

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.10.32

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



RECEIVED

JAN 04 2010

OFFICE OF THE SENATE

January 4, 2010

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

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the Graduate College and College of Veterinary Medicine to rename the Department of Veterinary Biosciences as the Department of Comparative Biosciences.

This proposal has been approved by the College Executive Committee and the Graduate College Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/dkk

Enclosures

c: D. Dutta
D. Ferguson
A. Hassan
C. Livingstone
H. Whiteley

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

RECEIVED
11/13/09
11:00 AM



Graduate College
204 Coble Hall, MC-322
801 South Wright Street
Champaign, IL 61820-6210
www.grad.illinois.edu

November 13, 2009

Kristi Kuntz
Assistant Provost
Office of the Provost
207 Swanlund, MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Request to change the name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences (VB) to the Department of Comparative Biosciences (CB) including Rubric and Program Description Changes and to Change the Major Program Name to Comparative Biosciences for the MS and Doctoral Programs." The Graduate College Executive Committee did vote unanimously to approve it.

I send it to you now for further review.

Sincerely,

Debasish Dutta
Dean of the Graduate College

Enclosure

c: D. Ferguson
A. Hassan
H. Whiteley



Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

PROPOSAL TITLE: Proposal to change the name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences (VB) to the Department of Comparative Biosciences (CB) including Rubric and Program Description Changes and to Change the Major Program Name to Comparative Biosciences for the MS and Doctoral Programs.

SPONSOR: Duncan C. Ferguson, Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Biosciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, 333-7417, dcf@illinois.edu.

COLLEGE CONTACT: Herbert E. Whiteley, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, 333-2760, hwhitele@illinois.edu.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

1. The name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences will be changed to the Department of Comparative Biosciences.
2. The Rubric will change to CB and the Program Description will change to Comparative Biosciences.
3. The Major will change for the MS and Doctoral Programs to Comparative Biosciences.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Veterinary Biosciences is one of three departments that comprise the College of Veterinary Medicine. The Board of Trustees, on September 20, 1978, approved changing the name of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy, Physiology and Pharmacology (VAPP) to the Department of Veterinary Biosciences (VB). At that time the department listed twenty faculty members and thirty-eight Research and Teaching Assistants. A majority of the latter were supported from state funding. Extramural research funding expenditures in the late 1970's accounted for significantly less than 50% of total departmental expenditures. Faculty numbers reached twenty-four in the late 1990's but are now back to twenty. Of note, extramural research now accounts for approximately 76% of total departmental expenditures. During this same twenty-year period, research in the department has increasingly focused on comparative biomedical research with particular emphasis on the relevance to issues spanning human and animal health. Currently, the department comprises twenty faculty members whose research interests include the effects of environmental toxicants on animal and human cognition, circadian rhythms, endocrine function and ecosystem health; the role of estrogens, phytoestrogens and other sex steroids as well as endocrine disruptors in reproductive and cardiovascular health; developmental biology of sex determination; and the engineering of biomaterials for implants. The majority of research

funding originates from sources whose primary interest is human disease, such as the National Institutes of Health, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Defense and the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. These research interests clearly reflect increasing involvement of this department and the College of Veterinary Medicine in comparative biomedical research, as outlined in the college's FY04 Annual Report to the Provost. The department is central to the College's commitment to become a leader in the campus-wide impetus towards translational research and to contribute to the Provost's initiative to "develop a campus-wide program in comparative biomedical science/systems biology" (11/24/03 memo to BioDeans) which is now the new Division of Biomedical Sciences. As such, a new name that more accurately defines our role is essential.

Recently, the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology in the College of Veterinary Medicine was granted permission to change its name to the Department of Pathobiology. Also, it is noteworthy that none of the equivalent departments in the top 5 US veterinary colleges use the term *veterinary* in their names. Thus, removal of the term *veterinary* from the department name is not intended to isolate us from other departments within the college, but rather to more accurately reflect our expanding role in translational biomedical research and our quest to gain warranted recognition as a top-ranked program in comparative biosciences.

Department faculty members are of the opinion that the current name, *Veterinary Biosciences*, implies a focus with interests restricted to *veterinary* research only. The misleading title may place us at a disadvantage when competing for biomedical research funding, graduate students and new faculty. Because the term *veterinary* is part of the college name, the current name of our department is also redundant. Currently only 7 of the 31 comparable departments in accredited veterinary colleges use "Veterinary or Animal" in their department names [the University of Minnesota, the University of Montreal, The Ohio State University, The University of Saskatchewan, the University of Pennsylvania (Animal Biology), Texas A&M University and Washington State University]. Thus, dropping the term *veterinary* will provide consistency within our own college and with other biomedical science departments in the U.S. and Canada, with whom we directly compete for faculty and graduate students.

