

Andrew College

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Andrew College announces final approval of Regenerative Agriculture degree program

CUTHBERT, GA. – Andrew College received official notification last week from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) that the agency has granted their request to begin an associate degree program in regenerative agriculture.

Andrew College President Dr. Linda Buchanan said that the college is extremely pleased to receive the approval and is accepting students for fall enrollment.

Dr. Drew Schiavone, Ph.D. heads up the new program which focuses on regenerative farming practices that integrate long-term ecosystem stability with economic profitability. Holistic management and regenerative agricultural practices promote the use of agricultural production and market incentives to restore areas that have been adversely affected by conventional agricultural processes. As such, this new academic program promotes the stewardship of natural resources within the surrounding environment while helping to restore grassland areas and revitalize depleted agricultural areas.

Dr. Schiavone said, “In addition to coursework, our students will intern with White Oak Pastures near Bluffton and will receive real-world training in the practice of regenerative agriculture and holistic management during their course of study at Andrew College. The integration of a practical internship affords an invaluable educational experience which prepares students for the diverse agricultural industry.”

The program is firmly integrated within the Math and Science Division of Andrew College, providing students with the opportunity to study within the broader contexts of biology, chemistry and environmental science while maintaining a strong liberal arts base. Hence, students will develop the skills and knowledge to become experienced environmental and agricultural problem-solvers while helping to develop healthy agricultural communities.

Introductory courses in regenerative agriculture and natural resource conservation will be offered in the Fall 2016 semester while addressing regional and global concerns in agriculture today.

Considering the diverse farming and timber industries within Southwest Georgia, Andrew College aims to support the local economy by offering this unique academic program which is one of the few like it in the United States.

Dr. Schiavone said, “This new program was designed to empower students with the foundational knowledge necessary to either continue their academic progress with an agricultural bachelor’s degree program or move directly into career paths in the expanding holistic agricultural industry.”

The new Andrew College program may lead to a wide range of traditional and non-traditional career and educational paths including those in the fields of natural resources, forestry operations, farm management, or animal science.

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Established in 1854, Andrew College is a small, residential, two-year College related to The United Methodist Church and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Situated in the rural southwest Georgia community of Cuthbert, Andrew College offers the Associate of Art, Associate of Music, and Associate of Science degrees.