July 31, 2013

TO: Timothy Boosinger  
    Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs

THROUGH: George Flowers  
    Dean, Graduate School

THROUGH: William Batchelor  
    Dean, College of Agriculture
    Betty Lou Whitford  
    Dean, College of Education

FROM: Paul Patterson  
    Associate Dean, College of Agriculture  
    Susan Villaume  
    Associate Dean, College of Education

SUBJECT: Item for the Board of Trustees – Proposed MS in Agricultural Leadership

We are writing to request that the following item be added to the Board of Trustees’ agenda for their September 13, 2013 meeting.

Proposal: The College of Agriculture and the College of Education are jointly proposing an MS in Agricultural Leadership.

Review and Consultation: The joint MS in Agricultural Leadership is being proposed as the first master’s-level program in the discipline within the state of Alabama. The program will provide education for students and/or practicing professionals seeking advanced positions in agricultural agencies, producer groups, government agencies, and other such fields. The program was designed with distance students in mind, and nearly all of the coursework is available via distance education. The proposal was reviewed by Auburn University’s Graduate Council, and received its approval in Summer 2013.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the jointly-proposed MS in Agricultural Leadership be approved, and forwarded to Auburn University’s Board of Trustees for review and approval.
MS in Agricultural Leadership

Proposing Unit(s):
College of Agriculture
College of Education

Admission / Continuation Requirements:
- Bachelor’s or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a minimum overall GPA of 2.75; This GPA must be documented on the official transcript from the degree granting institution and must be the GPA that was used as the basis for granting the degree.
- Complete and submit a Graduate School application.
- All official transcripts.
- Three recommendations that address professional and academic qualifications and a Statement of Intent (300-500 words) indicating your professional interests and goals. It can include: current goals for your professional career, reason for selecting your major field of study, type of position(s) you expect to seek when you complete the program of study covered by this application, your philosophy of education, professional issues of most concern or interest to you at this time, and/or areas of research interests.
- Approval of the Department’s Graduate Program Committee, Department Head, faculty members in the applicants area of specialization and the Dean of the Graduate School.
- Student may enroll in any semester.

Expected Program Outcomes:
Upon completing the Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership program, students will:
- Enhance their educational and agricultural knowledge base and communication skills;
- Develop and maintain their educational and technical competence of agriculture resources;
- Conduct research and scholarly activities focused on teaching and learning in agriculture content areas;
- Improve their cross-curriculum problem solving and critical thinking skills; and
- Serve in professional careers in agribusiness, education, and other organizations.

Program Requirements:
The program will be a non-thesis master of science degree, for which the students will select eighteen (18) credit hours from the courses in the College of Education, along with nine (9) credit hours in the College of Agriculture. An additional six (6) elective credit hours approved by the Advisor will be part of the total thirty-three (33) credit hours required for this program:

Core Courses — College of Education (Choose 18 credit hours - 6 courses)
  Adult Education Courses
  ADED 7050/7056 The Methods of Teaching in Adult Education (3 c.h.)
  ADED 7600/7606 The Nature of Adult Education (3 c.h.)
  ADED 7640/7646 Workforce Education (3 c.h.)
  ADED 7010/7016 Practicum (3 c.h.)
  Career and Technical Education Courses
  CTCT 7780/7786 Research in Career and Technical Education (3 c.h.)
  CTCT 7010/7016 Leading Career and Technical Organizations (3 c.h.)
  CTCT 7910/7916 Practicum (3 c.h.)

Specialty Area — College of Agriculture Courses — (Soils, Crops, Turf, Pest, Others)
- 9 credit hours of Agriculture
- 2 elective courses approved by Advisor (6 credit hours)
Department — Agronomy and Soils (Soils, Crops, Turf Specialties)
  AGRN 6010/6016 Analysis of Plant, Soil, and Animal Data (3 c.h.)
AGR N 6060/6066 Soil Microbiology (3 c.h.)
AGR N 6080/6086 Soil Resources & Conservation 4 credit hours
AGR N 6100/6106 Plant Genetics (3 c.h.)
AGR N 6160/6166 Advanced Turfgrass Management (3 c.h.)
AGR N 6300/6306 Soil Chemistry (4 c.h.)
AGR N 6400/6406 Bioenergy & the Environment (3 c.h.)
AGR N 6960/6966 Special Problems (Variable c.h.)
AGR N 6970/6976 Advanced Special Problems (Variable c.h.)
AGR N 7080/7086 Experimental Methods (3 c.h.)
AGR N 7950/7956 Seminar (1 c.h.)
AGR N 7990/7996 Research & Thesis (3 c.h.)

Department — Entomology and Plant Pathology
ENTM 6360/6366 Landscape Entomology (4 c.h.)
PLPA 6600/6606 Nematology (4 c.h.)
PLPA 6200/6206 Mycology (4 c.h.)

Department — Poultry and Food Science
FDSC 6150/6156 Food Laws & Regulations (3 c.h.)
FDSC 6200/6206 Developing, Implementing, and Auditing Food Safety Programs (3 c.h.)