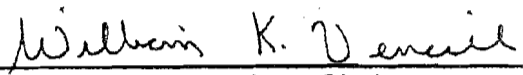


**APPROVAL PAGE  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES  
CURRICULUM PROPOSALS**

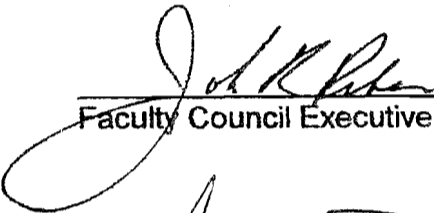
Proposal: Agribusiness Law Certificate

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Head

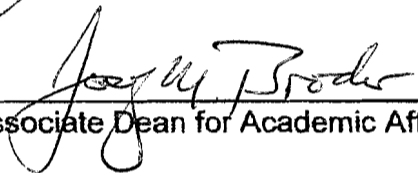
10/30/07  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Curriculum Committee Chair

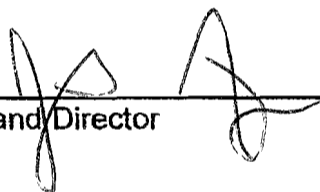
27 Sept 2007  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Faculty Council Executive Committee Chair

30 Oct 2007  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

10-31-07  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dean and Director

11/1/07  
Date

Agribusiness Law Certificate  
March 21, 2007

1. Program Purpose

The establishment of the interdisciplinary Agribusiness Law Certificate Program is designed to provide students in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) guidance and background courses for law school. Students will acquire a comprehensive knowledge base of agribusiness law and agribusiness management. Other elective courses in legal and agribusiness subjects will augment the backgrounds of these students for law school.

Education in agribusiness law is critical in preparing students with timely and appropriate information for framing legal advice for economically feasible agricultural and business practices. The certificate program will provide a foundation for students to better understand the laws and regulations governing both personal and professional agribusiness-related pursuits. The program will offer students the opportunity to broaden their course selection in courses from Agricultural and Applied Economics, Agricultural Leadership, Food Science, Legal Studies, Real Estate, and Political Science. Communications with all of these units expressed support for the proposed certificate. Units outside of CAES expressed support for having students from the College in their courses to add different perspectives.

Given the academic credentials of students in CAES, it is fitting to help to prepare those interested for further studies including law. The certificate program also corresponds to providing a strong applicant pool of students for the University's outstanding law school.

2. Program Need

There is a need for attorneys in small towns throughout the state with specialized knowledge in agriculture and agribusiness. Given the needs of rural areas for quality legal services, this program will be positive in helping direct students to a career in agribusiness law. Every year, students in CAES express an interest in law school. They want information on how they might direct their course studies to potentially apply and attend law school. This certificate program responds to this need. It identifies basic legal and agricultural courses that form a strong undergraduate program for preparing for law school.

The certificate program would be initiated and implemented in the spring of 2009, and students would be able to complete the certificate requirements as soon thereafter as they complete program requirements. It is anticipated that about 4 students would complete the requirements for a certificate each year. This enrollment would be expected to be fairly constant.

3. Student Demand

Students taking AAEC 4050/6050, Agribusiness and Natural Resource Law, have asked questions concerning furthering studies appropriate for law school. Graduates of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences who have also completed law school have noted that they wished they had had such a program. Their questions and comments suggest the

desirability of a more structured approach in advisement to prepare CAES students for law school. The success of the Environmental Law Minor in the Department also supports the implementation of a Certificate in Agribusiness Law Program.

Student demand is anticipated to be moderate. With reference to the Environmental Law Minor and its enrollment of 25 students, it is anticipated that about 8 undergraduates will initially enroll in the certificate program and this number would increase to 15 students. The minority student enrollment in the certificate program would be expected to be in proportion to such enrollment in the College.

#### 4. Design and Curriculum

The program will use existing university courses, thereby facilitating its implementation. The two required courses concerning (1) agribusiness law and (2) agribusiness management are obviously necessary for the certificate. Next, students will take two courses from a list of six possibilities concerning legal, regulatory, and political material. These courses will provide information that would be appropriate for lawyers who may practice law in rural Georgia. Students will also take two additional courses from a listing of seven agribusiness-related courses with an emphasis on related agribusiness materials. The proposal thereby offers balanced law and agribusiness course work.

