# Category I Proposal Transmittal Sheet

Submit proposals to: Office of Academic Planning and Assessment  
110 Kerr Admin -- Oregon State University

For instructions, see http://oregonstate.edu/ap/curriculum/cati.html. Please attach Proposal, Library Evaluation (performed by the library), Liaison Correspondence, Faculty Curriculum Vitae, and Budget Sheets, as appropriate.

Check one:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Proposal</th>
<th>Abbreviated Proposal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ New degree program</td>
<td>☐ Rename of an academic program or unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ New certificate program or administrative unit</td>
<td>☐ Reorganization – moving responsibility for an academic program from one unit to another</td>
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<td>☐ Major change in existing program</td>
<td>☐ Merging or splitting an academic unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>☐ Establishment of a new College or Department</td>
<td>☐ Termination of an academic program or unit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>☐ Suspension or reactivation of an academic program or unit</td>
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</table>

For proposals to establish a new center or institute, contact the Research Office (737-3437).

For requests to offer existing certificate and degree programs at new locations, use the New Location Request Form available on the Web: http://www.ous.edu/aca/aca-forms.html

**Title of Proposal:**  
Proposal for Suspending the Graduate Degrees in Agricultural and Resource Economics  
**Effective Date:** Fall 2009

**Department/Program:**  
Agricultural and Resource Economics  
**College:**  
Agricultural Sciences

**I certify that the above proposal has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate Department and College committees:**

*Signature (Dept Chair/Head; Director) 11/13/08*

*Signature (Dean of College) 11/13/08*

_Susan Capalbo_  
Print (Department Chair/Head; Director)  
William G. Boggess  
Print (Dean of College)
Proposal for Suspending the Graduate Degrees in Agricultural and Resource Economics

Oregon State University

College of Agricultural Sciences
Agricultural and Resource Economics

November 13, 2008
Abbreviated Category I proposal for Suspending
the Graduate Degrees in Agricultural and Resource Economics

Name of Institution: Oregon State University

Name of Proposing College: College of Agricultural Science (CAS)

Name of Proposing Department: Agricultural and Resource Economics

CIP Number: Agricultural and Resource Economics

Date of Proposal: November 7, 2008

Proposed Effective Date: Fall, 2009
A. Title of the proposed instructional, research, or public service unit. For name changes, give both the current and proposed names. Describe the reason(s) for the proposed change.

- The current graduate degrees in Agricultural and Resource Economics (M.S. and Ph.D.) are to be suspended.
- The AREC Faculty will fully participate in the proposed Graduate Program in Applied Economics (GPAE) which will offer M.A., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. A separate “Abbreviated Category I proposal for the revision of Graduate Degrees in Economics Leading to Masters of Arts, Masters of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Economics” provides greater detail on the proposed change.
- The proposed GPAE is well aligned with the mission of the graduate AREC degrees and will offer more marketable degrees for our students than are the AREC degrees. The GPAE Vision, Mission, and Principles emphasize that our graduate students will pursue agricultural, environmental, market, and resource economic issues from the perspective of the basic disciplinary focus of economics.
- The proposed GPAE will provide a simplified structure for graduate education at OSU and will benefit graduate students across all four colleges.

B. Location within the institution’s organizational structure. Include “before” and “after” organizational charts (show reporting lines all the way up to the Provost).

- Under the present AREC structure, the AREC Graduate Committee and Graduate Admissions Committee report to the Department Head. Final decisions on admission and funding are made by the Department Head. Changes to curriculum and degree requirements are approved by AREC Faculty. AREC core classes overlap with those of the ECON degrees. Hence, the Graduate Economics Core (GEC) and AREC graduate programs affect one another.
- Under the proposed GPAE structure, the GPAE Director will report to the Dean of the Graduate School. Student admissions/funding and core teaching assignments will be made by the Director. AREC will provide instructors for some graduate core courses, develop and staff classes in certain areas of concentration, and direct and finance research as it pertains to those areas of concentration.
- Governing principles of the proposed GPAE are consistent with the present graduate AREC program.
- Organizational chart of the proposed GPAE is provided in the abbreviated Category I proposal for establishing the GPAE.
C. Objectives, functions (e.g., instruction, research, public service), and activities of the proposed unit.

