

**Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies**  
**Resolution 2019-2020L**  
**Resolution to Approve New Major, International Trade and Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management**

Approved by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies:	February 10, 2020
Faculty Senate Waived Right to Comment:	December 17, 2019
Staff Senate Review:	December 17, 2019
Graduate Student Assembly Waived Right to Comment:	February 11, 2020
Student Government Association Waived Right to Comment:	February 11, 2020
First Reading at University Council:	March 2, 2020
Approved at University Council:	March 23, 2020
Approved by President:	March 23, 2020
First Effective Date to Declare Major:	Summer 2020
First Effective Date to Graduate:	Winter 2022

**WHEREAS**, few high school graduates come to Virginia Tech (or any university) with awareness of “Agricultural Economics - AGECON” as a field of study and professional careers; and

**WHEREAS**, our current degree structure consists of two degrees: Agribusiness (AGRB) and Applied Economic Management (AEM); and

**WHEREAS**, the term Applied Economic Management (AEM) is not very meaningful to students (and parents) exploring majors; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional, national, and global challenges of rural Environmental Economics: Management and Policy (EEMP), Community Economic Development (CED), and International Trade and Development (ITD) are key fields of study in today’s world; and

**WHEREAS**, students enrolled in one of these Concentrations/Options consider it to be their “major” and are disappointed that it is listed only on their transcripts, but not their diploma; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agricultural and Applied Economics (AAEC) Department provides coursework and experiential learning, fitting the VT-shaped curriculum, that give students an in-depth understanding of these respected fields; and

**WHEREAS**, no new resources are required to establish the proposed Major in International Trade and Development at Virginia Tech and for it to be administered by the AAEC Department with the cooperation of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; and

**WHEREAS**, letters of support have been received from all departments whose courses ITD students take, plus existing faculty research collaborations; and

**WHEREAS**, the new Major in International Trade and Development would be an identifiable curriculum that clearly signals the expertise and career focus of students toward industry, government agencies, academia, advocacy and organizations and international bodies; and

**WHEREAS**, prospective students will be more readily able to identify and understand what majors are available in AAEC Department at VT; and

**WHEREAS**, visibility of the new Major in International Trade and Development is anticipated to increase enrollment by 5-10 students above the current number of 75-80 AEM majors.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the new Major in International Trade and Development be approved for addition to the Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management effective Summer 2020 and the proposal be forwarded to the President for approval.



# Staff Senate

<http://www.staffsenate.vt.edu/>

2019-2020

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[amv.ingram@vt.edu](mailto:amv.ingram@vt.edu)

TO: April Myers

FROM: Judy Alford

DATE: December 17, 2019

SUBJECT: CUSP Resolutions 2019-2020 (H – M)

The Policies and Issues Committee of the Staff Senate reviewed the resolutions listed below. We support all resolutions.

- Resolution 2019-2020.H Resolution to Change Membership to the Athletics Committee
- Resolution 2019-2020.I Resolution to Approve New Major, Community Economic Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management
- Resolution 2019-2020.J Resolution to Approve New Major, Food and Health Systems Economics, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management
- Resolution 2019-2020.K Resolution to Approve New Major, Environmental Economics, Management, and Policy, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management
- Resolution 2019-2020.L Resolution to Approve New Major, International Trade and Development, in Bachelor of Science in Applied Economic Management
- Resolution 2019-2020.M Resolution to Approve New Major, Arabic, in Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Languages

If you have any questions, please let me know.

c: Tamarah Smith