



**UNIVERSITY  
OF KENTUCKY**

College of Agriculture, Food & Environment

**Terrell T. "Red" Baker, Ph.D.**  
Chair & James Graham Brown  
Professor of Forestry

**Department of Forestry**

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January 6, 2016

Dr. Larry Grabau  
Associate Dean for Instruction  
College of Agriculture, Food and Environment  
N-6 Ag Science North  
Lexington, KY 40546-0091

Dear Dr. Grabau,

The Department of Forestry is requesting a name change to our graduate degree program. Currently, our graduate degree program is a Master of Science in Forestry. This degree name does not accurately reflect the depth, diversity, and breadth of our graduate program. During a faculty meeting on October 7, 2015, as well as following up with faculty who were not present at the meeting, the Department of Forestry faculty voted unanimously to change the name of the Forestry MS program to a *Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences*.

We are requesting this change to more accurately reflect the areas of graduate study that our students pursue and the areas in which our graduate faculty have expertise. Forestry covers a variety of social and natural resource disciplines from molecular to landscape levels. Our graduate students conduct research in a variety of disciplines such as plant physiology, genetics, forest management, forest soils, economics, invasive species, natural resource policy, wood utilization, wildlife biology and management, conservation biology, forest ecology, silviculture, hydrology, natural resource policy, restoration ecology (including mine reclamation), and watershed management.

We believe this name change of our graduate degree program will be more appealing to potential graduate students and more useful to our graduates in communicating their background and expertise.

If you need additional information on our name change to the graduate degree program, please contact Laura Lhotka at (859) 257-8718 or [laura.lhotka@uky.edu](mailto:laura.lhotka@uky.edu).

Sincerely,

Terrell T. "Red" Baker, Ph.D.  
Chair/Professor  
Department of Forestry

**see blue.**

An Equal Opportunity University

## Department of Forestry

### Master of Science - Name Change Proposal

February 16, 2016

#### Proposed Name Change

The Department of Forestry is requesting a name change to our graduate degree program from a Master of Science in Forestry to a *Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences*<sup>1</sup>. We are requesting this change to more accurately reflect the areas of graduate study that our students pursue and the areas in which our graduate faculty have expertise.

#### The UK Forestry Program

Forestry as a discipline in the United States was created more than 100 years ago to address issues associated with the post-settlement exploitive harvesting of the nation's forests. A century ago, the focus was re-establishing forests in order to meet the nation's demand for wood products. After the environmental movement of the 1960s and 1970s, the discipline of forestry broadened to focus on the entire suite of resources or ecosystem services provided by forests.

The UK Department of Forestry embodies this more holistic look at forest resources and its faculty and graduate students study a breadth of areas including forest ecology, silviculture, forest hydrology and watershed management, forest management and economics, wildlife ecology and management, conservation biology, wood products, and landscape ecology.

The renaming of our Master of Science in Forestry program to a *Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences* helps to capture this wider view of the students that we train. **This is important from a student recruitment prospective as well as making sure that the degree granted is appropriately represented to employers.**

#### Why forestry over other natural resources?

As part of its Land Grant mission, the role of the UK Department of Forestry is to focus on the goods and services provided by forests. We educate forestry professionals in our Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree program. Our research programs examine many aspects of forests and related communities. Our Extension group supports the general public, family forest owners, forestry professionals, and the nine billion dollar forest products industry in the Commonwealth. We selected the new M.S. name

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<sup>1</sup> During a faculty meeting on October 7, 2015, as well as following up with faculty who were not present at the meeting, the Department of Forestry faculty voted unanimously to change the name of the Forestry MS program to a Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences.

intentionally to include the term natural resources but to also single out forests as the primary resource we address. After all forestry is our mission and the theme that unites our diverse research faculty and what identifies us to our key stakeholders.

While we agree natural resources, which includes forests, as well as water, soils, wildlife, minerals, etc., may seem redundant, the term 'forest' is critical to our identity as a department and the primary natural system we address. There is precedent across the United States for including natural resources with forestry to better define a school, department, or academic degree program. For example, schools with this pairing include University of Georgia's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources and University of Arkansas-Monticello's School of Forestry and Natural Resources. Departments have similar naming conventions such as Purdue University's Department of Forestry and Natural Resources and West Virginia University's Division of Forestry and Natural Resources. Academic programs, such as University of California-Berkley's Bachelor of Science in Forestry and Natural Resources, pair these terms together.

### Why 'resource' rather than 'resources'?

The term natural resources is typically presented in plural form. In the proposed name, 'natural resource sciences' represents the plural form of the sciences associated with the multiple resources included under the umbrella natural resources. However, we thought it was awkward and redundant to phrase this as 'natural resources sciences'. The name 'Forest and Natural Resource Sciences' was selected to help describe both forest science and the sciences of multiple natural resources. This helps capture the breadth of topics our M.S. students study as well as the diversity of post-graduation careers they pursue.

February 18, 2016



Dr. Terrell T. "Red" Baker  
Chair & James Graham Brown Professor of Forestry  
Department of Forestry  
106 Thomas Poe Cooper Bldg.  
Lexington KY, 40546-1031

Subject: NRES input on M.S. Forestry name change

Dear Dr. Baker,

The Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) steering committee has reviewed the documents justifying the proposed name change for the M.S. graduate degree program from '*Master of Science in Forestry*' to '*Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Science*'. The supporting documentation provides reasonable justification for the name change and the committee feels it is representative of the breadth of disciplines covered by the Forestry Department at the graduate level. A majority of the NRES steering committee members have weighed-in and support the name change. There was some concern raised about confusion prospective students might have with the new name sharing the "Natural Resource" component with NRES, particularly if this new name were to 'creep' from the M.S. degree into the B.S. Forestry degree or the proposed departmental name change. Changes in the B.S. degree or the department name would be viewed by the committee to be in more direct conflict with the B.S. in NRES degree. While we are absolutely committed to supporting new or restructured environmental and natural resources programs on our campus we are steadfast in our opinion that any new offerings should be novel and not perceived in any way to be in direct competition with established programs. This type of competition is of no benefit to the students, departments, or University.

