



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Request to Change the Name of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences

SPONSOR:

William Stewart, PhD
Associate Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences
Director, Interdisciplinary Program in Health
217-333-2131
wstewart@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT:

Julie Bobitt
Program Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Program in Health
217-333-6657
jbobitt@illinois.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The College of Applied Health Sciences is requesting to change the name of the Bachelor of Science degree in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.

The undergraduate degree program in Health is seeking a name change from “Health” to “Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.” This name change was prioritized by the Health Curriculum Committee as a significantly important step in aligning the degree title with the substance of the curriculum. Specifically, the name change is requested for the following reasons:

- (a) Degree programs across the country entitled “health” tend to align with “health education” curricula and not with an interdisciplinary curriculum like the current Health program. Changing the name to Interdisciplinary Health Sciences would distinguish this degree from these other programs that are different in their approach.
- (b) A distinguishing feature of the Health program that contrasts with similar programs in the U.S. is that the Illinois program reflects interdisciplinary health sciences whereas most of these other programs are more accurately termed “multidisciplinary health sciences.”
- (c) The program is known on campus as “i-Health” by students, faculty, and staff of the University of Illinois. When discussing this program with prospective students and their families,

they usually refer to the program as “i-Health” in order to recognize the interdisciplinary nature of the study.

(d) Prospective students applying to the Health program at Illinois are often confused by the lack of an “interdisciplinary health sciences” major on the Admissions website menu to select a major, and do not immediately connect Health as referring to the interdisciplinary health sciences program.

(e) The two majors in the College of Applied Health Sciences with health in their names are “Community Health” and “Health.” From this perspective, “Health” appears more generic than “Community Health” and prospective students frequently have a problem distinguishing “Health” as the interdisciplinary health sciences program.

(f) “Interdisciplinary health sciences” is an accurate characterization of the program. “Health” is not the most accurate characterization of the program due to ambiguity in the meaning of the term and various ways to interpret its intent.

JUSTIFICATION:

The interdisciplinary Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Health was established in Spring 2009 and began enrolling students for Fall 2009. As of Fall 2012, the Health program was comprised of over 150 majors and continues to grow. A major factor in its growth is the appeal of the curriculum due to medical and other professional schools recognizing the virtues of interdisciplinary health sciences background as a foundation for a career.

The program is the first interdisciplinary degree of its kind on the University of Illinois campus and was designed to address complex societal challenges related to health. National and state demographic trends predict unprecedented increases in the number of individuals in the oldest of age categories, persons living with chronic health conditions, and persons with disabilities. In addition, health-related difficulties associated with a range of societal trends and conditions, such as inactivity, obesity and diabetes, have created an increase in professional opportunities in areas such as health behavior change, wellness promotion and disability prevention. This demographic shift has created a substantial increase in the need for students trained in health-related sciences and for the advancement of the knowledge base underlying the delivery of those services.

Over the past decades, many of the most promising solutions have come from collaborations of scholars, scientists, and professionals who work across traditional fields of inquiry and practice rather than strictly within them. There is a critical need for America’s universities and colleges to cultivate interdisciplinary expertise among future leaders. Additionally, the concept of interdisciplinary teams of health professionals has been promoted as a means for providing comprehensive and continuous care to such populations. This movement continues to have significant implications for the education and training of future health professionals.

The health needs of a diverse society are best served by individuals who possess interdisciplinary health sciences competence and who are prepared to study and apply knowledge across traditional fields of knowledge. We have developed a successful program in response to these needs. Indeed, the first graduates of the program have gone on to pursue graduate degrees in

healthcare administration, physical and occupational therapy, chiropractic care, nursing, public health, and medicine.

As we monitor the post-graduation plans of our students and alums, we have learned that the interdisciplinary nature of the Health curriculum is a valuable asset for the assessment of their educational background. Our recent graduates have reported that their interviews for professional schools have focused on the interdisciplinary nature of their degree and they were met with much praise for pursuing such an innovative program. However, their transcripts reflect only the program name “Health” and these students were left in positions of explaining and defending the interdisciplinary program in Health in which they graduated. These same students also reported the necessity to clarify and reduce confusion over the program name, and urged it to be formally identified as “interdisciplinary health sciences” on the transcripts.

After three years, there is growing concern that students are having trouble identifying the program as simply “health” within the campus catalogues, admission materials, and other official documentation. Students, their families, faculty, and staff refer to the Health program by its informal name of “i-Health” with the “i” representing “interdisciplinary.” Further evidence of this can be found during summer freshman orientation when students who have designated Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, realize their welcome letter states only “Health” and are unsure which program to attend because the name “Health” is often confused with the program in “Community Health”.

