

FUTURE ACTION ITEM #1

Discontinue the Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Enology Degree on the WSU Pullman Campus (Elizabeth S. Chilton)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: Discontinue the Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Enology Degree on the WSU Pullman Campus

PROPOSED: That the Board of Regents discontinue the Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Enology Degree on the WSU Pullman Campus

SUBMITTED BY: Elizabeth S. Chilton, Provost and Executive Vice President

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: The College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) proposed to discontinue the Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Enology Degree on the WSU Pullman campus.

January 1, 2023, the Viticulture and Enology (V&E) Program located within CAHNRS transitioned from Program to Department status with all faculty located on the Tri-Cities campus or at the Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center (IAREC) in Prosser. The Viticulture and Enology faculty have spent the past year performing an analysis of the program curriculum against comparable 4-year universities with grape and wine-focused programming (UC Davis, CSU Cal Poly, CSU Fresno, Cornell), evaluating the student experience through conversations with advising, currently enrolled students and new alumni as well as surveying industry regarding their experience with our students.

After analyzing feedback from industry, students, and alumni, as well as identifying WSU's strengths and weaknesses against comparable programs across the United States, the Department of V&E identified three areas in which it needed to adjust its approach or institute new initiatives.

- Redefine the Department Learning Objects to align with or re-affirmed mission statement and the vision of the WSU Tri-Cities campus where the faculty and the Wine Science Center are based.
- Define the core values as a faculty as they relate to the undergraduate education V&E aims to provide for its students.

- Redesign the course offerings to reflect those core values and ensure course learning objectives map directly to the Department Learning Objectives.

From this effort, V&E submitted transformative curriculum changes with more laboratories, a focus on scientifically founded, hands-on learning experiences, and a dedication to creating a sense of community for its students. As such, and to ensure equity in each student's learning experience and to ensure the ability to complete required in-person laboratories, the CAHNRS and the Department of V&E request discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science in Viticulture and Enology Degree on the WSU Pullman campus and a designation that the degree can only be offered on the Tri-Cities campus where the Department has the winery and vineyard facilities required to provide proper education in V&E, along with the proximity to industry partners.

This proposal was reviewed carefully and has support from the Provost's Office. This recommendation was recommended by the Faculty Senate on February 15, 2024. The Bachelor of Science Viticulture and Enology degree discontinuation proposal for the WSU Pullman campus is available upon request.

The College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences proposes the discontinuation of the Bachelor of Science Viticulture and Enology degree effective as soon as feasible.