The certificate will require 17-18 hours of course work, consistent with other certificate programs at the University. For a disciplinary standard, the University of Florida's Undergraduate Minor in Agricultural Law may be employed. The Florida minor requires 15 hours of course work with 6 hours being required course work.

##### Core Curriculum: Required Courses (6 hours):

- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 4050/6050 Agribusiness and Natural Resource Law - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 3980 or AAEC 4980/6980 Agribusiness Management - 3 hours

##### Major Related Legal Materials: Select 2 Courses from the following options (5-6 hours):

- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 4930/6930 Environmental Law and Governmental Regulation - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ FDST 4100/6100 Governmental Regulation of Food Safety and Quality - 2 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ LEGL 4500/6500 Employment Law - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ LEGL 4600 Negotiation and Alternative Dispute Resolution Systems - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ LEGL(REAL) 5200 Real Estate Law - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ POLS 4540 Interest Group Politics - 3 hours

##### Major Related Agribusiness Materials: Select 2 Courses from the following options (6 hours):

- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 3040 Agribusiness Marketing, or AAEC 3100 Food and Fiber Marketing, or MARK 3000 Principles of Marketing - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 3400 Introduction to Agricultural Policy - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC(AFST) 4720 Food Security, Economic Development, and the Environment - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC 4760 Economics of Agricultural Processing and Marketing - 3 hours
- \_\_\_\_\_ AAEC(FINA) 4870/6870 Futures and Options Markets - 3 hours

\_\_\_\_\_ ALDR 3900 Leadership and Service - 3 hours  
\_\_\_\_\_ REAL 4000 Real Estate - 3 hours

## 5. Faculty Resources

The Agribusiness Law Certificate program will use existing faculty and courses of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and also draw upon elective courses in other departments. All of the faculty listed below from the AAEC Department are tenured and have been teaching courses that would be used for the certificate program.

The lead faculty, Professor Terence J. Centner, is an agricultural lawyer with 25 years of teaching experience. He was recognized in 2007 by the University of Georgia Student Government Association for outstanding teaching and taught as a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Mannheim, Germany in 2002-03.

Professor Terence J. Centner

Education:

LL.M. - University of Arkansas  
J.D. - State University of New York at Buffalo  
B.S. with Distinction - Cornell University

Academic Specialty:

Agribusiness and Environmental Law  
Personal and Governmental Liability

Professor Jeff Dorfman

Education:

PhD - University of California - Davis  
BA - University of California - Davis

Academic Specialty:

Microeconomics  
Ag Processing and Markets

Professor James E. Epperson

Education:

PhD - Mississippi State University  
MS - Auburn University  
BS - Auburn University

Academic Specialty:

Agribusiness Marketing  
Agribusiness Management

Professor Mark Harrison

Education:

PhD - University of Tennessee  
MS - University of Tennessee  
BS - Tennessee Technological University

Academic Specialty:  
Food Microbiology  
Regulation of Food Safety

Professor Jack Houston

Education:

PhD - Washington State University  
BA - University of Washington - Seattle

Academic Specialty:

Food Security, Economic Development, & the Environment  
Environmental Economics  
Futures and Options Markets

Assistant Professor Chris Morgan

Education:

PhD - University of Florida  
M.S. - Texas A&M University  
BA - Texas A&M University

Academic Specialty:

Leadership Development  
International Agricultural Education

Professor Dick Schermerhorn

Education:

PhD - Oregon State University  
MS - University of Georgia  
BS - University of Georgia

Academic Specialty:

Agribusiness Marketing

Associate Professor Forrest Stegelin

Education:

PhD - Oklahoma State University  
MBA - University of Oklahoma  
BS - Kansas State University

Academic Specialty:

Food and Fiber Marketing  
Agribusiness Marketing  
Agribusiness Selling

All the AAEC faculty listed above have taught classes listed in the certificate for many years. The only projected change in responsibility for any of these faculty is for Professor Centner, who will be the coordinator of the certificate program. All other faculty will still be teaching the same courses, regardless of whether the students enrolled are attempting to complete a major requirement, a minor requirement or a requirement for completion of this certificate.