1. Explain how the program’s current objectives, functions and activities will be changed.
   - The AREC degrees will be suspended and not eliminated because the Department currently has students enrolled in those degrees (including those that enrolled in Fall 2008). Commitments to those students will be honored. Moreover, the nationally-ranked AREC program will be eliminated only after the successful implementation of the GPAE.
   - The GPAE’s vision is “to achieve national and international recognition for distinctive excellence and impacts of its graduates, research and scholarship in Applied Economics.” For this purpose, Applied Economics is defined as “the application of economic theories, principles and methods to real-world problems with significant attention to data and institutions.” Both are consistent with the objectives, functions, and activities of the graduate AREC program that we are proposing to suspend.
   - The principles of the GPAE are consistent with those of our current graduate AREC program.
   - The AREC Faculty will fully participate in the proposed Graduate Program in Applied Economics (GPAE), which will offer M.A., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees. The accompanying “Abbreviated Category I proposal for the revision of Graduate Degrees in Economics Leading to Masters of Arts, Masters of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Economics” provides greater detail on the proposed change.
   - The proposed GPAE is well aligned with the mission of the current graduate AREC degrees and likely will be a more marketable degree for our students than is the AREC degree. GPAE students will pursue agricultural, environmental, market, and resource issues from the perspective of the basic disciplinary focus of economics.
   - The proposed GPAE will simplify the organizational and administrative structure of graduate economic education at OSU, benefiting graduate students in all four colleges.

2. Student Admission Requirements
   - Under the proposed GPAE, we do not anticipate any changes to the admissions criteria presently used in the AREC degrees.

3. Proposed Program Requirements
   - The GPAE’s proposed degree requirements are similar to those in the present AREC degrees. The forthcoming abbreviated Category I proposal for establishing the GPAE specifies the proposed revisions to the content, credit hours, and acronyms of the existing courses. AREC Faculty plan to participate in the proposed changes and to pursue the GPAE’s Vision, Mission, and Principles.
4. Student Learning Outcomes
   • Similar to those in the GPAE

5. Advising Structure
   • Similar to the GPAE

6. Improvements of the Reorganized Program over the Previous Program

The improvements the reorganized program will offer are presented in the abbreviated category I proposal for the GPAE. To summarize those improvements, the GPAE will:
   • Build on recognized faculty strengths in the Departments of Agricultural and Resource Economics; Economics; Forest Engineering, Resources, and Management; Forest Ecosystems and Policy; and Health and Human Sciences. Collectively, faculty in the above units provide a critical mass for implementing an Applied Economics program of national reputation. Faculty in other academic Colleges (e.g. in Business) engaged in applied economic research and education would also contribute to the growth and reputation the proposed program.
   • The applied economics faculty’s collective profile will advance OSU’s Strategic Themes. A critical mass of economists already is available on the natural resources theme, and applied economists from across the University will contribute to other Strategic Themes as well. In short, the GPAE should enhance interdisciplinary collaboration.

7. Assessment of Student Outcomes
   • Similar to those in the GPAE.

D. Resources needed, if any: personnel, FTE academic, FTE classified, facilities and equipment.

The current resources employed to teach the AREC core, which also serves GEC, are reallocated to GPAE. However, AREC will recoup those resources since its faculty will continue to teach in GPAE. The net budgetary impact is zero.

E. Funding sources: state sources (institutional funds – state general fund, tuition and fees, indirect cost recoveries), federal funds, other funds as specified.
   N/A

F. Relationship of the proposed unit to the institutional mission
1.Description of how proposed program supports OSU’s Mission and Goals
The GPAE’s relationship to OSU’s Mission and Goals is discussed in the abbreviated Category I proposal to establish the GPAE.

2. Potential positive and negative impact of proposed change

The positive impact of suspending the AREC graduate degrees and establishing the GPAE will be: improving student recruitment, enrollment, and job placement; broadening the focus and visibility of the graduate program within the OSU community and across other institutions and agencies; and strengthening our scientific and policy connections to Oregon and the region.

The negative impact of suspending AREC’s established and well-recognized graduate program consists in the short-run informational adjustments: a possible short-run student loss and a faculty adjustment period that may briefly impair productivity. These negative impacts can be made negligible through proper incentives, cross-unit collaboration, and strong leadership at the dean and provost level.

G. Long-range goals and plans for the unit (including a statement as to anticipated funding sources for any projected growth in funding needs)

Our plan is to suspend the AREC graduate degrees, and to reassess the suspension once the GPAE has been operating long enough to be evaluated on its own merits.

H. Relationship of the proposed unit to programs at other institutions in the state

N/A. This question is addressed in the abbreviated Category I proposal to establish the GPAE.

I. If the program is professionally accredited, identify the accrediting body and discuss how the proposed change may affect accreditation

   o Not professionally accredited
# Budget

### (OUS and OSU)

#### Category I Proposal Budget Outline

**Estimated Costs and Sources of Funds for the Proposed Program**

See "Budget Outline Instructions" on the OUS and OSU website for more details.

**Institution:** Oregon State University  
**Category I Proposal Name:** Sustaining Agricultural and Resource Economics Degrees  
**Academic Year:** 2008-2009  
**Operating Year:** (Indicate 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year - prepare one page for each)**

**Completed by:** Susan Caglione

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**GRAND TOTALS:**

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*See current OPE tables at [http://oregonstate.edu/dept/budget/budgetandtables.htm](http://oregonstate.edu/dept/budget/budgetandtables.htm)*