

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR A PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:
FROM BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN LEISURE STUDIES TO BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE PROGRAM IN THERAPEUTIC RECREATION**

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval of the request by the University of Iowa to change the name of the Bachelor of Science Program in Leisure Studies to the Bachelor of Science Program in Therapeutic Recreation in the Department of Health and Human Physiology of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Executive Summary: The proposed department name change will better integrate the existing program around the concept of therapeutic plan and recreation. This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to pursue “educational excellence and impact” and Goal #8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and effective.”

Background:

- ◇ **Description of program.** The program has three tracks from which students can choose:
 - ⇒ The *Therapeutic Recreation* track prepares students for employment as recreational therapists in both clinical and community-based setting with a wide variety of populations.
 - ⇒ The *Child Life* track has a competitive admission policy. Child Life is a health-oriented professional dedicated to improving well-being and growth of children.
 - ⇒ The *Recreation and Sport Business* track prepares students for careers in campus or municipal recreation, college athletic administration, event management, and health and fitness clubs.
- ◇ **Reason for proposed name change.** The proposed name change will better reflect the existing curriculum and be more representative of the academic discipline.
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** No other Regent universities have a program titled “Therapeutic Recreation.” There are several programs outside of Iowa with the proposed name, including Brigham Young University, Calvin College, Central Michigan University, East Carolina University, Penn State University, Temple University, and University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.
- ◇ **Consistency with accreditation requirements.** This program is no longer accredited.
- ◇ **Effect on program configuration.** The Therapeutic Recreation and Child Life tracks will remain with the existing program; however, the Therapeutic Recreation track will be renamed to Inclusive Recreation. The University will request Board approval to create a stand-alone program from the Recreation and Sport Business track (ESAC 6).

- ◇ Effect on students. The proposed name change is not expected to current students negatively. In fact, students will likely benefit from the more accurate reflection of the program's curriculum through the proposed name.
- ◇ Effect on resources. No new resources are anticipated as a result of the proposed department name change.
- ◇ Date of implementation. The proposed name change will become effective upon approval by the Board of Regents and will be included in the University's General Catalog. The anticipated implementation date is August 2014.