#### 6. Library, Computer and Instructional Resources

The program will serve existing undergraduate students through existing courses. Students in AAEC agribusiness courses have access to a Departmental computer lab in Conner Hall. Students at the University of Georgia have access to many legal materials in the Main Library and the Law Library. No new library, computer, and instructional resources above those needed for current and projected student enrollments are required for this certificate program.

#### 7. Physical Facilities.

The program will serve existing undergraduate students through existing courses. There will be no new physical facilities requirements.

#### 8. Expenses

The program will only incur trivial administrative expenses to track the students in the program. All faculty and equipment resources needed for the program are already in place.

#### 9. Commitments

The Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics is committed to this program and will assign the necessary resources to the program to ensure that courses are taught on a timely schedule and that any other needs are met.

#### 10. Administration

The Agribusiness Law Certificate Program will be administered by a Director, with support from the Undergraduate Committee of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. The Director will have a biennial appointment. The Director will serve as the program advisor for students. The program will accept and maintain any interested student who is in good academic standing within their home academic unit. The Certificate will be earned and granted to any student who successfully passes the required and elective courses outlined in this certificate, and successfully fulfills all the degree requirements of their major in their home academic unit.



# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
Food and Resource Economics Department

McCarty Hall  
PO Box 110240  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0240  
Fax: (352) 846-0988

October 4, 2007

Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman  
Interim Department Chair  
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics  
301 Conner Hall  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, GA

Dear Dr. Dorfman:

I am writing to support the Agribusiness Law Certificate Program at The University of Georgia.

The Agribusiness Law Certificate Program is similar to the Undergraduate Minor In Agricultural and Natural Resource Law Program established in the Department of Food and Resource Economics at The University of Florida in the summer of 1999. Our program provides a needed foundation for students to better understand the laws and regulations governing professional agricultural related pursuits. Undergraduate students completing the program receive official recognition on University of Florida transcripts.

The University of Florida's program has been an resounding success. Since its inception, over 200 students have entered and completed the minor. Students enrolled in the program continue to increase. To meet the increasing demand of student enrollment, we have had to offer multiple sections of core course offerings. The program has attracted students not only from our College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, but from colleges throughout the university. Students have clearly benefitted from the program as it has given them an edge up in the job market following graduation. It has also provided them with an educational foundation for law school and community service.

Our program has provided students with timely and appropriate information for framing and putting into action environmentally sound, socially acceptable and economically feasible agricultural practices in the production of food, fiber and fuel. Based on our experience at The University of Florida, I support and encourage you to implement the Agribusiness Law Certificate Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael T. Olexa".

Michael T. Olexa, Ph.D., J.D.  
Professor and Director Agricultural Law Center

**Jeffrey Dorfman**

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**From:** Rob Hoyt [rhoyt@terry.uga.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 03, 2007 5:31 PM  
**To:** jdorfman@uga.edu  
**Cc:** tcentner; Melvin Crask  
**Subject:** Re: Agribusiness Law Certificate.

Jeff,

Prof. Centner asked that I review the proposed certificate in Agribusiness Law and respond relative to potential impact for courses offered by the Department of Insurance, Legal Studies & Real Estate.

As I review the proposed curriculum, the following would be the classes that are taught by our department:

Major Related Legal Materials: Select 2 Courses from the following options (5-6 hours):  
\_\_\_\_\_ LEGL 4500/6500 Employment Law - 3 hours \_\_\_\_\_ LEGL 4600/6300 Negotiation and  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Systems - 3 hours \_\_\_\_\_ LEGL (REAL) 5200 Real Estate Law - 3  
hours

Major Related Agribusiness Materials: Select 2 Courses from the following options (6  
hours):  
\_\_\_\_\_ REAL 4000 Real Estate - 3 hours.

As you know, we have very high demand for all of these classes. The first two LEGL courses are very popular electives within the Terry College and we don't have enough business electives to go around. REAL 5200 has been taught on a year-by-year basis with an outside instructor.

We have to ask for funding for this each year from the College and there are no guarantees that this funding will be available in the future.

REAL 4000 has been filled to capacity for the last several years, even though we offer a large number of seats.

That said, if the program is likely to be very small as Prof. Centner describes, we are willing to do what we can to support it. We are willing to make room for the one to two students per term that may need seats in our classes.

Please let me know if you need additional information from me.

