MEMORANDUM

TO: Norma Allewell  
Dean, College of Chemical & Life Sciences

FROM: Elizabeth Beise  
Interim Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposals to rename and suspend areas of Concentration in the graduate degree program in Biological Sciences (PCC log nos. 08041-08044)

On May 4, 2009, Chancellor Kirwan gave final approval to your proposals to rename several areas of concentration in the Biological Sciences program, to suspend degree programs in Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics, Molecular and Cell Biology, and Behavior, Ecology Evolution and Systematics, and to eliminate M.S. areas of concentration in Biology Sciences. These changes were administratively approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission on July 29, 2009. Copies of the approved proposals are attached.

The change is effective Fall 2009. The College should ensure that the changes are fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and in all relevant materials, and that all advisors are informed.

Enclosure

cc: Alex Chen, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid  
Reka Montfort, University Senate  
Barbara Hope, Data Administration  
Eric Spear, Institutional Research & Planning  
Anne Turkos, Archives  
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
Kathy McAdams, Undergraduate Studies  
Thomas Castonguay, Graduate School  
Art Popper, College of Chemical & Life Sciences
July 29, 2009

Dr. C.D. Mote, Jr.
President
University of Maryland, College Park
1101 Main Administration Building
College Park, MD 20742-2104

Dear Dr. Mote:

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has reviewed the following requests from University of Maryland College Park:

- rename its Master of Science (M.S.) in Biology as a Master of Science in Biological Sciences;
- rename its Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Biology as a Doctor of Philosophy in Biological Sciences and;
- rename three Areas of Concentration (AOC) in the Doctor of Philosophy in Biological Sciences as follows:
  - rename Ecology as Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics;
  - rename Cell Biology as Molecular and Cell Biology; and
  - rename Systematics and Evolutionary Biology as Computational Biology, Bioinformatics, and Genomics;

On the recommendation of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs, Dr. George W. Reid, I am pleased to inform you that these requests have been administratively approved. The HEGIS and CIP codes will not change. This decision was based on an analysis of the program in conjunction with the Maryland Higher Education Commission’s Policies and Procedures for Academic Program Proposals and Code of Maryland Regulations.

For purposes of providing enrollment and degree data to the Commission, please use the following HEGIS and CIP codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Program Title</th>
<th>New Program Title</th>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>HEGIS</th>
<th>CIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>M.S.</td>
<td>0407-00</td>
<td>26.0101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>0407-00</td>
<td>26.0101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Biology</td>
<td>Molecular and Cell Biology</td>
<td>A.O.C.</td>
<td>0407-00</td>
<td>26.0701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systematics and</td>
<td>Computational Biology, Bioinformatics, and Genomics</td>
<td>A.O.C.</td>
<td>0407-00</td>
<td>26.0701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evolutionary Biology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
839 Bestgate Rd. • Suite 400 • Annapolis, MD 21401-3013
T 410.260.4500 • 800.974.0203 • F 410.260.3200 • For Deaf & Hard of Hearing Maryland Relay 1.800.201.7165 • www.mhec.state.md.us
Should these programs require any substantial changes in the future, please keep the Commission apprised. I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

James E. Lyons, Sr.
Secretary of Higher Education

cc. Dr. George W. Reid, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs, MHEC
   Ms. Theresa W. Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USM
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED__

PCC LOG NO. 08041

COLLEGE/SCHOOL College of Chemical and Life Sciences (CLFS)

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM__NA

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD____ DELETE____ CHANGE____

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)

Change of name of the Ph.D. degree in Biology to Biological Sciences (BISI). Several current graduate programs in CLFS will be moved into the new Biological Sciences graduate program. The resultant Ph.D. program will have several Areas of Concentration that will enable students to obtain a Biological Sciences degree with a formal Area of Concentration in their chosen sub-field.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)

We are replacing the current name “Biology” with “Biological Sciences” to indicate a broader and inclusive program. The name also reflects the breadth of the biological sciences training and research in the College of Chemical and Life Sciences.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date

1. Department Committee Chair: NA

2. Department Chair: Richard Payne (Chair, Biology) __________ 1/21/09

3. College/School PCC Chair: Arthur N. Popper __________ 1/21/09

4. Dean: Norma Allewell __________ 1/21/09

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) __________ 1/21/09

6. Chair, Senate PCC __________ 1/21/09

7. Chair of Senate __________ 1/21/09

8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost __________ 8/19/09

CLFS - PCC for BISI
The College of Chemical and Life Sciences is proposing to change the name of Ph.D. programs in Biology to Biological Sciences. (An accompanying document changes the name of the M.S. degree.)

The purpose of the change is to:

- Make the name of the programs more encompassing of the breadth of biological sciences research in the college and on campus.

- Provide an umbrella program (Biological Sciences -- BISI) in which many of the current areas of Ph.D. training in the college will be merged as a single program. This will enable us to suspend and eventually eliminate graduate programs in: Biology; Behavior, Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics (BEES); Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics (CBMG); and Molecular and Cellular Biology (MOCB) at College Park (see other proposals).

- Enable prospective students to enter BISI through a single “portal” and then be placed into Areas of Concentration that are most suited to their interests and needs. This is particularly important in the biological sciences where fields are evolving rapidly and where the scholarly interests of faculty often are highly diverse. By having a single degree program, and a single point of entry, there will not only be less confusion for students, but also opportunities for students to develop unique and individual training opportunities that fit their specific interests and career goals.