The new name will better reflect the mission of our department within the University and externally to biomedical funding agencies, prospective graduate students and faculty candidates. The teaching mission of the department will not be affected by the name change; there will be no changes in the curriculum as a direct result of the name change. However, we request that the department program description in Banner reflect the new department program name VMS – Comparative Biosciences as well as the course rubric be changed from VB to CB. The department requests that transcripts and diplomas also reflect the new name as Comparative Biosciences. The faculty members in the department are strongly in favor of the proposed change and unanimously voted at the February 24, 2009 Faculty Meeting to begin the name change proposal process. On February 4, 2010, the College of Veterinary Medicine's Executive Committee also supported the proposed department name change and recommended that the proposal go before the entire college faculty for their consideration. On February 16, 2010, the department name change proposal was unanimously approved with a voice vote at a regularly scheduled College of Veterinary Medicine faculty meeting. This change maintains our identity while recognizing our diversity, which should increase our ability

to compete for biomedical research funding and to develop a stronger graduate training program. Finally, the name will facilitate interactions with other units on campus, such as the Department of Bioengineering, the College of ACES, the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, the Department of Animal Sciences, the College of Medicine and the new Division of Biomedical Sciences.

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

There should be no effect on course enrollment in other departments. The proposed name change is supported by the College of Veterinary Medicine's Executive Committee. It has also received support from the Department of Bioengineering, the College of ACES, the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology, the Department of Animal Sciences, the College of Medicine and the new Division of Biomedical Sciences.

- 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.

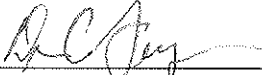
None

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall Semester 2010.

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG: See attached.

CLEARANCES:

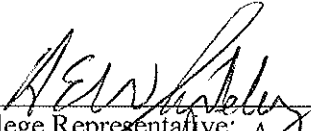
Signatures:



Department/Unit Representative:

8/12/09

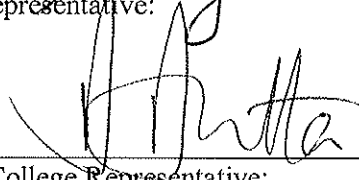
Date:



College Representative:

8-13-09

Date:



Graduate College Representative:

11-16-09

Date:

Provost Representative:

Date:

Educational Policy Committee Representative:

Date:

I
ILLINOIS

Department of Veterinary Biosciences
College of Veterinary Medicine
3516 Veterinary Medicine Basic Sciences Building
2001 South Lincoln Avenue
Urbana, IL 61802
Telephone (217) 333-2506 Fax (217) 244-1652


RECEIVED

SEP 15 2009

GRADUATE COLLEGE

August 14, 2009

TO: Graduate College
204 Coble Hall, MC-322

FROM: Duncan C. Ferguson, VMD, PhD
Professor and Head 

RE: Proposal for Department Name Change

Enclosed is a proposal from the faculty of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to the Senate Educational Policy Committee to consider our request to change our name to the Department of Comparative Biosciences. The department faculty are strongly in favor of the proposed change and believes that the change will maintain our identity while also recognizing our diversity. This proposal comes with the support of the College of Veterinary Medicine's Executive Committee. Included in our proposal are letters of support from other campus units including the Colleges of ACES and Medicine and the Division of Biomedical Sciences.

We formally request that the Graduate College consider our proposal to change our department name to Comparative Biosciences and to update our programs of study and rubric information to reflect this change.

Thank you.

Enc.

RECEIVED

JUL 15 2009

VET BIOSCIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN



Department of Bioengineering, MC-278
3120 DCL, 1304 Springfield Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

Duncan C Ferguson
Professor and Head
Department of Veterinary Biosciences

July 14, 2009

Dear Professor Ferguson:

Faculty of the Department of Bioengineering have received and reviewed your proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to change the name of your department to *Comparative Biosciences*. We find arguments in favor of the change to be compelling, and we fully support your request for the name change.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael F. Insana', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Michael F. Insana
Professor and Interim Head

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA - CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Office of the Dean
122 Mumford Hall, MC-710
1301 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801-3605



June 19, 2009

RECEIVED
JUN 22 2009
VET BIOSCIENCE

To: Duncan C. Ferguson

From: Robert A. Easter, Dean

Robert A. Easter

Re: Department Name Change Proposal

The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences does not oppose the proposal to change the name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to the Department of Comparative Biosciences.

RAE:ch

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Department of Animal Sciences
College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences
132 Animal Sciences Laboratory
1207 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



RECEIVED
JUL 22 2009
VET BIOSCIENCE

July 20, 2009

Dr. Duncan Ferguson
Professor and Head
Department of Veterinary Biosciences
3516 VMBSB
MC - 002

Dear Duncan:

The Department of Animal Sciences has reviewed the proposal to change the name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to the Department of Comparative Biosciences. We agree that the proposal to change the department's name is justified and do not see any conflict with the interests of our department in making the change in name. The Department of Animal Sciences supports the proposal to change the name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to the Department of Comparative Biosciences.

