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DEMETER ASSOCIATION, INC.
HEALING THE PLANET THROUGH AGRICULTURE

February 11, 2016

Dear Valtcho,

I am writing in support of Oregon State University's OREI Project Proposal: Development of Online Graduate Certificate in Organic Agriculture.

Demeter is an international organization that spans all continents worldwide. It dates back to the origins of the Organic and Sustainable agriculture movements themselves. The Demeter Association in the USA is an educator of Organic and Biodynamic agriculture. It is also a certifier of the US Biodynamic® Farm and Processing Standards. The US Demeter Farm Standard has the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) as a base minimum to it. Through Demeter's NOP accredited sister organization, Stellar Certification Services, we also certify Organic agriculture and processing. Both companies are located in Corvallis Oregon and as Oregonians we are proud to support this project and commend Oregon State University for aiming to offer the first national online graduate degree in Organic agriculture.

This project would be a great support to the Demeter Association as well as the many other organizations and institutions that engage in Organic agriculture nationwide by providing a pool of well-trained individuals prepared to carry this important work forward for many decades to come. Organic agriculture has been one of the fastest growing sectors of the US agricultural economy and individuals graduating from this program are, and will continue to be, in high demand.

Sincerely,

Jim Fullmer
Co- Director
Demeter USA