

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION

PRESENTED BY: Gordon Hill, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

DATE OF MEETING: March 19, 2009

SUBJECT: **Program Terminations for Plant Sciences**

DECISION REQUESTED:

It is recommended:

That Council approve termination of the Plant Science specializations in the Master of Agriculture (MAgr) and Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) programs, effective immediately.

PURPOSE:

The Plant Science specializations in the Master of Agriculture and Post Graduate Diploma programs are academic programs at the University of Saskatchewan. Terminations of academic programs are approved by Council.

SUMMARY

The attached documents describe these fields of specialization and why the department and college are requesting their deletion. At its February 24 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee of Council agreed to recommend approval of these program terminations.

The committee is now routinely requesting that departments and colleges provide covering memos for program terminations.

ATTACHMENTS:

Report form for program termination and related memos.

From: [Crowe, Trever](#)
To: [Fornssler, Cathie](#);
cc: [Miller, Muriel](#); kelly.clement@usask.ca; ["gwen.lancaster@usask.ca"](mailto:gwen.lancaster@usask.ca);
[Crowe, Trever](#);
Subject: Deletion of MAgr and PGD in Department of Plant Sciences
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2009 7:58:41 PM
Attachments: [Plant Sciences deletions.pdf](#)

Good evening, Cathie

Faculty in the College of Graduate Studies and Research (CGSR) recently (January 27, 2009) recommended that the Master of Agriculture (MAgr) and Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in the Department of Plant Sciences be deleted. Prior to being discussed and passed at the meeting of Graduate Council, the deletions had been supported by the Master's Committee and the Executive Committee of the CGSR in addition to the faculty in the Department of Plant Sciences.

There has been very little interest in these programs. In the last 15 years, there has been one graduate from each of the programs. Further, there is currently no students enrolled in either of these programs and nobody has been offered admission to either of the programs.

Thus, the CGSR recommends to the Academic Programs Committee of University Council that the Postgraduate Diploma and the Master of Agriculture in Plant Sciences be deleted.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely
Trever

Trever Crowe, Ph.D., P.Eng.
Professor and Associate Dean
College of Graduate Studies and Research
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CGSB Asst Prog

Report Form for Program Termination
University of Saskatchewan

Department: Plant Sciences

College: Agriculture and Bioresources

Program(s) to be deleted: Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) and Master of Agriculture (MAgr)

Effective date of termination: immediate

1. **List reasons for program termination and describe the background leading to this decision.**

Only one PGD and one MAgr program has been completed in the Department of Plant Sciences within the last 15 years. In the past year, three PGD applicants were accepted (these applicants did not meet the MSc minimum requirements), but none of the candidates actually registered in the PGD program. It was motioned and unanimously agreed by the Graduate Student Committee at the May 15, 2008 committee meeting that the necessity to offer PGD and MAgr programs is no longer required, and to eliminate the two programs. This was also a unanimous agreement at the departmental level with a motion passed at the June 16, 2008 Plant Sciences Staff meeting.

2. **Technical information.**

2.1 Courses offered in the program and faculty resources required for these courses.
No specific courses are offered for this program.

2.2 Other resources (staff, technology, physical resources, etc.) used for this program.
None.

2.3 Courses to be deleted, if any.
None.

2.4 Number of students presently enrolled.
None.

2.5 Number of students enrolled and graduated over the last five years.
None.

3. **Impact of the termination.**

Internal -

3.1 What (if any) impact will this termination have on undergraduate and graduate students? How will they be advised to complete their program?
None.

3.2 What impact will this termination have on faculty and teaching assignments?
None.

3.3 Will this termination affect other programs, departments or colleges?

No.

3.4 If courses are also to be deleted, will these deletions affect any other programs?

N/A

3.5 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop a program to replace this one?

Highly unlikely.

3.6 Is it likely, or appropriate, that another department or college will develop courses to replace the ones deleted?

N/A

3.7 Describe any impact on research projects.

None.

3.8 Will this deletion affect resource areas such as library resources, physical facilities, and information technology?

No.

3.9 Describe the budgetary implications of this deletion.

None

External -

3.10 Describe any external impact (e.g. university reputation, accreditation, other institutions, high schools, community organization, and professional bodies).

We do not foresee any external impact.

3.11 Is it likely or appropriate that another educational institution will offer this program if it is deleted at the University of Saskatchewan?

Highly unlikely.

Other -

3.12 Are there any other relevant impacts or considerations?

No.

3.13 Please provide any statements or opinions received about this termination.

N/A

Optional -

4. *Additional information.*

Programs which have not undergone Systematic Program Review should check the Systematic Program Review Self-Study Guide for additional relevant information which could be provided about program quality, demand, efficiency, unique features, and relevance to the province.

From: [Coulman, Bruce](#)
To: [Fornssler, Cathie](#); [Coulman, Bruce](#);
cc: [Crowe, Trever](#);
Subject: RE: Deletion of MAgr and PDG in Plant Science
Date: Wednesday, March 04, 2009 11:55:12 AM

Hello Cathie,

Sorry for the delay in getting back to you; I have been out of the office for a couple of weeks.

The proposal to delete the MAgr and PGD in Plant Sciences was discussed and approved by our Graduate Committee. It was then presented to the entire department at a staff meeting and was ratified unanimously. So the department strongly supports these deletions.

If you require a formal memo on this issue, let me know.

Regards,

Bruce

From: Fornssler, Cathie
Sent: February-23-09 5:19 PM
To: bruce.coulman@usask.ca
Cc: Crowe, Trever
Subject: Deletion of MAgr and PDG in Plant Science

To: Bruce Coulman, Head, Plant Sciences

At its meeting on Feb. 24, 2009, the Academic Programs Committee of Council will be considering a request from the College of Graduate Studies and Research to delete the MAgr and PDG in Plant Sciences.

The Chair of the Academic Programs Committee would like to include in the documentation for this proposal a memo from the department head indicating the department's support for this deletion.

Could you send this memo to me, or to CGSR Associate Dean Trever Crowe, to forward to the Academic Programs Committee.

Thanks,

Cathie

Cathie Fornssler

Committee Coordinator

Office of the University Secretary

218 College Building