

## APPENDIX T

### **Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Science in Agricultural and Environmental Systems program at North Carolina A&T State University**

North Carolina A&T State University requests authorization to establish a Master of Science (M.S.) in Agricultural and Environmental Systems degree program (CIP 01.0000).

In February 2011, the Board of Governors approved discontinuation of NC A&T State University master's programs in agricultural economics, animal health science, and plant, soil and environmental science with understanding that programmatic elements would be combined into a single master's program. The proposed M.S. in Agricultural and Environmental Systems is the resulting new program. The 30-hour program will prepare graduates to solve complex issues in sustainable agriculture and local food systems. Students can complete either the thesis or non-thesis project option. All students will take courses in sustainable agriculture and local food systems analysis, and research methods. Those students opting to complete a thesis will take a course in statistical methods for agricultural economics. Additional coursework will be completed in one of three concentration tracks: integrated animal health systems; agribusiness and food industry management; and natural resources and environmental systems. Students will also complete one or two interdisciplinary elective courses, depending on thesis or non-thesis option.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve North Carolina A&T State University's request to establish a Master of Science in Agricultural and Environmental Systems degree program (CIP 01.0000) effective August 2013.