key processes.

**Friend, M.S. 2003. Chemical processes controlling soluble phosphorus in soil fertilized with poultry litter and using diammonium phosphate fertilizer to reduce risk from incidental ingestion of lead contaminated soil.

Thavamani, Basanthi. 2003. Prediction of Organic Carbon, Amino Sugar (Beta)-Glucosidase, and (Beta)-Glucosaminidase Activities Using Near Infrared Reflectance Spectroscopy.

5. Does this proposed transcript designation involve core subject matter from other disciplines?

Graduate programs in Soil Science require a solid background in mathematics and a general appreciation of concepts that are fundamental to the basic sciences (biological, chemical, and physical). Thus, all M.S. and Ph.D. students must complete (or have completed) the following *Undergraduate Course Requirements* (or their equivalent at other institutions).

Biol. 101	General Biology
Chem. 121-123	General Chemistry
Physics 11 or 131	General Physics
ES 121	Physical Geology
Math 151-152	Elementary Functions, Differential Calculus, and Integral Calculus
Stat 528-529	Data Analysis I&II
or	
Mol. Gen. 650	Analysis and Interpretation of Biological Data

Beyond the listed courses, students are expected to complete at least 25 additional quarter hours in mathematics or the natural sciences as recommended by their Advisory Committees.

On Oct 31, 2008, at 11:22 AM, Elliot Slotnick wrote:

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The Curriculum Committee of the Graduate Council discussed your twofold proposal to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program (SSGP), contingent upon the simultaneous approval of a Graduate Specialization in Soil Science within the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program (ENRGP), at its meeting earlier this week. The Curriculum Committee is supportive of both of these proposals, in principle, but seeks clarification on a number of points related to your proposed plans. I think all of the questions and concerns raised can be readily addressed and responded to.

The next scheduled meeting of the Curriculum Committee is on November 18th. If you can successfully address the concerns outlined below in time for endorsement at that meeting, we will be able to take your proposal to the next meeting of the full Graduate Council the following week. This calendar would keep it completely on course with the best case scenario for swift approval based on the date that we received it.

Specifically, the following points need to be addressed—and, ideally, the best way of doing so would be to fold revisions into your proposal documentation so that when it is sent forward to the Graduate Council and, subsequently, to the Council on Academic Affairs and beyond, they will be seeing a document in its most complete and accurate form.

Deactivation Request Letter from Jerry:

1. The Committee recognizes the wisdom of grandfathering current Soil Science graduate students and allowing them the option of transferring to a new Soil Science ENRGP track or, alternatively, completing their graduate degrees in Soil Science as their degree program home. The Committee is, however, concerned about a seeming open-ended time period for degree completion in Soil Science once the deactivation of the program is approved. Can an end date or time period be proposed beyond which all remaining Soil Science graduate students will have to transfer to the ENRGP track to finish their degrees? While not discussed by the Committee, it strikes me that one possibility for consideration would be an absolute stated end-date for current pre-candidacy and Master's students to complete their degrees in Soil Science and the expiration of candidacy (a date which will vary for students) for current ABDs.

2. Closely related to the issue of grandfathering students is the effective date of suspending admissions to the program. The Committee wishes to confirm its understanding that admissions to the Soil Science Graduate Program will be suspended as soon as your deactivation and specialization proposals are approved by all necessary offices at the university. That is, suspension of new admissions and completion of the program by current students are separable matters not in any way linked to each other. Is this understanding correct?

3. The Committee also requests information about the current Soil Science graduate student pipeline. Specifically, how many students are currently in the program at the Master's level? Doctorate? How many of the doctoral students are ABDs? This contextual data is

being sought for informational purposes to better understand the scope of the transition that you will be facing.

Graduate Area Specialization Proposal:

1. The Committee found compelling documentation in the proposal to warrant a Graduate Specialization in Soil Science for students pursuing such a curriculum within the ENRGP. What was "missing" in the proposal was a clearer statement of expectations for students who seek such a specialization. What, specifically, must they "do" to be "credentialed" with a Soil Science Graduate Specialization entered on their transcripts? More specific detail below…

2. Point 3 in the proposal lists the 16 Soil Science courses taught by faculty in the program "and taken by students in this area." Will students have to enroll in all of this course work to obtain the Soil Science transcript designation? If not, what are the specific student requirements that will be imposed in terms of courses and/or credit hours? Is there a required core course for students in the area? Other required courses? Distribution requirements among the courses offered? Presumably, there will be 999 coursework available to these students as well under the ENR banner?

