Oregon State University

Department of
Crop and Soil Science
Oregon State University
107 Crop Science Building
Corvallis, Oregon 97331

P 541-737-2821
F 541-737-1589
oregonstate.edu

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OSU Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee
OSU Campus

Re: Graduate Online Certificate in Organic Agriculture

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support for the proposal for a new Online Graduate Certificate in Organic Agriculture Program in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

The demand for organically produced food and fiber has shown percent-growth in the double digits in recent years, and the science that supports organic production is rapidly moving forward. Oregon State University has a strong history at the forefront of agricultural production, including research in the production, marketing and global perspectives concerning the rapid expansion of the organic market. An online graduate certificate program focused on Organic Agriculture would further that tradition by offering a graduate level academic program and will be the first of its kind in the United States, Canada and Europe. Faculty in my [Program/Department] feel this is an important endeavor as well, and have committed their time to developing courses and making this program a success.

As the current Department Head for the Department of Crop and Soil Science, it is my opinion that a graduate certificate in Organic Agriculture at Oregon State University will benefit the agricultural community, the organic industry, and our students, and I fully support the effort to create this program.

Sincerely,

Jay Stratton Noller
Professor and Department Head