



University Council

August 9, 2024

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2024-2025

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Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

Ex-Officio – Provost S. Jack Hu

Undergraduate Student Representative – TBD

Graduate Student Representative – TBD

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences to terminate the Undergraduate Certificate in Plant Health Management will be an agenda item for the August 16, 2024, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

# PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

**Date:** May 17, 2024

**School/College:** College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**Department/Division:** Plant Pathology

**Program (Major and Degree):** Undergraduate Certificate in Plant Health Management

**Which campus(es) offer this program?** Athens

**Deactivation or Termination?** Termination

**Proposed Effective Date:** Fall 2025

**Last date students will be admitted to this program:** Summer 2024

**Last date students will graduate from this program:** Fall 2026

*Note: There may be no enrollment in the program as of the termination effective date.*

## **Program Abstract:**

The Undergraduate Certificate in Plant Health Management provides a broad-based educational experience in three major areas of integrated pest management, including entomology, plant pathology, and weed science. Further, the awarding of the Undergraduate Certificate in Plant Health Management recognizes students graduating from other majors who have completed their educational background in these critical areas of knowledge. Plant health management is interdisciplinary by nature; this program provides the required educational opportunities across the relevant disciplines.

## **1. State the reasons for terminating the program and provide copies of any relevant documents.**

Enrollment in the certificate has remained low, with only four students graduating during the past six academic years. There have been no graduates during the past five semesters. Since the Department of Plant Pathology does not have its own undergraduate major, it has been difficult to direct students into the certificate program. The faculty in the department voted unanimously in support of termination during a faculty meeting on March 5, 2024.

## **2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved?**

There are no dedicated faculty or staff associated with this certificate program. The courses utilized for the certificate will continue to be offered without change. There will be no impact on faculty and staff.

## **3. What will be done to ensure that termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?**

The certificate does not feed directly into other academic programs. At the undergraduate level, the Department of Plant Pathology will focus on growing its undergraduate Minor in Plant Pathology, which provides an alternative path for students interested in plant health management.

## Documentation of Approval and Notification

**Proposal:** Terminate the Undergraduate Certificate in Plant Pathology

**College:** College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

**Departments:** Plant Pathology

**Proposed Effective Term:** Fall 2025

School/College:

- Plant Pathology Department Head, Dr. Harald Scherm, 5/17/24
- College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Dean Kopsell, 5/17/24