

**UNIVERSITY SENATE**  
**UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY**  
**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

Introduced by: Graduate Academic Council  
University Planning and Policy Council

Date: April 27, 2015

**PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE AND DEREGISTER GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN  
GEOLOGY**

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

1. That the University Senate approves the attached proposal as approved by the Graduate Academic Council and University Planning and Policy Council.
2. That this proposal be forwarded to the President for approval.



## Proposal to Deactivate and/or Discontinue a Program

**Form 5**

To propose to deactivate and/or discontinue a registered academic program, a campus Chief Executive or Chief Academic Officer must submit a **signed a cover letter and this completed form** to the SUNY Provost at [program.review@suny.edu](mailto:program.review@suny.edu). This form may be modified as needed for multiple programs.

Item	Response (Type in the requested information.)
<b>(a) Name of Institution(s)</b>	Name: University at Albany  Institution's <a href="#">6-digit SED Code</a> : 210500  If applicable, list name(s) of branch campus(es) with SED institution codes:
<b>(b) Chief Executive or Chief Administrative Officer Approval</b>	<b>Signature affirms that the proposal has met all applicable campus administrative and shared governance procedures for consultation.</b>  Name and title: James R. Stellar, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost  Signature and date:  <div style="background-color: #d9d9d9; padding: 2px;">For <b>programs that are registered jointly</b> with another institution, all participating institutions must confirm their support of the deactivation and/or discontinuance.</div>  Partner institution: Name and title of partner institution's CEO or CAO: Signature of partner institution's CEO or CAO (or <b>append</b> a signed letter indicating approval of this proposal):
<b>(c) Contact for this Proposal</b>	Name and title: Ryan Torn, Associate Professor Telephone: 518-442-4560 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rtorn@albany.edu">rtorn@albany.edu</a>

*Version 2013-10-15*

### General Notes

- Each deactivation and discontinuance must be approved by the SUNY Provost.
- If a proposed discontinued program is the sole program in a [HEGIS disciplinary area](#) at a campus, discontinuance [requires approval of the SUNY Board of Trustees](#), but the campus retains its master plan authority in that HEGIS disciplinary area, and the re-introduction of programs in that HEGIS disciplinary area would not require a Master Plan Amendment.

### Definitions

**Deactivation:** A campus decides not to admit any new students to a program but wishes to maintain the program's registration. This may be done to reassess the need for the program or restructure the program or allow currently enrolled students to graduate. This action is internal to SUNY and limited in duration to no more than three years, by which time the program must be reactivated or discontinued.

**Deactivation Effective Date:** The first regular admission date for which new students will no longer be permitted to enroll in the program.

**Discontinuance:** A campus decides to stop offering a program and awarding a credential for its completion. After SUNY's review and approval, the program is removed from the State Education Department's *Inventory of Registered Programs* after all continuing students have completed it.

**Discontinuance Effective Date:** The last graduation date for which a credential for completion of the program is awarded.

(SOURCE: [Memorandum to Presidents](#), Vol. 83, No. 11, dated August 26, 1983)

Please complete Parts I, II and III.

**Part I. REQUEST**

Specify the request for approval by checking (X) the appropriate box(es).

- Deactivate a program:** The institution will not accept new students into the program as of the deactivation effective date entered in the table in Part II. The institution will contact the SUNY Provost at [program.review@suny.edu](mailto:program.review@suny.edu) within three years of the deactivation effective date to officially discontinue or reactivate the program.
- Deactivate and Discontinue a program:** The institution will not accept new students into the program as of the deactivation effective date entered in the table in Part II, and all continuing students will have completed the program by the later discontinuance effective date entered in the table in Part II. *NOTE: If a campus finds that all continuing students will not have completed the program by the discontinuance effective date in the table in Part II, the campus will contact the SUNY Provost at [program.review@suny.edu](mailto:program.review@suny.edu) to revise the discontinuance effective date.*
- Discontinue a program:** The institution is prepared to discontinue the program on the discontinuance effective date entered in the table in Part II, at which time there will be no students enrolled in the program.

**Part II. PROGRAM LIST**

Complete the table below, expanding it as needed for more programs.

PROGRAM TITLE	AWARD (E.G., B.A.)	SED PROGRAM CODE	HEGIS CODE	<u>DEACTIVATION</u> EFFECTIVE DATE	<u>DISCONTINUANCE</u> EFFECTIVE DATE
1. Geology	M.S.	03032	1914	January 2008	9/1/2015
2. Geological Sciences	Ph.D.	03030	1914	January 2008	9/1/2015
3. Geology	B.S./M.S.	82099	1914	January 2008	9/1/2015
4.					

**Part III. REASON(S) FOR REQUEST(S)**

**Provide reason(s) for requesting each deactivation and/or discontinuance. Address local, regional and System impact and, if applicable, describe any extenuating circumstances that may require additional accommodations for enrolled students (e.g., providing a teach-out agreement with another institution).**

The Department of Atmospheric & Environmental Sciences (DAES) no longer has any faculty members who specialize in Geology; therefore, it is challenging for someone in DAES to advise students in this area. In addition, the department’s current strategic plan does not include trying to hire any faculty in that area. As a consequence, the last student admitted into the Geology Ph.D. program was Fall 2005 and the Geology M.S. program was Fall 2006. All of those students have either graduated or have exceeded the statute of limitations on the degree. The impact on current DAES graduate enrollment is minimal since there are no current Geology M.S. or Ph.D. students and the number of graduate students in the Atmospheric Science M.S. and Ph.D. degree has risen by nearly 50% over the past 4 years.