We thank you for soliciting input from NRES on this name change and hope that we can continue to work collaboratively to increase the breadth and depth of environmental and natural resource offerings on our campus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David H. McNear Jr.".

David H. McNear Jr.  
Director of undergraduate studies for NRES  
On behalf of the NRES steering committee

Chris Matocha, *Plant and Soil Sciences*  
Kevin Yeager, *Earth and Environ. Sci.*  
Robert Paratley, *Forestry*

Jack Scheiffer, *Ag. Economics*  
Brian Lee, *Landscape Architecture*  
Mary Arthur, *Forestry*

## CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

College:	Agriculture, Food and Environment	Department:	Forestry		
Current Major Name:	Master of Science in Forestry	Proposed Major Name:	Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences		
Current Degree Title:	Master of Science in Forestry	Proposed Degree Title:	Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences		
Formal Option(s):	Plan A (thesis option) Plan B (non-thesis option)	Proposed Formal Option(s):	no change		
Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:	n/a	Proposed Specialty Fields w/in Formal Options:	n/a		
Date of Contact with Associate Provost for Academic Administration <sup>1</sup> :		12/4/2015			
Bulletin (yr & pgs):	2014-15 Grad Bul pg. 122-124	CIP Code <sup>1</sup> :	03.0502	Today's Date:	1/6/2016
Accrediting Agency (if applicable):		n/a			
Requested Effective Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Semester following approval.	OR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific Date <sup>2</sup> :	Fall 2016	
Dept. Contact Person:	Laura Lhotka	Phone:	859-257-8718	Email:	laura.lhotka@uky.edu

### 2. CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

		<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
1.	Number of transfer credits allowed (Maximum is Graduate School limit of 9 hours or 25% of course work)		
2.	Residence requirement (if applicable)		
3.	Language(s) and/or skill(s) required		
4.	Termination criteria		
5.	Plan A Degree Plan requirements <sup>3</sup> (thesis)		
6.	Plan B Degree Plan requirements <sup>3</sup> (non-thesis)		
7.	Distribution of course levels required (At least one-half must be at 600+ level & two-thirds must be in organized courses.)		
8.	Required courses (if applicable)		
9.	Required distribution of courses within program (if applicable)		

<sup>1</sup> Prior to filling out this form, you MUST contact the Associate Provost for Academic Administration (APAA). If you do not know the CIP code, the APAA can provide you with that during the contact.

<sup>2</sup> Program changes are typically made effective for the semester following approval. No changes will be made effective until all approvals are received.

<sup>3</sup> If there is only one plan for the degree, plans involving a thesis (or the equivalent in studio work, etc.) should be discussed under Plan A and those not involving a thesis should be discussed under Plan B.

**CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM**

10.	Final examination requirements		
11.	<p>Explain whether the proposed changes to the program (as described in sections 1 to 10) involve courses offered by another department/program. <u>Routing Signature Log must include approval by faculty of additional department(s).</u></p>		
	<p>No course changes are requested.</p>		
12.	<p>List any other requirements not covered above?</p>		
13.	<p>Please explain the rationale for changes. If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.</p>		
	<p>The Department of Forestry is requesting a name change to our graduate degree program. Currently, our graduate degree program is a Master of Science in Forestry. This degree name does not accurately reflect the depth, diversity, and breadth of our graduate program. During a faculty meeting on October 7, 2015, as well as following up with faculty who were not present at the meeting, the Department of Forestry faculty voted unanimously to change the name of the Forestry MS program to a Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences.</p> <p>We are requesting this change to more accurately reflect the areas of graduate study that our students pursue and the areas in which our graduate faculty have expertise. Forestry covers a variety of social and natural resource disciplines from molecular to landscape levels. Our graduate students conduct research in a variety of disciplines such as plant physiology, genetics, forest management, forest soils, economics, invasive species, natural resource policy, wood utilization, wildlife biology and management, conservation biology, forest ecology, silviculture, hydrology, natural resource policy, restoration ecology (including mine reclamation), and watershed management.</p> <p>We believe this name change of our graduate degree program will be more appealing to potential graduate students and more useful to our graduates in communicating their background and expertise.</p>		

**CHANGE MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAM FORM**  
Signature Routing Log

**General Information:**



Proposal Name: Master of Science in Forest and Natural Resource Sciences

Proposal Contact Person Name: Laura R. Lhotka Phone: 257-8718 Email: laura.lhotka@uky.edu

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal; note the date of approval; offer a contact person for each entry; and obtain signature of person authorized to report approval.

**Internal College Approvals and Course Cross-listing Approvals:**

Reviewing Group	Date Approved	Contact Person (name/phone/email)	Signature
Dept. of Forestry Faculty	10/7/2015	Terrell T. Baker / 257-7596 / terrellbaker@uky.edu	
CAFE Graduate Curriculum Committee	2/5/16	Larry J. Grabau 1734691 lgrabau@uky.edu	
		/ /	
		/ /	
		/ /	

**External-to-College Approvals:**

Council	Date Approved	Signature	Approval of Revision <sup>4</sup>
Undergraduate Council			
Graduate Council	3/17/16	Roshan Nikou	
Health Care Colleges Council			
Senate Council Approval		University Senate Approval	

Comments:

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<sup>4</sup> Councils use this space to indicate approval of revisions made subsequent to that council's approval, if deemed necessary by the revising council.