Proposal for a Graduate Certificate Program in Agricultural Education

Introduction: The Department of Agricultural and Extension Education is proposing a Graduate Certificate Program (GCP) in Agricultural Education. This certificate program is primarily designed for students who are working towards teacher licensure through our Licensure Education for Agricultural Professionals (LEAP) program. These students must take a prescribed set of courses jointly determined by the State Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education. At the completion of the course work, the student receives a teaching license from the state of North Carolina. We are proposing the student also receive a graduate certificate from the university.

Program details follow:

1. The coordinator of the certificate program will be the Director of Graduate Programs in the Department. That is currently Gary Moore.
2. There is an application form for the program (see attached document).
3. There is no application fee.
4. Admission requirements are:
   The student must
   a. have at least a 2.5 GPA in their undergraduate program
   b. have a degree in an agricultural discipline or closely related discipline
   c. provide three letters of reference
   d. write an essay outlining why he/she desires to be a teacher of agriculture.
5. The program coordinator will compile applicant information and maintain it in a database. An advisory committee of Drs. Barry Croom and Beth Wilson will advise the program coordinator in regards to applicants that may be marginal (i.e. weak letters of reference, questionable related discipline, etc.).
6. The title of the program will be "Graduate Certificate in Agricultural Education."
7. Fifteen (15) hours of graduate courses will be required. The student may select from the following courses.
   - AEE 500 Agricultural Education, Schools, and Society – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 503 Youth Organization Management – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 521 Program Planning in Agricultural and Extension Education – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 522 Occupational Experience in Agriculture – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 528 Instructional Design in Agricultural and Extension Education – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 529 Curriculum Development in Agricultural and Extension Education – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 535 Teaching Agriculture in Public Schools – 3 credit hours
   - AEE 641 Practicum in Agricultural and Extension Education – maximum of 3 credit hours
   - AEE 735 Effective Teaching in Agriculture and Life Sciences – 3 credit hours
8. To receive a Graduate Certificate, a student must have a minimum 3.0 average on all certificate course work.

9. The minimum grade to receive certificate credit can be no lower than a grade of "C".

10. Transfer credit from other institutions is not allowed in the certificate program.

11. All certificate requirements must be completed within four (4) calendar years, beginning with the date the student commences courses applicable to the Graduate Certificate Program.

12. Standard university tuition and fees will be charged for the courses in the program.

13. It is recommended that AEL be the tracking code (Agricultural Education – LEAP program) unless that code is currently in use.

14. All promotional literature will include a statement to the effect "Academic success might have a strong bearing on admission to a degree program BUT completion of a certificate program in no way guarantees entry into a graduate degree program which is done through a separate application process."

15. Current graduate faculty teach the courses in the proposed certificate program. They are George Bostick, Barry Croom, Jim Flowers, Gary Moore and Beth Wilson.

16. The Graduate Certificate Program coordinator will notify the Dean of the Graduate School of the student's completion of certificate requirements.

Approved

____________________________________  Date______________
Dr. Jim Flowers, Head, Department of Agricultural and Extension Education

____________________________________  Date______________
Dr. Raymond Long, Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, CALS

____________________________________  Date______________
Dr. Ken Esbenshade, Associate Dean and Director of Academic Programs, CALS

____________________________________  Date______________
Dr. Robert Sowell, Dean of the Graduate School
Application for the Licensure in Education for Agricultural Professionals (LEAP) Program
(a web-based, lateral-entry teacher certification program in agricultural education)

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Agricultural and Extension Education
North Carolina State University

Name _________________________________ Social Security Number _______________

Mailing Address ____________________________________________________________

Town_____________________________________ State __________ Zip Code ________

Home Phone #________________ Work Phone # _______________ Fax #_____________

E-mail address _____________________________________________________________

Educational Experience: List the following information for all institutions of higher education attended:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution Attended</th>
<th>Dates of Attendance</th>
<th>Major Field of Study</th>
<th>Overall Grade Point Average</th>
<th>Type of Degree Earned</th>
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Work Experience: Describe your work experience after completing the Bachelor’s degree.

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<th>Employer</th>
<th>Dates of Employment</th>
<th>Major Responsibilities or Work Activities</th>
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Note: Academic success might have a strong bearing on admission to a degree program BUT completion of this certificate program in no way guarantees entry into a graduate degree program which is done through a separate application process.
References: Please have three individuals complete the enclosed reference forms. Please list the name, mailing address and phone number of these individuals below so we can follow-up if needed. Ideally, these individuals should be able to address questions related to your character, work ethic, academic ability and suitability for teaching.

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<tr>
<th>Reference Name</th>
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Background Information: Please circle the appropriate answer. This information will help us in designing assignments for various courses.

1. While in high school did you take courses in agricultural education?  Yes  No
2. If yes, were you a member of the FFA?  Yes  No
3. Have you been a 4-H member or volunteer?  Yes  No

Technology: The following information will help us in designing the web classes and assignments.

What brand of computer would you use to access the LEAP classes? _________________
Which Web Browser do you use?  __ Netscape Communicator
                          __ Internet Explorer (Microsoft)
                          __ Other ___________________________
Who is your Internet Service Provider? _________________________________________
How do you connect to the Internet? __ Modem over Standard Phone Line
                                   __ DSL line
                                   __ Cable
                                   __ Other __________________

Essay: Attach a 1-3 page essay describing why you want to be certified to teach agriculture through the LEAP program. This essay should be typed or printed neatly. Please use any style of format you deem to be appropriate. What you write and how you say it is more important than length.

Transcripts: Attach copies of official transcripts of all academic work completed at institutions of higher education.

Please return this form, transcripts and essay to:
Dr. Gary Moore
Box 7607
Department of Agricultural and Extension Education
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC 27695