Sincerely,



Neal R. Merchen
Professor and Head

NRM/gjs

Manuel, Carla L

From: Ferguson, Duncan Craig [dcf@illinois.edu]
Int: Tuesday, June 23, 2009 3:58 PM
To: Carla Manuel
Subject: Fwd: Name change

Very good! (:

Duncan

Begin forwarded message:

From: Bradford Schwartz <schwartz2@illinois.edu<mailto:schwartz2@illinois.edu>>
Date: June 23, 2009 3:33:52 PM CDT
To: "Ferguson, Duncan Craig" <dcf@illinois.edu<mailto:dcf@illinois.edu>>
Cc: hwhiteley-cvm.uiuc.edu<http://hwhiteley-cvm.uiuc.edu>
<hwhiteley@cvm.uiuc.edu<mailto:hwhiteley@cvm.uiuc.edu>>, Debora McCall
<demccall@uiuc.edu<mailto:demccall@uiuc.edu>>
Subject: Name change

Duncan,

The COM Executive Committee enthusiastically endorses your department's proposal to change its name to Comparative Biosciences.

We hope it brings all the expected advantages, and perhaps even some that you didn't expect! Please let me know if you need a formal hard copy letter, or whether this e-mail will suffice. Thanks very much,

Brad

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Division of Biomedical Sciences

208 North Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801



July 15, 2009

Dr. Duncan C. Ferguson, Head
Department of Veterinary Biosciences
College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Herbert E. Whitely, Dean
College of Veterinary Medicine

Dear Drs. Ferguson and Whitely,

This letter is provided in support of your proposal to the Senate Committee on Education Policy regarding the change in name of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to the Department of Comparative Biosciences. As clearly stated in your proposal, the increasing focus on comparative biomedical research that spans animal and human health has stimulated new funding, student and faculty opportunities. Your proposed name change would reflect the new focus and serve to stimulate broader and international recognition of your exceptional programs.

During the past year, the Division of Biomedical Sciences has welcomed working with your department and college in efforts to refine our campus' role in 21st Century biomedical sciences. Clearly one of our campus strategic advantages is your recognized expertise in comparative toxicology and pharmacology that will serve emerging discovery models of drug discovery. Your proposed name change not only more accurately reflects your expertise but also serves to showcase the campus' expertise and providing critical differentiation from our competitors.

Finally, I strongly support your vision of transitioning the department from a restricted view of veterinary medicine to one that also includes human biomedical research. The growing interest in "One Medicine" is exciting and your new name change will most certainly more accurately reflect your new exciting mission. Please feel free to enlist my participation in this Proposal.

Sincerely,



Lawrence B. Schook, Ph.D.
Professor, Edward William and Jane Marr Gutgsell Professor
Director, Division of Biomedical Sciences

Stephen G. Sligar
Director, School of Molecular and Cellular Biology
I. C. Gunsalus Professor and University Scholar
Departments of Biochemistry, Chemistry and the College of Medicine
116 Morrill Hall, 505 S. Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801
(217) 244-7395
s-sligar@uiuc.edu

September 11, 2009

To: Duncan C. Ferguson
Professor and Head
Department of Veterinary Biosciences

Re: Proposal to Change Department Name

I am very pleased to support the proposal of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences to change its name to the Department of Comparative Biosciences. This move forward reflects the broad contributions, both intellectual and educational, to the Campus and University. The School of Molecular and Cellular Biology looks forward to increasing synergistic interactions and collaborations with your faculty.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. G. Sligar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Stephen G. Sligar

Proposed Programs of Study Page

Comparative Biosciences

<http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vb> <http://www.vetmed.illinois.edu/cb/>

Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine: Herbert E. Whiteley
Head of the Department: Duncan C. Ferguson
Director of Graduate Studies: Aslam Hassan
3516 VMBSB
2001 S. Lincoln Avenue
Urbana, IL 61802
(217) 333-2506
E-mail: cmanuel@illinois.edu

Major: Comparative Biosciences
Degrees Offered: M.S., Ph.D.

Joint Degree Program: Veterinary Medical Scholars Program
Degrees Offered: D.V.M. and M.S., D.V.M. and Ph.D.

Medical Scholars Program: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Comparative Biosciences and Doctor of Medicine (Medical Scholars Program) through the Medical Scholars Program.

Graduate Degree Programs

The Department of Comparative Biosciences offers graduate work leading to the degrees of Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy. Areas of specialization include physiology, pharmacology, and toxicology. Each area has a core of required courses supplemented by other courses within the Department of Comparative Biosciences and from other departments of the Graduate College. Adequate laboratory and animal holding space to conduct the research of the faculty and graduate students is provided in the Basic Sciences Building, Veterinary Teaching Hospitals, and the Veterinary Research Farm.