Thanks,

Rob

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Robert E. Hoyt, Ph.D.  
Dudley L. Moore, Jr. Chair of Risk Management and Insurance Department Head, Insurance,  
Legal Studies, & Real Estate Brooks Hall 206 Terry College of Business University of  
Georgia Athens, GA 30602-6255 USA

Tel. 706-542-4290  
Fax. 706-542-4295  
Email: rhoyt@terry.uga.edu  
Homepage: <http://rhoyt.myweb.uga.edu/bio.html>



*Joseph A. Brown*  
835 Circle Drive • Tallahassee, Florida 32301 • (850) 671-5999 • jabrown1785@gmail.com

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October 19, 2007

Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman, Interim Department Head  
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics  
301 Conner Hall  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602

Re: College Agriculture and Environmental Sciences,  
Agribusiness Law Certificate Program

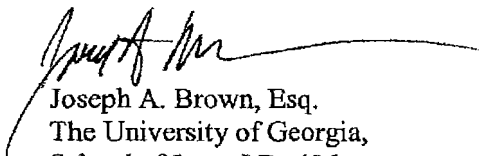
Dear Dr. Dorfman,

I am writing to express my support for the establishment of an Agribusiness Law Certificate Program within the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES). I believe such a program would be a boon to both CAES and its students. This certificate program will allow interested students to access a tailored and delineated course of study, easing the identification, by both students and advisors, of what courses a student interested in this area should consider. Further, the certificate program would afford participants who apply to law school with a uniquely relevant academic experience that would increase their marketability to any law school. Moreover, I am unaware of any course of legal studies tailored towards agribusiness at The University of Georgia School of Law, and I would not be surprised if there were no such offerings at any law school in the state. As such, this certificate program could be a unique opportunity to present professional avenues that many CAES students going on to law school may never otherwise consider, including practicing law in their hometowns or rural communities across Georgia.

The benefits of the certificate program would not be limited only to those students that might consider law school and a legal career though. Agribusiness students could only benefit from increased fluency in related areas of governmental policy, regulation and the law. The certificate program would help CAES students and their advisors identify and take advantage of related agribusiness law courses.

This certificate program would only enhance CAES' academic offerings and I hope that faculty and administration take the steps necessary to include this program as part of the broader CAES curriculum.

Sincerely,



Joseph A. Brown, Esq.  
The University of Georgia,  
School of Law, J.D., '06  
College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, B.S.E.S, '02

Joel L. McKie

2165 S. Milledge Ave, Apt A8  
Athens, GA 30601

Email: [jomckie@uga.edu](mailto:jomckie@uga.edu)  
Phone: 229-426-2205

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October 18, 2007

Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman, Interim Department Head  
Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics  
301 Conner Hall  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602

Dr. Dorfman:

I trust all is well for you and the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. Recently, Professor Terrence Centner contacted me and explained the Department was currently considering the addition of a Certificate in Agribusiness Law to its curriculum. As a graduate of the Department, I am writing to express my support for this worthy addition.

To me, the most notable advantage of this new program will be for those students preparing for a formal legal education. As I understand the law school admittance process, diversity of background and education are important considerations of admission committees. For example, after my admittance into the University of Georgia School of Law, the Director of Law Admissions expressly shared with me that it was my agricultural background that distinguished me from similarly-situated, non-admitted applicants. This Certificate in Agribusiness Law will concisely highlight for law school admission committees those applicants who have considerable undergraduate training relating to the current legal issues surrounding agribusiness.

The Certificate in Agribusiness Law could also be extremely valuable to students who are not aspiring attorneys. Right or wrong, in our increasingly litigious society and alarmingly bureaucratic government, the agriculture industry and its stakeholders need to be aware of recurring legal issues and possess a basic appreciation of how to navigate this sometimes treacherous domain. Georgia employers will undoubtedly value knowledge of very basic contract, tort, property, administrative, and immigration law. One of the most effective ways to communicate such undergraduate training to potential employers is the implementation of this Certificate in Agribusiness Law.

I am always excited to learn about the progressiveness of the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics and this programmatic addition certainly demonstrates the Department's continued responsiveness to the needs of its students. If I can be of any further assistance with this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Joel McKie*

Joel L. McKie  
Juris Doctor Candidate, 2008  
The University of Georgia

Cc: Professor Terrence Centner