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Chair: James Madsen; Vice Chair: Dawn Hukai; Secretary: Todd A. Savage; Executive Committee: Stephen Reed, Jennifer Willis-Rivera

To: Dean Van Galen, Chancellor
116 North Hall
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

From: James Madsen, Chair
Faculty Senate
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

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FEB 07 2011

CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE
UW-RIVER FALLS

February 2, 2011

RE: UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2010-2011/26

At the February 2, 2011 meeting of University of Wisconsin-River Falls Faculty Senate, motion 2010-2011/26 was passed and it is effective immediately. This motion is forwarded to you for your action.

Motion from the Academic Programs & Policy Committee (Jim Zimmerman, Chair) to approve the suspension of the Food Science and Technology major in CAFES.

Approved

☒

Disapproved

☐

Dean Van Galen, Chancellor

2/7/11

Date

TRANSMITTAL for UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS: Changes or Proposals

INFORMATION

1. **Program title:** Food Science And Technology
2. **Department(s):** Animal & Food Science
3. **College(s):** CAFES
4. **Proposal prepared by:** Gary Onan **Date:** 9/21/2010

5. **Check all that apply:**

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ New program | ☒ Existing program |
| ☐ Change in course name | ☐ Change in number of credits |
| ☒ Change in Major | ☐ Change in Minor |
| ☐ Change in course content | ☐ Change in Emphasis/Option |

6. **Other Programs/Departments Consulted** (Requires letters of support from all Departments or Programs substantially affected):

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| 1. See Narrative | 3. |
| 2. | 4. |

7. **Date of Implementation:** Fall Semester 2013 Year

8. **Have all courses in this program been approved?** Yes ☐ **NA** No ☐
If "No," which ones?

9. **Attach Request Narrative.** (Include description of program before and after proposed changes).

UNIT APPROVALS: Requires signatures of all Departments Chairs and Deans whose programs will be affected by the changes or proposal. Signature lines for the affected Departments and Colleges (Noted in 6 above), are on the back of this form. These signatures should be obtained prior to review by all other shared governance levels.

	Signature	Date
Department Chair	<u>Gary Onan</u>	<u>9/22/2010</u>
College Curriculum Cmtt. Chair	<u>Donavon H. Taylor</u>	<u>14 Oct 2010</u>
Dean of College	<u>Mike Culler</u>	<u>10/18/10</u>
University Curriculum Cmtt. Chair	<u>Barbara S. Nielsen</u>	<u>10/22/10</u>
Academic Policy & Programs Cmtt. Chair	<u>Paul Zimmerman</u>	<u>12/3/10</u>
Faculty Senate Chair	<u>James M. Adams</u>	<u>2/3/11</u>
Provost / Vice Chancellor	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>2/3/11</u>
Chancellor	<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>4/2/11</u>

NOTE: The master copy of this transmittal and accompanying documents must be filed in the Provost's office upon final approval. The Provost's office will notify all appropriate administrative offices [Registrar, Dean(s), and Department Chair(s)] of approvals and necessary actions to implement changes.

Food Science
Program Suspension
Department of Animal and Food Science
College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences
University of Wisconsin – River Falls

The Department of Animal and Food Science (AFS) has requested that the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) suspend the Food Science and Technology (FDSC) Major. The decision to suspend the major was approved at the departmental-level during the Spring 2008 semester. CAFES supports this decision and recommends to the university AP&P Committee suspending the FDSC major.

University of Wisconsin System has provided guidelines to follow in seeking approval to suspend an academic program. The guidelines include (from *Process & Criteria*):

1. The written request should briefly address the following factors:
 - The rationale for the program suspension;
 - The potential impact of suspension on students (e.g., where will students interested in the major go? Are there other campuses offering similar programs, etc.);
 - The potential impact on faculty;
 - Consultation with governance, as appropriately determined by campus by-laws;
 - The transition period (e.g., what steps will be taken to lessen the impact on students and faculty during the transition? Allotted time for those finishing the major)

In accordance with and following the above guidelines, the following information is provided:

- The rationale for the program suspension

Suspension of the Food Science major is driven by two primary factors; diminishing staffing levels within FDSC and enrollment challenges. The AFS report (October 2008) to the CAFES Chairs Council reported faculty staffing levels at 1.67 teaching FTE, and 2.07 with the inclusion of academic instruction by pilot plant managers. Enrollment of students with majors in FDSC has ranged from 20-40 over the past five years. Enrollment issues are magnified in that little overlap exists between non-Food Science academic programs and the Food Science core curriculum (outside the 100-level courses). As a result, course enrollment in upper division Food Science courses is heavily dependent on majors and minors. Review of SCH data from 2006-07 point to this trend, as students enrolled in FDSC 110 account for 734 SCH while the remainder of all other FDSC courses offered in 2006-07 contributes a total of 286 SCH. It is unclear that student enrollment would increase appreciably, even with the infusion of additional resources.

The college has spent many years in determining the future of the FDSC major. In January 2005 the Food Science program was informally separated from the AFS Department and began meeting as a unit under direction of the CAFES Dean's office. The purpose was to give specific consideration to and self-direction by Food Science faculty for the viability of the program into the future, addressing the ongoing challenges of limited resources, low enrollments, and personnel issues. The challenges persist 5 years later. Program administration was moved back to AFS at the start of the 2007-2008 academic year.

