29 September 2012

TO: Paul DeLuca, Provost
    Jocelyn Milner, Associate Provost and Director, Academic Planning and Analysis

FROM: Gary Sandefur, Dean

RE: Request to Discontinue Academic Degree Program: Master of Arts - Economics

CC: Martin Cadwallader, Dean, Graduate School
    Maria Cancian, Associate Dean for the Social Sciences, L&S
    Kelly Haslam, Assistant Dean Academic Assessment and Funding, Graduate School
    Elaine Klein, Assistant Dean for Academic Planning, L&S
    Daniel Kleinman, Associate Dean for the Social Studies, Graduate School
    J. Karl Scholz, Professor and Chair, Economics

On September 18, 2012, the L&S Academic Planning Council considered a request to discontinue an unused degree program, the Master of Arts – Economics. This program is currently inactive. Because the department was unaware of the program’s existence, there are no students enrolled in it and no curriculum associated with it. The department has no interest in developing curriculum in this area, or in admitting students to the program. This deletion will have no effect on the department’s current activities; however, removal of the program from campus data systems will serve the important purposes of ensuring not only that the university can accurately represent the program array, but also that we have fewer programs to track.

The L&S APC unanimously approved this request, and recommended that if possible, the discontinuation should be made effective as soon as is practically feasible.

Attachment: Memorandum, “Discontinuation of the Economics Master of Arts (MA) degree”
           (Sept 28, 2012)
September 28, 2012

To: Elaine Klein, Kelly Haslam

From: Karl Scholz, Chair

Subject: Discontinuation of the Economics Master of Arts (MA) degree

1) **Rationale**

The Department of Economics has an MA degree listed on its roster of degrees and would like to discontinue this degree. The discontinuation has full support from the Economics Department Executive Committee. Students have not been enrolled for at least 10 years. Based on department records, the last student awarded an MA in Economics was in 1987. The department was not even aware that this MA degree was still listed as an option for students.

2) **Communication/Support of change**

A communication plan is not included in this request, as it is really not relevant given that no prospective, current or stopped-out students are impacted. There are currently no students enrolled in this degree program, nor are there any who have stopped out and may return at a later date.

3) **Status/impact on students**

Discontinuing the MA degree will have no impact on students or their degree status as no students are currently enrolled in this degree program; no students are waiting to enroll; no students have stopped out and will want to return at a later date.

4) **Teach-out plan**

A teach-out plan is not included in this request since there are not students enrolled in the degree program.

5) **Timeline**

The Department of Economics would like to discontinue the MA degree immediately. There is no impact on students, staff, or faculty internally or externally by discontinuing the degree.