Realizing that this has caused confusion and frustration for current and future students, we would like to have a program name that is consistent with the interdisciplinary nature of the curriculum. In addition, we would like a name that is more reflective of the intent of the original proposal: The health needs of a diverse society are best served by individuals who possess competence in the interdisciplinary health sciences, who are prepared to study and apply knowledge across traditional fields of knowledge (as quoted in the proposal approved by University of Illinois Board of Trustees and Illinois Board of Higher Education, Spring 2009). We request that the name be changed to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS: *(Please respond to each of the following questions. Place your response right after each item. See Appendix A for questions required of new degree program proposals as well additional notes regarding budgetary and staff implications.)*

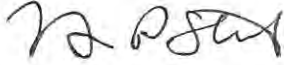
- a. Additional staff and dollars needed. None
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.) None
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments None
- d. Impact on the University Library *(A letter of acknowledgement from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals.)* None
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: August 16, 2013

The revised Program of Study that reflects the new name is provided in Appendix A.

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval. **These signatures must appear on a separate sheet.** If multiple departments or colleges are sponsoring the proposal, please add the appropriate signature lines below.)

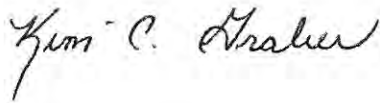
Signatures:



4-17-13

Unit Representative:

Date:



4-17-13

College Representative:

Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Council on Teacher Education Representative:

Date:

Appendix A: Revised Program of Study reflecting the name change

Bachelor of Science (BS) Degree in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences

Head of Degree Program: William Stewart

Program Office: 110 Huff Hall, 1206 South Fourth Street, Champaign, (217) 333-2131

<http://ihealth.illinois.edu>

The undergraduate degree program in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences is focused on applied health and societal issues that cut across a range of traditional fields. The program of study includes a set of core courses that builds an interdisciplinary scientific foundation in the study of health, and provides a basic knowledge of health-related issues. The degree program also includes a set of three concentrations, of which a student must complete at least one, that emphasize some of the foremost issues facing society: health and aging; health behavior change; and health diversity. Finally, the degree program includes a capstone course which includes a practicum experience. The program of study addresses a major need across the nation and world for graduates prepared to enter a range of biomedical and health-related careers and/or to pursue graduate study in fields relevant to health, wellness, and the biomedical sciences. For questions regarding Interdisciplinary Health Sciences contact the i-Health office at 217-333-6657.

A 5 year BS MPH joint degree program is available for students majoring in Community Health, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, or Kinesiology. Students apply for the program in the latter part of their third year (junior year) of study. Students accepted into the BS MPH joint degree program take 12 credit hours of coursework in their senior year that apply to both BS and MPH degrees. In the 5th year of study, students complete the remaining requirements for the MPH degree, and graduate simultaneously with both BS and MPH degrees. A summary of the requirements for the MPH degree is provided at:

http://courses.illinois.edu/cis/2011/fall/programs/graduate/community_health.html. The requirements are explained in more detail on the MPH program website:

<http://www.mph.illinois.edu/Program/>.

Requirements Including General Education

The Campus Senate, the faculty General Education Board, and the colleges and departments are working to implement enhanced General Education requirements. New students should confirm their General Education requirements by consulting the i-Health program office or advisor.

Hours General Education

Hours Communication Arts

- 3-6 Composition I
- 3 Advanced Composition

Hours Quantitative Reasoning I & II

- 6 From approved campus list

Hours Humanities and the Arts

6 From approved campus list

Hours Social and Behavioral Sciences

6 From approved campus list

Hours Natural Sciences and Technology

6 From approved campus list

Hours Cultural Studies ¹

3 From Western cultures approved campus list

3 From U.S. minority cultures or non-Western cultures approved campus list

Foreign Language: Completion through the third level of the same language in high school or college

36-39 Total General Education hours

¹ Courses in cultural studies may be completed through other categories where appropriate.

