

POLICY ON GRADUATE STUDENT TEACHING TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE

Adopted October of 1999

Whereas the faculty of the Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department recognizes the importance of students gaining experience in communication and/or teaching skills, and

Whereas the review report from our 1996 Graduate Program Review included a recommendation that a formal process for ensuring that graduate students obtain such experience, the following policy is proposed.

All PhD level graduate students in BAE will be expected to participate in some form of informational transfer experience as part of their degree program. It will be left to the students advisory committee and the departmental graduate program director to determine what type of experience is most appropriate for a particular student. Potential activities may include but are not limited to one of the following:

- (1) teaching a course and/or laboratory under the guidance of a faculty mentor.
- (2) significant input into the preparation, presentation, and grading of student assignments in a course being taught by a faculty member. (Note: routine paper grading would not be considered sufficient.)
- (3) enrollment in and successful completion of a formal course with the objective of developing teaching skills.
- (4) development, documentation, and presentation of instructional materials which may be utilized for information transfer. (Note: these may be targeted at students in formal undergraduate or graduate classes or for citizen groups such as might be addressed by extension personnel. The materials developed might be written manuscripts, internet sites, videos, etc. However, some verbal presentation of the material to a live audience will normally be expected.)

A proposed method for fulfilling the requirement should be filed at the time of filing a program of study with the graduate program director.

While students may actually obtain credit for some of these activities, it is not intended that such credit substitute for the nominal thirty credit hours of formal academic work beyond an MS degree which is expected. Such credit would, however, satisfy the requirement for continuous enrollment and count toward the overall Graduate School credit hour requirements.