3. Also indicated in the proposal (Point 5) is the recognition that Soil Science students take courses in a variety of other disciplines while the core focus for students lies within the program. Please elaborate on the other areas in which Soil Science students are likely to enroll and, more to the point, are there requirements that they must meet outside the courses that you have listed (outside of ENRGP?) to earn the Soil Science transcript designation.

Again, as noted above, the Curriculum Committee was quite supportive of your proposal and the nature of these queries is, clearly, for clarification purposes and amplification of specific points, not an alteration of the thrust of your proposal in any way. The Committee will be happy to return to the processing of the proposal when you have had the opportunity to address the concerns raised in this memo. Please don't hesitate to contact me if and when questions arise.

Best,
elliot

Jerry M. Bigham
Professor and Director, School of Environment and Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1085
Tel: 614-292-8522 (Mary Capoccia, Asst. to Director)
School's Communication Center: 614-292-2265
Fax: 614-292-7432
OSU e-mail: bigham.1@osu.edu
http://senr.osu.edu

18 of 26

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:48 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: FW:

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Monday, November 24, 2008 6:28 PM
To: Jerry Bigham
Cc: Bobby Moser; Dena Myers; Patrick Osmer; Kathleen Wallace; Ann Salimbene; 'heywood.1'; Susan Reeser
Subject:

Dear Jerry,

I am writing to let you know that your proposal to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program coupled with the creation of a Soil Science graduate specialization track in the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program was endorsed by the Curriculum Committee of the Graduate Council last week. Today, the proposal was brought to the meeting of the full Graduate Council and, after lengthy discussion, two requests were made for additional follow-up on my part.

1. This was an oversight on my part since we had been involved in meetings on this with Bobby Moser and Linda Martin and, as well, Bobby was copied on all e-mails regarding your proposal. For the record, however, we need a supporting statement from Dean Moser regarding the deactivation of Soil Science and the creation on a Soil Science Graduate Specialization in the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program. That statement can be sent to me in e-mail attachment and will become part of the proposal's record for approval in CAA and in statewide processes.
2. More substantively, the Committee requested a statement or documentation of the consultations that were held with the Soil Science graduate student population on this proposal. Were there formal meetings held with the students? Gauging of their preferences? This information will, as well, become part of the proposals formal record and be used in the stages of the approval process to follow.

The full Graduate Council meets again on December 8th, its final meeting of the Fall quarter. If we can get this documentation prior to that date I am confident that we can move the proposal forward to the next stage (CAA) of the approval process.

Best,
elliot

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:48 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: FW: Fwd:
Attachments: 1125 Deactivation Let of Support.doc

-----Original Message-----
From: Joan Lieb [mailto:lieb.31@osu.edu] On Behalf Of moser.2@osu.edu
Sent: Tuesday, November 25, 2008 8:41 PM
To: Patrick Osmer
Cc: Linda Martin; Patrick Osmer; heywood.1@osu.edu; slotnick.1@osu.edu; Jerry Bigham
Subject: RE: Fwd:

Pat,

As request. Please let me know of you have any questions or need anything else.

Bobby

November 26, 2008

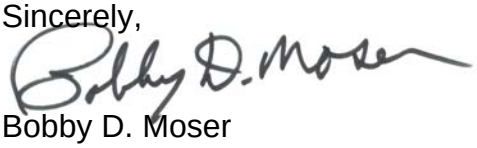
Dr. Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost of Graduate Studies &
Dean of the Graduate School
250 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
CAMPUS

Dear Pat:

I have reviewed the joint proposals from Jerry Bigham and John Heywood to deactivate the existing Soil Science Graduate Program and to create a Soil Science graduate specialization within the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program.

I am writing to indicate my full support of these proposals. We look forward to the timely completion of the approval process.

