

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR A NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA:**  
**Ph.D. PROGRAM IN INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY TO**  
**Ph.D. PROGRAM IN HEALTH AND HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to change the name of the Ph.D. Program in Integrative Physiology to the Ph.D. Program in Health and Human Physiology in the Department of Health and Human Physiology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

**Executive Summary:** The proposed name change will align the program name with the department name which resulted from a major reorganization in June 2010. 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.** Applicants to the Ph.D. Program in Integrative Physiology must have a strong background in the natural sciences, a working knowledge of statistics and research methodology, and a specific interest in at least one area of specialization in the department. Students must complete a minimum of 72 semester hours of graduate credit including a dissertation in the student’s area of specialization. A manuscript of the dissertation must be submitted to a refereed professional journal for publication. Initially designed more than 20 years ago to reflect the expertise of the faculty, the program offered focus areas in anatomy, biomechanics, exercise and integrative physiology, and neural control movement.
  
- ◇ **Reason for proposed name change.** Prior to June 2010, the administrative home of the Ph.D. Program in Integrative Physiology was the Department of Integrative Physiology. In June 2010, the Board of Regents approved renaming the department as the Department of Health and Human Physiology (Agenda Item #4h). At that time, the undergraduate program also changed its name; however, the graduate programs did not change their names to be consistent with the department name change. The proposed renaming will align the program with the department name.  
  
The current Ph.D. Program in Integrative Physiology no longer reflects the overall expertise of the faculty in the department and is no longer aligned with the mission of the graduate program. The proposed renaming and a restructuring of the program will better serve the mission of the graduate program, better reflect the overall expertise of the current faculty in the areas of health promotion and human physiology, and better integrate the overall design of the department’s educational programs across all levels.
  
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** There is no institution that offers a program with exactly the same name. The University of Iowa program will be unique and innovative in its integrated emphasis on physiological and behavioral aspects of human health.

Some institutions have department names and graduate degrees with some similarities, including the University of Florida and Texas A & M University (Health and Human Performance) and the University of Oregon, Boston University, and Gonzaga University (Human Physiology). Other institutions may modify program names and curricula in the future to reflect the changes and growth occurring in the health science area.

- ◇ Consistency with accreditation requirements. Currently, only entry-level athletic training educational programs are accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE). The University's undergraduate program in Health and Human Physiology with focus on athletic training has been accredited by CAATE; the name of the undergraduate program is consistent with accreditation designations.
- ◇ Effect on program configuration. No changes are proposed in the number of required credit hours or the requirement of a dissertation in the student's area of specialization. However, the department anticipates restructuring the program to better reflect the expertise of the faculty. Some of the focus areas originally included in the program are no longer covered by current faculty expertise which lies more in the areas of health promotion and human physiology.

Students will specialize in a focus area that reflects the expertise of the faculty. Successful degree candidates will have a general knowledge of all areas related to health promotion and human physiology, a strong working knowledge of the research techniques that may be applied to problems in health promotion and human physiology, and an in-depth theoretical and practical knowledge in at least one specialized area in the fields of health promotion and/or human physiology. The proposed program will prepare students for a career in academic and non-academic settings.

- ◇ Effect on students. Current students who have already declared the Ph.D. in Integrative Physiology as their degree objective will not be affected by the proposed name change. Current students will have the choice to keep the current name on their transcript and diploma or change to the proposed name. All current Ph.D. students will be allowed to complete their declared program of study outlined in the 2011-2012 General University Catalog.
- ◇ Effect on resources. Minimal costs will be incurred related to changing the name on printed materials. No new faculty, staff, or facilities will be required as a result of the proposed 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.