March 8, 2007

Dr. Walter Piegorsch  
Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Statistics  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 857321

Dear Dr. Piegorsch;

With this memorandum I certify that the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics supports the construction of a University-wide Graduate Certificate in Statistics. The Certificate will likely bring a variety of new students to our program’s interest in more in-depth/focused study of this modern science, and certainly is a mechanism by which the University can extend and enhance its mission to educate Arizona’s citizens. The department will offer the courses listed below on an ongoing basis to serve as possible electives for the Graduate Certificate in Statistics:

AREC 517 -- Introductory Mathematical Statistics for Economists  
AREC 518 -- Introduction to Econometrics  
AREC 549 -- Applied Econometric Analysis  
AREC 559 -- Advanced Applied Econometrics

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my staff if you have any questions, or if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Gary D. Thompson  
Professor, Interim Department Head