Sincerely,



Bobby D. Moser
Vice-President for Agricultural Administration and Dean

cc: Jerry Bigham
John Heywood
Linda Martin

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:49 PM
To: Dena Myers
Subject: FW:
Attachments: student consultations.pdf; ATT3817764.htm

From: Jerry Bigham [mailto:bigham.1@osu.edu]
Sent: Sunday, December 07, 2008 5:13 PM
To: Elliot Slotnick
Cc: reeser.1@osu.edu; Linda C. Martin; Bobby Moser; John Heywood; Donald J. Eckert; AMY SCHMIDT
Subject: Re:

Dear Elliot:

Attached is a letter summarizing the consultations we have held with our soil science graduate students relative to deactivation of the graduate program. Hopefully, this information will adequately address your point no. 2.

Thanks,

Jerry

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Environment and Natural Resources

210 Kottman Hall
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1085

Phone (614) 292-2265
Fax (614) 292-7432
http://senr.osu.edu

December 6, 2008

Dr. Patrick S. Osmer
Vice Provost of Graduate Studies &
Dean of the Graduate School
250 University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
CAMPUS

Dear Dean Osmer:

I am writing to provide additional information concerning our previous requests to a) deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program and b) create a new Soil Science Specialization within the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program. Specifically, Associate Dean Elliot Slotnick has requested documentation regarding any formal or informal consultations that have been held with the Soil Science graduate students on these proposals.

Our first formal consultation was held on April 21, 2008, and was attended by about 12 of the Soil Science graduate students. Associate Dean Linda Martin and I presided over the meeting. The primary objective of the gathering was to discuss the results of the Graduate School assessment of Ohio State's doctoral programs and, specifically, the identification of Soil Science as a candidate for disinvestment or elimination. Although the students were primarily concerned with how this assessment would impact their reputations and chances for professional success, we also discussed practical issues related to program deactivation and track creation (e.g., changes in requirements, future admissions, funding, etc.). We did not request formal feedback from the students, but they also did not express any concerns about program mergers or structural changes so long as the identity of the discipline would somehow be retained by using the specialization concept.

Subsequent discussions leading to submission of the proposal to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program were held mainly at the faculty level through the Soil Science Graduate Committee. The Soil Science graduate students have a representative on this committee, and I assume the flow of information from the committee to the student population was adequate.

After receiving Assoc. Dean Slotnick's request on November 24, I convened another formal meeting of the Soil Science graduate students. This gathering was held on December 5, 2008, and was attended by 12 of 19 students in the program. Dr. John Heywood, Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program, and Dr. Warren Dick, a member of the Soil Science Graduate Studies Committee, were also in

attendance. Details of the proposed deactivation and merger were discussed, including "grandfathering" of existing students, the possibility of transferring programs, funding, access of future students to university fellowships and awards, new program requirements, etc. At the conclusion of the meeting, the students were asked to identify any major concerns or reservations, and no comments were received. While I am sure our students are somewhat saddened by the decision to pursue deactivation of the program, I believe they understand the circumstances and do not fear for the future of graduate studies in Soil Science at Ohio State.

Sincerely,

Jerry M. Bigham
Professor and Director

Enc.

c. Bobby Moser
Linda Martin
John Heywood
Brian Slater
Don Eckert
Amy Schmidt
Elliot Slotnick
Susan Reeser

On Nov 24, 2008, at 6:28 PM, Elliot Slotnick wrote:

Dear Jerry,

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Best,
elliot

Jerry M. Bigham
Professor and Director, School of Environment and Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1085
Tel: 614-292-8522 (Mary Capoccia, Asst. to Director)
School's Communication Center: 614-292-2265
Fax: 614-292-7432
OSU e-mail: bigham.1@osu.edu
http://senr.osu.edu

Dena Myers

From: Elliot Slotnick
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2008 2:54 PM
To: 'Jerry Bigham'
Cc: heywood.1@osu.edu; Dena Myers; slotnick.1@osu.edu; Randy Smith; 'J. Briggs Cormier'

Dear Jerry,

Just a brief note to let you know that at the last meeting of the Quarter your proposal to deactivate the Soil Science Graduate Program while simultaneously creating a Graduate Specialization for Soil Science within the contours of the Environment and Natural Resources Graduate Program was approved by the Graduate Council. It will now be sent to Randy Smith for additional processing by the Council on Academic Affairs and I will work with Randy to pursue whatever steps are needed at the statewide level to inform the Board of Regents about our actions. Thanks for your responsiveness to all of our requests for information throughout this process. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. Briggs Cormier should be your immediate contact for nay questions that relate to the CAA processing of the proposal.

All best wishes for a happy holiday season.

elliot