Hours Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Major Requirements

3 CHLH 101 - Introduction to Public Health

3 CHLH 274 - Introduction to Epidemiology

3 CHLH 456 – Organization of Health Care

3 KIN 122 – Physical Activity and Health

3 RST 100 – Society and Leisure

3 SHS 170 – Human Comm: Sys, P & D

3 FSHN 120 – Contemporary Nutrition

4 PSYC 100 – Intro to Psychology

3 STAT 100 – Intro to Statistics (or STAT 100 equivalent)

3 REHB 330 – Disability in American Society

1 IHLT 101 - Introduction to i-Health

1 IHLT 102 - Survey of Interdisciplinary Health

1 IHLT 474 – Pre-Field Experience in Interdisciplinary Health

4 IHLT 375 - Interdisc Collab in Health Serv

4 IHLT 475 – Field Experience in Interdisciplinary Health

42 Total

Concentrations (at least one concentration is required)

Hours Health and Aging

3 KIN 262 Motor Development, Growth and Form

- 3 CHLH 314 – Introduction to Aging
- 3 SHS 271 – Communication of Aging
- 3 PSYC 361 – Psychology of Aging
- 9 Choose 3 courses from the following list (at least two at the 300- or 400- level):
 - AHS 365 – Civic Engagement and Wellness
 - CHLH 404 – Gerontology
 - CHLH 494 – Health Issues in Rural Settings
 - EPSY 407 – Adult Learning and Development
 - FSHN 220 – Principles of Nutrition (previously FSHN 322)
 - KIN 386 – Exercise Instruction & the Elderly
 - KIN 459 – Physical Activity and Aging
 - RST 199 Leisure, Health and Wellness Across the Lifespan
 - SHS 320 – Development of Spoken Language
 - UP 340 – Planning for Healthy Cities

21 Total

Hours Health Behavior Change

- 3 KIN 340 – Soc. & Psych. of Physical Activity
- 4 CHLH 304 – Foundations of Health Behavior
- 3 RST 316 – Leisure & Human Development
- 3 SHS 352 – Hearing Health and Society
- 9 Choose 3 courses from the following list (at least two at the 300- or 400-level):
 - ANTH 143 – Biology of Human Behavior
 - PSYC 201 – Social Psychology
 - CMN 260 – Intro to Health Communication
 - PSYC 352 – Attitude Theory and Change
 - KIN 448 – Exercise & Health Psychology
 - CMN 462 – Interpersonal Health Communication
 - AHS 365 – Civic Engagement in Wellness
 - CMN 336 – Family Communication
 - CMN 465 – Social Marketing Health & Behavior
 - SOC 273 – Social Persp on the Family

22 Total

Hours Health Diversity

- 3 SOC 162 – Intro to International Health Policy
- 3 CHLH 409 – Women’s Health
- 4 EPS 310 – Race & Culture in Society
- 4 SHS 270 – Comm Disability in the Media
- 8-9 Choose 3 courses from the following list (at least two at the 300- or 400-level):
 - CHLH 210 – Community Health Organizations
 - HIST 263 – US History of Medicine
 - HIST 281 – Constructing Race in America
 - RSOC 110 – Intro to Rural Society
 - RST/KIN 230 – Leisure and Diversity
 - LLS 473 – Immigration, Health and Society
 - ANTH 143-Biology of Human Behavior

CHLH 415- International Health
PSYC 312- Psychology of Race and Ethnicity
SOCW 300-Diversity: Identities and Issues

22-23 Total

Hours Free Electives

24-28 Free Electives

Summary of Degree Requirements

Hours Requirements

36-39 General Education
42 Health Major Requirements
22-23 Concentration Requirements
24-28 Free Electives
128 Total Hours Required for Graduation

Appendix B:

The curriculum is not being revised, only the title of the degree is being changed.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

College of Medicine
190 Medical Sciences Building, MC-714
506 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801-3618



MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 12, 2013

TO: William Stewart, Ph.D.
Director, B.S. in Health program

FROM: Uretz Oliphant, M.D.
Dean, College of Medicine

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR "INTERDISCIPLINARY HEALTH SCIENCES"

Thank you for sharing the proposal to change the name of the interdisciplinary undergraduate program in Health (informally known as i-Health) to "Interdisciplinary Health Sciences." In my review of the i-Health curriculum, the name change is a more accurate program title than Health. The College of Medicine is whole-heartedly supportive of this proposal.

The professional and academic landscape related to health has evolved over the past decade. Interdisciplinary programs, like i-Health, are being recognized as welcome additions to the traditional biomedical sciences for the undergraduate training of future health and medical professionals. The name change to Interdisciplinary Health Sciences is appropriate for the coursework of the i-Health curriculum, and correctly distinguishes it from conventional health programs. By characterizing the nature of health being studied, Interdisciplinary Health Sciences would precisely reflect the curriculum to medical school and allied health admission committees.

This name change would highlight a compelling degree program for students from under-represented minority groups. It may have the beneficial consequences of attracting a more diverse population of students interested in medical and allied health professional schools given the strong emphasis on cultural diversity in the i-Health curriculum.

I fully support the proposal of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences as the official name for the i-Health program.

