Contact: Rachel Boon

REQUEST TO TERMINATE THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN WIND ENERGY SCIENCE ENGINEERING AND POLICY AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Committee Action Requested: Recommend to the Board approval of the request to terminate the Doctor of Philosophy in Wind Energy Science Engineering and Policy in the College of Engineering at Iowa State University.

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

Description of the program: The wind energy science, engineering and policy program was designed to produce graduates that would be technical experts, responsible communicators, and ethical decisionmakers who could lead the nation toward meeting national goals in the use of wind energy to reduce climate impacts, while contributing to U.S. economic competitiveness. The purpose of this program was to provide doctoral students with multidisciplinary training in the skills required for conducting research at the disciplinary interface between engineering, atmospheric science/meteorology, agriculture/economics and journalism/communication. The thematic basis was that mitigating global climate change requires energy system transformation to reduce greenhouse gases from the electric sector; wind energy must play a central role in this, which will occur only through interdisciplinary leadership in advancing pertinent science, engineering, technology and policy. The vision was to strengthen the nation's wind energy resources by producing technical experts, effective communicators and ethical decisionmakers who will lead the U.S. transformation to a high wind energy portfolio.

Reason for proposed termination: Many of the faculty that were original participants in this program are no longer at Iowa State University and the demand for the program has tapered off over the past several years.

Effect on current students: There are no anticipated impacts on current students as the remaining individual will be supported to degree completion.

Enrollment and Completion Trends:

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Majors	2	1	1	1	1
Graduates	1	0	0	0	1

Impact on resources: The total enrollment in this program was never very large, so the costs of terminating the interdisciplinary program are minimal.

Impact on workforce: Although Iowa has over 13 gigawatts of wind energy capacity and hosts several manufacturing facilities (Nordex in West Branch, TPI Composites in Newton, Arcosa in Newton, and Siemens in Fort Madison), workforce requirements for these facilities generally do not require a doctoral degree. Indeed, all of the program's graduates presently work outside the state of Iowa. Termination of the program will not affect workforce needs in the state.

Alternative programs: A similar program is not available in Iowa.

Date of Implementation: Upon approval of the Board.