

FORM G
 BOARD OF REGENTS, STATE OF IOWA
 PROPOSAL FOR PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE
 October 3, 2010

Institution: Iowa State University
 Current Title of Department/Program: Agricultural History and Rural Studies
 Proposed Title of Department/Program: Program in Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History
 Name of College: Liberal arts and Sciences
 Current CIP Discipline Specialty Title: History, Other
 Current CIP Discipline Specialty Number (six digits): 54.0199
 Proposed CIP Discipline Specialty Title: History, Other
 Proposed CIP Discipline Specialty Number (six digits): 54.0199
 Level: B _____ M _____ D X FP _____

Degree Abbreviation (e.g., B.S., B.A., M.A.): Ph.D.
 Approximate date to change name: Month August Year 2014

Contact person: (name, telephone, and e-mail)
 Pamela Riney-Kehrberg, 515-294-7286, prinkeh@iastate.edu

1. Provide a brief description of the department/program.

The proposed degree in Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History is not a new degree, per se, but the reorganization of two Ph.D. programs at Iowa State University into a single program. This program integrates into the department's current Agricultural History and Rural Studies (AHRs) degree elements of the History of Technology and Science (HOTS) program. By integrating the history of technology into the existing AHRs degree, the program will be strengthened and improved, reflecting the needs and interests of our students, and the talents of our faculty. The action the department is requesting is to re-name the AHRs degree as the Program in Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History and to incorporate elements of the history of technology from the HOTS program into the newly integrated program. HOTS (both as an M.A. and a Ph.D. program) will be discontinued officially (see separate paperwork).

2. Describe reasons (justification) for the proposed name change. Include information about the value of the name change to the department, program, the discipline, college, and/or the university.

This program is very much in line with Iowa State University's land grant mission to study agriculture, rural communities and technology. The re-named program helps to provide the historical context for Iowa State University's continuing commitment to leadership in "developing more sustainable ways to produce and deliver safe and nutritious food, water, materials, and energy; integrate the protection of plant, animal, and human health; and care for our environment." The program will also meet the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences'

mission to “develop and support distinctive graduate programs (both masters and doctoral) that enhance the land grant, science and technology mission of the University.”

Throughout world history human beings have depended on rural and agricultural communities as well as on the technologies developed and employed by these communities to sustain lives. Iowa State's Doctoral Program in Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History offers a scholarly community and learning environment dedicated to the close examination of pervasive and enduring questions about these basic aspects of human history. Such questions can best be answered through the multi-faceted perspectives provided by rural, agricultural, technological, and environmental history. This grouping of historical issues reflects the developmental trajectory of rural and agricultural history. While early humans raised food and fiber by relatively simple means, changes in technology and human interaction with the environment have inextricably linked these fields to each other. The result of bringing these fields together is a dynamic learning experience that leads to comparative and transnational analysis shaped by a broad range of methods drawn from the humanities and social/physical sciences. The Program's aim is to produce students who are excellent researchers and engaging teachers, capable of succeeding in a broad variety of professional positions, both inside and outside of academia.

As previously stated, this is not a completely new program, but the reformulation and renaming of two older programs. The department's graduate focus on agricultural and rural history will continue, as will its focus on the history of technology. The history of science will be dropped from the department's repertoire based on budgetary realities and the retirement of its last historian of science in December 2013. The department's three historians of technology will integrate seamlessly into the new program. This change also reflects ongoing practices in the department: In the last decade, ten students in the department have written doctoral dissertations that incorporated rural/agricultural history with the history of technology. An equally large number of students have integrated rural/agricultural history with environmental history (the study of how humans have interacted with the natural world over time).

3.If this is a department name change, describe how the proposed name is consistent with the mission of the college. N/A

4.Will the proposed name change be consistent with other institutions? Identify other institutions that have the same or similar name to the proposed name.

There are no other Regents' institutions with similar programs. The University of Northern Iowa has no Ph.D. program in history. The University of Iowa has a much more general Ph.D. program in history, and supports this change at Iowa State University (see letter of support). The only similar programs are at Kansas State University and Mississippi State University, titled Agricultural and Environmental History and History of Agriculture, Science and Environment of the South, respectively.

5. Is the proposed name consistent with association/accreditation designations? N/A

6. Describe program configuration changes that will result from the proposed name change, e.g., change in number of credit hours required, etc.

Changes in students' programs: As demonstrated below, there will be a slight change in students' fields of study, but this is sufficiently like the current requirements that it should not cause any problems for continuing students in the program. These changes draw on the current resources and strengths of the History Department.

Fields of Study: The Plan of Study (POS) will be developed in consultation with the major professor. Doctoral students must select four fields of study. Students will choose a field in agricultural, rural, environmental, or technological history. Two additional fields will be in U.S. or European History, or in pertinent instances, a combination of both. Lastly, students will choose a fourth field of study as approved by the major professor and the Director of Graduate Education (DOGE). In many cases, this field will be related to the anticipated dissertation topic; it might also contain an interdisciplinary perspective (for example, Sustainable Agriculture) that broadens the student's intellectual development. The RATE program is appropriately broad in its required fields because of job market considerations. Students with such preparation have a far greater chance of finding employment in history.

All dissertations completed in the program will contain a component related to rural and agricultural history, broadly defined.

First Field

Rural History

Agricultural History

Technological History

Environmental History

Second and Third Fields:

United States History to 1865

United States History since 1865

Europe to 1500

Europe since 1500

Non-U.S., non-European fields as approved by POS committee and supported by faculty

Fourth Field:

As coordinated with the Program of Study Committee and approved by the major professor(s) and the DOGE. The department highly recommends that students take their fourth field in an area that broadens their disciplinary range.

This program remains a 72 hour Ph.D. program. There will be no additional changes.

Seminars and Proseminars appropriate to the first field are: History 511D, 550A, 550B, 552A, 552B, 552C, 552D, 575, 593D and 610.

Seminars and Proseminars appropriate to the second and third fields are: History 511A, 511B, 511C, 511E, 512A, 512B, 512C, 530, 593A, 593B, 593C, 594A, 594B and 594C.

Seminars and Proseminars appropriate to the fourth field are: History 510, 513, 583A, 583B, 583C and 586.

7. Describe how current students will be affected by the proposed department/program name change.

The described program is sufficiently similar to the AHRS program that no current students will be inconvenienced by changes in the program. No student's progress toward completion should be affected. All students belonging to the HOTS program that the department is terminating (see separate paperwork) should graduate in the next 12 months.

8. What costs will be incurred by the proposed name change? Identify new resources that will be needed in connection with the proposed name change, e.g., facilities, faculty, funds, etc.

No new costs will be incurred with this proposed name change. As previously stated, this is not a completely new program, but the reformulation of two older programs. The department's graduate focus on agricultural and rural history will continue, as will its focus on the history of technology. The history of science will be dropped from the department's repertoire based on budgetary realities and the retirement of its last historian of science in December 2013. The department's three historians of technology will integrate seamlessly into the new program.

Because of the relationship of the proposed program to ongoing graduate programs, we anticipate that we will not need to add any personnel specific to this program at this time. History programs do not generally require additional facilities or equipment.

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