Sincerely,

Uretz J. Oliphant, M.D.
Interim Regional Dean
University of Illinois College of Medicine

Terri E. Weaver, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor of Nursing
845 South Damen Avenue
Room 118 (MC 802)
Chicago, Illinois 60612-7350

April 17, 2013

Dr. William Stewart
Director, i-Health Program
Applied Health Sciences
University of Illinois
110 Huff Hall
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Dr. Stewart:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to review the proposal for the name change from Bachelor of Science in Health to a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences. The College of Nursing fully supports this proposal.

Interdisciplinary health programs are extremely important and are attractive to many students. We appreciate collaborating with you on this matter as many of our health students will be interested in taking coursework in this important area.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to support this proposal.

Sincerely,



Terri E. Weaver, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor of Nursing

Stewart, William P

From: Ackerson, Barry James
Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 1:51 PM
To: Stewart, William P
Cc: Korr, Wynne Sandra
Subject: RE: i-Health name change proposal

I am writing on behalf of the School of Social Work to indicate our support for the proposed name change from Health to Interdisciplinary Health Sciences. The School of Social Work is well aware of the interdisciplinary nature of health related professional programs. We support what is commonly referred to as the i-Health program. We agree that a formal change in name more clearly conveys the nature of this BS degree. Please let me know if you need a more formal letter from the School of Social Work in support of this proposal.

Barry J. Ackerson
Associate Dean for Academic Programs
UIUC School of Social Work
217-244-5246

Stewart, William P

From: Whiteley, Herbert E
Sent: Tuesday, April 09, 2013 3:15 PM
To: Stewart, William P
Cc: Sergent, Yvonne M
Subject: Name Change - "Interdisciplinary Health Sciences"

Hi Bill

The College of Veterinary Medicine supports the name change of the undergraduate B. S. degree program in Health to "Interdisciplinary Health Sciences".

In a previous email I provided comments on the proposal.

Herb

Herb Whiteley
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois
hwhitele@illinois.edu
217-333-2760

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN
COLLEGE OF APPLIED HEALTH SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH**

Freer Hall,
906 S. Goodwin Ave.
Urbana ,
IL 61801

(217) 244-0823

To: Bill Stewart, PhD
AHS Associate Dean,
Interdisciplinary Health Degree Director

From: Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, PhD
KCH Department Head

Date: 4-9-13

Re: KCH Update

Thank you for sharing your plan to change the name of the "i-Health" major to "Interdisciplinary Health Sciences". The Department of Kinesiology and Community Health fully supports this proposal. We are in agreement with you that the name "Interdisciplinary Health Sciences" is a more complete descriptor of the degree than "i-Health".

I believe that the Interdisciplinary degree has been a huge success and has provided additional options for Illinois students interested in pursuing careers in the health professions. I see no adverse consequences in implementing the name change.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.



Senate Educational Policy Committee Proposal Check Sheet

PROPOSAL TITLE: Request to change the name of the Bachelor of Science degree in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.

PROPOSAL TYPE (Please select all that apply below):

A. **Program and degree proposals**

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes X No

2. **Degree** proposal (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.)

New degree — please name the new degree: _____

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised:

3. **Major** proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: _____

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised: _____

4. **Concentration** proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: _____

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be revised: _____

5. **Minor** proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: _____

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: _____

6. Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

degree major concentration minor

Please provide the current name: Bachelor of Science degree in Health

Please provide the proposed new name: Bachelor of Science degree in Interdisciplinary Health Sciences

7. Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: _____

8. Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution

Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: _____

Please name the partnering institution: _____

B. **Proposal for renaming existing academic units** (college, school, department, or program)

Please provide the unit's current name: _____

Please provide the unit's proposed new name: _____

C. **Proposal for reorganizing existing units** (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)

Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: _____

Transfer an existing unit

Please provide the current unit's name and home: _____

Please provide the new home for the unit: _____

Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)

Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: _____

Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: _____

Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: _____

D. **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Please indicate the nature of the proposal: _____

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.13.34

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



February 28, 2013

Gay Miller, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to rename the Bachelor of Science in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health.

This proposal has been approved by the College of Applied Health Sciences Educational Policy Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kristi A. Kuntz'.

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: K. Ritten

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Applied Health Sciences
Office of the Dean
110 Huff Hall, MC-586
1206 South Fourth Street
Champaign, IL 61820



RECEIVED
FEB 21 2013
Office of the Provost

February 20, 2013

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost
Swanlund Administration Building
MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Please find attached the approved proposal to the Senate Educational Committee.

- Request to change the name of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health

If further information is needed, please let me know. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kim Graber, Ph.D.
Associate Professor/Associate Head

cc: Kathi Ritten
Indria Clay