Admission

Applicants for graduate study in Comparative Biosciences must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0). Grade point averages will be calculated on the last 60 hours of undergraduate studies for those without the D.V.M. degree and on the entire professional curriculum for those with the D.V.M., or equivalent, degree. Applicants with a graduate degree or with some graduate coursework will be evaluated on the basis of their graduate work as well as their undergraduate or professional records. Qualifications of students must be approved by the department's Graduate Studies Committee.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required and must have been taken within

the last five years prior to application. Candidates should score an average in the 80th percentile or higher on each of the portions of the GRE to be eligible for consideration.

International applicants whose native language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A score of at least 600 on the paper-based test, or 250 on the computer-based test or 100 on the internet based test, is required. Those applicants who gain admission on the basis of their academic credentials, but score below 600 on the TOEFL, will be admitted on limited status and required to take the English Placement Test (EPT) upon their arrival. Students are exempt from the TOEFL requirement if they have completed at least two academic years of full-time study at an institution where the language of instruction is English during the five-year period prior to the proposed date of enrollment. Students also need to take the Test of Spoken English (TSE) oral exam and score at least 50.

Degree Requirements

*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's graduate degree requirements and the Graduate College Handbook.

Master of Science

| Required Courses: | Required Hours |
|---|----------------------|
| MCB 450 and PATH 524 | 7 |
| CB 590 | 1 |
| CB 591, may be repeated for up to 2 hours of credit | 1-2 |
| Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree): | max 4 |
| Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree): | 0-12 |
| Total Hours | 32 |
| Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit: | 8 (500 level) |
| Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall: | 12 |
| Other Requirements:* | |
| Students may be required to take additional courses as recommended by Advisory Committees or Department Divisions | |
| Final comprehensive examination | |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |

Doctor of Philosophy

| Required Courses: | Required Hours |
|--|---|
| CB 590 | 2 |
| CB 591, may be repeated for up to 4 hours of credit | 2 |
| MCB 450 or 501 | 7 |
| PATH 524 or CPSC 440 | 4 |
| Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree): | max 8 (max 12 for B.S. to Ph.D.) |
| Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree): | 0 min |
| Total Hours | 64 |
| Other Requirements:* | |
| Students may be required to take additional courses as recommended by Advisory Committees or Department Divisions | |
| 64 hours (including thesis research) earned in courses meeting on the Urbana-Champaign campus, on the Chicago campus, or in other locations approved by the Graduate College for graduate credit | |
| Teaching experience is required | |
| Minimum GPA: | 3.0 |
| Masters Degree Required for Admission to Ph.D.? | No, but Masters level requirements must be met (32 hours min) |
| Qualifying Exam Required | Yes |
| Preliminary Exam Required | Yes |
| Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required | Yes |
| Dissertation Deposit Required | Yes |

Joint Degree Program

Students accepted into the Veterinary Medical Scholars Program can complete a D.V.M. and Ph.D. simultaneously.

Dual Degree Program

Students accepted into the Medical Scholars Program can complete both the M.D. and Ph.D. degrees

Residency Certification

The Department of Comparative Biosciences offers two residency training programs in Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology and Veterinary Toxicology. A 3-year residency is designed to prepare participants for certifying examinations of the American Board of Toxicology (ABT) and the American Board of Veterinary Toxicology (ABVT) or the American College of Veterinary Clinical Pharmacology (ACVCP)

Graduate Teaching Experience

Experience in teaching is considered a vital part of the graduate program and is required as part of the academic work of all Ph.D. candidates in this program.

Faculty Research Interests

Faculty members in the Divisions of Physiology and Morphology, who identify themselves as reproductive biologists, have focused their efforts on sex steroid effects on a variety of different physiological systems relating to reproduction. Faculty members from the Division of Pharmacology and Toxicology, and some of the same faculty from reproductive biology, have combined efforts to focus on the effects of endocrine disruptors (many with estrogen-like effects) in the environment. Other faculty members are investigating estrogen effects of estrogen on the cardiovascular system. This emphasis on the effects of sex steroid hormones on many different systems has been effective in helping to unite a diverse faculty and has provided common interest for seminars and collaborative research. In addition, some faculty are focusing their efforts in stem cell research. For detailed information on each faculty member, please visit the college faculty biosketch website, <http://www.vetmed.illinois.edu/faculty/index.html>

Centers, Programs, and Institutes

A NIH training grant entitled: "Research Training in Environmental Toxicology" is the first such Training Grant in the College and is a clear indication that our program has matured. Dr. Sue Schantz directs the training grant and is also the Director of the FRIENDS Children's Environmental Health Center.

Financial Aid

A limited number of research and teaching assistantships or associate positions are available.