

Reed, Katie

From: Neal, Steve
Sent: Friday, April 08, 2016 7:52 AM
To: Smith, Randy
Cc: Reed, Katie; Martin, Linda
Subject: Requesting Deactivation of the ATI Renewable Energy Program
Attachments: Renewable Energy Deactivation - Sp2016.pdf

Randy,

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences is requesting Council on Academic Affairs approval for deactivation of the associate of science Renewable Energy major offered at the Agricultural Technical Institute (ATI) effective Autumn 2016 (see attached proposal). The Renewable Energy program was initiated in Autumn 2012 with plans to develop a pathway into a bachelor's degree program on the Columbus campus within CFAES. Significant efforts were made to develop an A.S. to B.S. pathway with majors in the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering and the School of Environment and Natural Resources, however, this has not materialized. Therefore, ATI determined that it was not in the best interests of students to continue to offer an associate of science major with no corresponding B.S. major.

Enrollment in the program has ranged from 15-25 students, and currently there are 17 students are enrolled in the program. Four students are expected to complete the degree requirements at the end of Spring semester 2016, and one will finish during Summer semester 2016. Remaining enrolled students will be provided access to courses and experiences required to complete their degree. Students desiring to transition to a bachelor's degree program will be advised as to options that are available on the Columbus campus that will best fit their career aspirations.

Ohio State ATI is currently working with industry partners to develop an associate of applied science degree program in Renewable Energy, which will more closely align with the educational and skill development requirements of the students who have historically enrolled in this degree program. For this reason, no courses will be deactivated or withdrawn as a result of this program deactivation.

This proposal was reviewed and approved by the ATI Arts, Science and Business Technologies division faculty, the ATI Academic Affairs Committee, and the ATI faculty. This proposal has also been reviewed and approved by the College Academic Affairs Committee.

Please let me know if any additional information is needed in support of this request. Thank you.

Steve



Steven M. Neal, Ph.D.

Professor and Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
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25 March 2016

Dr. Steve Neal
Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
100E Agricultural Administration Building
2120 Fyffe Rd
Columbus, OH 43210
Dear Dr. Neal:

We are writing to request your approval to deactivate the Associate of Science in Renewable Energy (RNEWNRG-AS) program, effective Autumn 2016. The degree program as it currently exists will not meet the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) revised requirements for the Associate of Science degree program as indicated in the revised ODHE *Guidelines and Procedures for Academic Program Review* document, and thus is not in alignment with the approved curriculum plan template for the Ohio State ATI Associate of Science degree program.

History and Justification:

The Renewable Energy-AS program was established Autumn 2012 as a result of funding obtained from the National Science Foundation. At that time, there were discussions with Columbus Academic Units in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences regarding development of a pathway from the Renewable Energy-AS degree into a bachelor's degree program. Enrollment in the program has remained steady: 15-25 students enrolled in the program, depending on the semester. Eleven students have graduated from the program to date; however, none of the graduates to date has entered a bachelor degree program on the Columbus campus of The Ohio State University.

There have been several efforts to develop an AS to BS pathway for this degree program; Ohio State ATI has had conversations with the Department of Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering and with the School of Environment and Natural Resources. There is not a logical pathway to the currently existing degree programs in either of these academic units. Therefore, the Arts, Science and Business Technologies Division (in which the Renewable Energy-AS degree program resides) determined it was not in the best interests of the students to revise the Associate of Science degree program in this subject matter area to meet the new ODHE guidelines, and therefore proposed that the Renewable Energy-AS degree be deactivated until such a time that a pathway to a bachelor's degree program can be developed. This change was considered and approved by a vote of the Arts, Science and Business Technologies division on March 22, 2016. On March 23, 2016, the Ohio State ATI Academic Affairs Committee voted to approve this proposal. The Ohio State ATI faculty voted in favor of this proposal on March 24, 2016.

Current Enrollment:

Currently 17 students are enrolled in the program. Four students are expected to complete the degree requirements at the end of Spring semester 2016, and one will finish during Summer semester 2016.

Impact:

Deactivation of the Renewable Energy-AS degree program will have minimal impact on Ohio State ATI. Students who have graduated from the existing degree program have utilized it to develop the skills necessary for a career, rather than as a pathway to a bachelor's degree. Ohio

State ATI is committed to protecting the academic progress of students. In order that this proposed program change will not disrupt progress toward their degree, students currently enrolled will be provided access to courses and experiences required to complete their degree; students desiring to transition to a bachelor's degree program will be advised as to options that are available on the Columbus campus that will best fit their career aspirations. Course substitutions and manual management of the degree audits will occur as needed. Ohio State ATI is currently working with industry partners to develop an Associate of Applied Science degree program in this discipline area, which will more closely align with the educational and skill development requirements of the students who have historically enrolled in this degree program. For this reason, no courses will be deactivated as a result of this program deactivation.

Please let me know if there are questions or additional information or documentation is required to accompany this submission. We look forward to hearing from the FAES Academic Affairs Committee regarding next steps in the approval process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanne M. Osborne". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jeanne M. Osborne
Assistant Director, Academic Affairs