June 18, 2014

M. Scott Herness, Associate Dean
Office of Academic Affairs
Graduate School Administration
The Graduate School
250D University Hall
230 North Oval Mall
CAMPUS

RE: Request to Deactivate the Graduate Certificate in Global Food Security

Dear Dean Herness:

The Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics (AEDE) requests deactivation of the Graduate Certificate in Global Food Security. The rationale for this request includes lack of student interest, as well as the fact that many of the courses required for the Certificate either no longer exist or have changed since the quarter-to-semester conversion.

The original purpose of the Certificate program was to prepare MS and PhD students in agricultural economics and related fields to deal effectively with food security issues in countries at various levels of development, with different resources for agricultural production, and different food consumption patterns. The Certificate was designed as a standalone option for AEDE graduate students. Over the past 18 years there has been very little student interest, our records showing that since its inception in 1996, only five certificates have been awarded to AEDE MS and PhD students.

Given the lack of interest and changes in course offerings, we request deactivation of this Certificate. Please note, we wish only to deactivate, and not fully terminate the Certificate, in the event that we see measurable interest in reactivating it.

Please let me know if you either require further information or have questions.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ian M. Sheldon
Graduate Studies Chair

CC: Tim Haab, AEDE Department Chair
Stephen Neal, CFAES Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs
Samuel Jordan, Director of Registration Services, Graduate School