

Contact: Rachel Boon

REQUEST TO SUSPEND ADMISSIONS TO THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN RURAL, AGRICULTURAL, TECHNOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the Iowa State University to suspend admissions to the Doctor of Philosophy in Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office staff reviewed the proposal and recommend approval.

Description of program. The Rural, Agricultural, Technological and Environmental History program (RATE) address significant and enduring questions about rural and agricultural communities throughout world history, technologies developed and employed by these communities, and environmental contexts in which they operate.

Reason for proposed suspension. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, as part of the Reimagining LAS initiative, has significantly reduced the budget for the Department of History, resulting in the inability to continue funding the RATE program.

Five-year trend in enrollments and graduations.

	Applications	Enrollment	Graduations
2023	0	11	0
2022	9	13	0
2021	0	16	0
2020	4	12	5
2019	9	16	1

Effect on current students. The Department of History proposes a five-year sunset period, officially suspending admissions immediately and graduating remaining RATE students in 2-5 years.

Impact on resources. Program suspension will reduce direct costs by approximately \$110,000 annually.

Impact on workforce. No workforce impact is anticipated.

Alternative programs. The University of Iowa has a general doctoral program in history. The department reported 27 current PhD students in the program.

Timeline for suspension. The Department of History proposes a five-year sunset period.