

The Proposal for Discontinuation of Minor, Certificate or Graduate Specialization

1. Name of administrator, academic unit or group originating the proposal. Include the name and email of contact person(s).
Bioeconomy Institute
Robert C. Brown, rcbrown3@iastate.edu
Mary Scott Hall, mshall@iastate.edu
2. Name of the program.
Biorenewable Resources & Technology Interdisciplinary Graduate Program
3. Name of the academic unit that administers the program.
Bioeconomy Institute
4. Rationale for discontinuation.
Declining enrollments and lack of resources to administer it.
5. Availability of similar programs at other Regent's institutions.
No other identical program, but the ISU College of Engineering administers a Energy Systems Minor that has some overlap (<https://catalog.iastate.edu/collegeofengineering/energy-systems-minor/>) and two of the courses (BRT 501 and BRT 535) will continue to be offered through the Mechanical Engineering Department at ISU (ME 501 and ME 535).
6. Enrollment data for current and previous four years.
A maximum of three graduate students were enrolled in the BRT program over the last three years.
7. A survey of students currently enrolled in a program to determine the impact of the discontinuance on their academic plans. The survey should attempt to identify students who wish (i) to complete the program; (ii) to transfer to other programs at the same institution; and (iii) to leave the institution.
No formal survey was administered, but students have not been admitted for the last three years and those already enrolled will be able to complete their degrees before the program is terminated.
8. On the basis of the data collected, a projection of faculty and staff needed to accommodate student needs in order to maintain program quality, and both a time frame for, and the costs of, program phase-out.
None.
9. A description of the impact of the discontinuance on underrepresented student populations and on women.
No minority students are currently enrolled in the program.