MEMORANDUM

TO: President Ray M. Bowen

SUBJECT: Approval of the Proposal for a Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection (FS.17.62)

At its regular meeting on November 8, 1999, the Faculty Senate approved the following proposal from the Graduate Council. Attached are the materials sent to our Senators regarding this item.

The Graduate Council at the October 14 meeting approved the proposal for a Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection.

The Senate submits this recommendation for your approval. Please inform me of your action.

Thomas E. Wehrly
Speaker, 1999-2000

Attachments

cc: Dr. Ronald G. Douglas, Executive Vice President & Provost
    Dr. Janis P. Stout, Dean of Faculties & Associate Provost
    Dr. C.R. Creger, Executive Associate Dean, COALS
    Dr. J. Rick Giardino, Chair, Graduate Council
    Ms. Linda F. Lacey, Director of Academic Support Services

Approved:

Ray M. Bowen, President

Date 1/7/2000
REPORT OF THE GRADUATE COUNCIL MEETING
October 14, 1999

The Graduate Council at the October 14 meeting approved the proposal for a Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection.
Nonsubstantive Degree Program Proposal

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Texas A&M University

NAME OF PROPOSED PROGRAM: Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection

Display how proposed program would appear on the Coordinating Board program inventory; include Texas CIP code designation.

How would name of program appear on student diplomas?

Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection

How would name of program appear on student transcripts?

Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection

Administrative unit(s) responsible for the program(s):

Department of Entomology

Department of Soil & Crop Sciences

Proposed date for implementation of program: September 1999

Persons to be contacted for further information about proposed program:

Name: Pete D. Teel, Entomology
Title: Associate Head for Academic Programs
Phone: (409) 845-3253 pteel@tamu.edu
Fax: (409) 845-6305

Name: Murray Milford, Soil & Crop
Title: Department Interim Head
Phone: (409) 845-3450 mmilford@tamu.edu
Fax: (409) 845-0456

Signatures:

Original Signed by

C. R. Creger

Dr. C.R. Creger, Exec. Assoc. Dean, COALS

Campus Chief Executive Officer

System Chief Executive Officer
(As appropriate)

Governing Board approval date:

Date

10-1-99
NONSUBSTANTIVE DEGREE PROGRAM REQUEST

I. REASON FOR REQUEST.

A. We respectfully request that the Department of Entomology and the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences be included in the Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection program. This request is made to enable this degree to be offered in each of the three departments that are technically and scientifically interrelated in the field of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and that have collaborated to develop the curriculum for this degree. The demand for students in the field of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) continues to grow. This growth is driven in part by the need for professionals who know how to manage primary and secondary pests (insects, weeds, and pathogens) in crop production agriculture. Demand for these professionals is also driven by the applications of new technologies including transgenic plants and precision agriculture. Currently this program is only offered through the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Expanding the Master of Agriculture Program, Plant Protection Option, to the Department of Entomology and to the Department of Soil & Crop Sciences will allow students with career interests in the three technically interrelated areas of IPM (Plant Pathology, Entomology, and Agronomy) to seek this degree. To our knowledge there is no similar program at another Texas public university.

II. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.

The Master of Agriculture Program, Plant Protection Option, is designed for students who desire professional graduate training without research orientation. The intent of the program is to provide additional training and education for students interested in careers in agriculture and related businesses involving Integrated Pest Management. The program emphasizes problem solving and the use of science and technology to benefit humanity, not as a research degree.

Individuals with a baccalaureate degree from a college or university of recognized standing, or qualified Texas A&M University seniors during their last semester, may apply for admission to graduate studies to pursue the non-thesis degree of Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection. The candidate’s advisory committee shall specify prerequisite work where necessary.

The degree may be earned in three academic departments of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences: Department of Entomology, Department of Soil & Crop Sciences, and Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Students are admitted into a department based upon their background, experience, and professional interests.

A minimum of 36 hours is required for the Master of Agriculture degree, Plant Protection Option. Students must complete 12 credit hours of Texas A&M
A student may be given only one opportunity to repeat the final examination for the Master’s degree and that must be within a time period that does not extend beyond the end of the next regular semester (summer terms are excluded). No examination may be held prior to the mid-point of the semester or summer term in which a student will complete all remaining courses on the degree plan.

Master of Agriculture degree candidates do not qualify to petition for an exemption from their final examination.

Except as noted above, the requirements for the degree of Master of Agriculture in Plant Protection are identical to those for the degree of Master of Science.

III. RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING AUTHORIZED PROGRAMS

A. The only known authorized existing program is that currently offered through the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. This request would expand the offering of the Plant Protection Option, Master of Agriculture Program, to students with principal interests in areas of Agronomy or Entomology. The content of the program and collaborative interrelationships of the departments and faculty would remain as the principal strength of the program.

B. Anticipated changes in enrollment would not substantially effect class size, faculty, or other resource needs.

IV. EXPECTED ENROLLMENT

A. Estimated cumulative enrollment in the Master of Agriculture Program, Plant Protection Option, in the Departments of Entomology and Soil & Crop Sciences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>New Students</th>
<th>Cumulative Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Entomology</td>
<td>Soil &amp; Crop Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>2001-2002</td>
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<td>2002-2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students would be admitted into a department for this program based upon their background, experience, and professional interests.

B. The estimated cumulative enrollments are based upon the interest and inquiries of students expressed to faculty in these departments, the interest of