



# The University of Georgia

Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors

August 19, 2003


RECEIVED

AUG 20 2003

FACE VALUE OF PAGE

**Memorandum To:** Dr. Sharon Y. Nickols, Dean  
College of Family and Consumer Sciences

Dr. Jan Hathcote, Associate Dean

**From:** Ian Hardin   
Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors

**Subject:** Termination of Textile Science major

As the accompanying statement indicates, the number of students majoring in Textile Science has been small and declining over the past six years. We have discussed this trend in the department and do not believe it is reversible without substantial scholarship resources to recruit students.

The department met last Friday for our annual fall faculty meeting before classes start. A vote to terminate the Textile Science major was taken. The vote was positive with no opposing votes. I am forwarding the department recommendation to you for further action at the college and university level. Please let me know if there is additional information that is needed.

Termination of the Textile Science  
Undergraduate Program

1. The University of Georgia  
August 18, 2003
2. College of Family and Consumer Sciences
3. Department of Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors
4. Program: Textile Science Undergraduate Program
5. Action: Termination
6. December 20, 2003
7. The Textile Science undergraduate major has seen a continuously declining enrollment over the last decade seven years, from fourteen (14) in 1998 to two (2) in the spring of 2003, and one (1) in fall, 2003. The decreasing enrollment probably cannot be reversed without substantial scholarship help. Right now, there is only one student in the Textile Science major. By proper advising, this student could be allowed to stay in the major, but no more will be added. The core textile courses that would be required are normally taught for merchandising and interiors students, as well, and the demand from these students is large (> 400 majors combined). Additional technical and scientific courses in chemistry, physics and engineering are offered on a regular basis by these departments.

The termination of the major will not affect any faculty. The demand for our undergraduate textile courses remains very strong, and our graduate and research programs in textile science are in high demand and bring in substantial outside research grant fund. The research and graduate programs in environmental textile science (chemistry) have a national and international reputation.