The CAFES Chairs Council reviewed the status of all academic programs in the fall of 2008. At this time, the recommendation by AFS to contract the program was put forth. The CAFES Chairs Council reviewed these recommendations. Several Council members expressed concern about the decision to contract Food Science and, as a result, a CAFES committee was established to review this decision. The

final committee report, submitted by Dr. David Trechter (the appointed chair of the committee), also supported contraction of the program. The college has exhausted numerous alternatives (see 'consultation...' below) in addressing the limited resources, low enrollments, and personnel issues over an extended time.

Finally, it must be re-emphasized that the decision to suspend the program is primarily due to resource issues and low enrollment within the major. While external demand for graduates of the program is strong, the strong job market has not stimulated sufficient internal demand. The enrollment situation within the program is not dissimilar from other campuses with a Food Science major that focus on food technology and processing. Institutions with large undergraduate enrollments in food science typically focus heavily on nutrition and dietetics rather than food processing and technology. River Falls is atypical from peer programs in that graduate programs are not available to help offset staffing issues related to undergraduate enrollment. The heart of the issue to suspend the Food Science major is a question of 'fit' for the UW-River Falls campus.

- The potential impact of suspension on students (e.g., where will students interested in the major go? Are there other campuses offering similar programs, etc.);

Campuses within the University of Wisconsin system that offer similar programs in Food Science include UW-Madison (BS in Food Science) and UW-Stout (BS in Food Systems and Technology). Likewise, the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities campus offers an undergraduate degree in Food Science. Graduate programs in Food Science are also offered at all three campuses. River Falls is atypical from peer programs in that graduate programs are not available to help offset staffing issues related to undergraduate enrollment.

Although suspension of the Food Science and Technology major is recommended, the college is clearly committed to education within this arena. Production of food products, from a systems perspective, must include both production of the wholesale and retail product. The education of current and future consumers of food products is also viewed as a Departmental priority. The FDSC 110 course is a valuable service course to all UWRF students, particularly within CAFES, as students from across all majors potentially benefit from a better understanding of the food system. Employment opportunities for students with a strong background in food science have been consistently strong with a need for graduates within the dairy, meat, and grain processing industries. Likewise, the program has a strong track record of working with industry partners via outreach training and workshops.

With these facts in mind, the Department wishes to preserve the capacity to provide education within food science. Such capacity would be preserved by the following:

1. Maintain (refine) the Food Science minor
2. Continued delivery of FDSC 110 (UWRF general education component) and FDSC 113 (service course for additional CAFES majors, specifically Agricultural Education)
3. Infusion of food science content into existing Animal Science and Dairy Science majors, potentially through the development of options within the existing majors.

These desires are consistent with preserving food science capacity yet acknowledging resource limitations within the institution.

- The potential impact on Faculty

The GPR budget of AFS provides funding for 1.67 FTE within a teaching role in the Food Science program. The 1.67 FTE are split between two faculty lines, one with a 100% teaching appointment and

the other with a 67% teaching and 33% extension appointment. Moreover, the 100% teaching position is not completely dedicated to Food Science courses as the position involves instruction in Agricultural Biochemistry (AGBI 251 and AGBI 252) and some Animal Science courses. Instruction within these courses, the desired maintenance of the Food Science minor, and support of FDSC 110 and other courses that are needed service courses will be sufficient to maintain existing faculty and staff positions.

- Consultation with governance, as appropriately determined by campus by-laws;

The AFS Department has put forward this proposal to suspend the FDSC major and change the minor. The College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science has also conducted an internal program evaluation, which included the FDSC program. The college evaluation used slightly different terminology, but was essentially the same in its conclusion/recommendation. It concluded to 'contract' the FDSC program; to include discontinuing the FDSC major, review the minor for changes, continue service courses (i.e., FDSC 110 in General Education), and infuse food science content into ANSC and DASC majors. Third, while the college was conducting its program evaluation, the university program evaluation was initiated. The FDSC Program was placed into the category of programs marked to be 'Eliminated, reduced, or reorganized. Therefore, three separate evaluations have reached the same conclusion and recommendation.

The UW-River Falls Faculty and Academic Staff Handbook, Article III, Section A, under 3. Duties (for the Academic Program and Policy Committee) states: f. "to examine and recommend to the Faculty Senate proposals for substantial changes in ... undergraduate majors and sub-majors." Therefore, this proposal is being directed to the Academic Program and Policy Committee for consideration.

- The transition period (e.g., what steps will be taken to lessen the impact on students and faculty during the transition? Allotted time for those finishing the major)

Because of resource limitations the FDSC program has already implemented a course scheduling plan to enable students to maximize course offerings when courses can't be offered on a regular basis. Students with a Food Science major will be advised to complete core FDSC requirements by the end of the 2012-2013 academic year. In consideration of this, registration of new students into the Food Science and Technology major will cease following the 2010 – 2011 academic year. Internal transfers (UWRF students with a major other than Food Science) into the major will cease following the 2011 – 2012 academic year.

Moreover, the content of existing FDSC courses will be evaluated during the 2010-2011 academic year, such that courses may be modified to provide maximum benefit to students who wish to complete a Food Science minor. Needed modifications to the Food Science minor will be presented for approval during the 2011-2012 academic year.