PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF ADMISSIONS TO THE
ORGANIZATIONAL STUDIES DOCTORAL PROGRAM

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

1. That admission to the Organizational Studies doctoral program be suspended.

2. That this proposal be forwarded to the President for approval.

3. That this take effect upon the President's approval.

Rationale:

The GAC and UPC approve the proposed suspension of admission to this program for the reasons stated in Professor Yukl’s attached memorandum.
MEMO

10-18-2006

To: Graduate Dean Marjorie Pryse
From: Gary Yukl, Director for Organizational Studies Doctoral Program
Subject: Proposed suspension of program

The program faculty for the Organizational Studies Doctoral Program request suspension of admissions to the program for an indefinite period of time (or for 3 years if a definite period is required). Doctoral students currently in the program would be allowed to complete it, but no new applicants would be admitted. A decision would have to be made about two current non-degree students who may be qualified to convert to regular status next semester. University funding for doctoral graduate assistantships would be phased out as commitments to current students are satisfied (by May, 2008).

Implementing this proposal would provide the next Dean of the School of Business an opportunity to reactivate the program and revise it to support the mission and strategic objectives of the School. We believe that his option would be very attractive to a nationally-recruited dean candidate. The doctoral program could be leveraged by extending it to include more faculty in the School of Business and additional specializations relevant to other departments in the School. We recognize that reactivation of the doctoral program may not be possible unless external sources of funding are found to pay for much of the cost for assistantships (e.g., funds from grants, contracts, donations, and revenues from external programs). We also recognize that any future proposal to reactivate and revise the program would have to be approved by relevant UAlbany administrators and faculty review bodies, including the School of Business faculty, the GAC, and the UPC.

In order to expedite the completion of program requirements by the current doctoral students, it will be necessary to schedule comprehensive exams and relevant courses in a timely way during the next two years. The Proseminar in Organizational Studies (BORG 700) will be needed each semester until May, 2008 (this course is conducted by the program director). Only a few doctoral courses are provided by the Management Dept., and after May, 2008, it should not be necessary to offer them again. However, some BORG prefix “courses” such as independent study and dissertation will be needed for a longer period of time. It will be necessary to have a program director for the next few years, but the workload for this position should be much reduced after May, 2008. The course release for the program director could be eliminated after May, 2008, and the $2,000 stipend for the director could be ended after May, 2007 (it is already donated to the program to support students).

*The tracked change was requested by Professor Gary Yukl to reflect the original intent of the proposal (12/12/06).