

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN
ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to terminate the Master of Science Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Executive Summary: The request to terminate the Program is due to the fact that there has been little demand for the program during the past five years. This request was 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.”

Background:

- ◇ **Description of program.** The Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (OMFS) offers a Master of Science Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery for post-DDS students who are pursuing a clinical residency in OMFS. The program is a four-year course of integrated didactic and clinical requirements during the residency. In the past, graduates of this program pursued academic positions; however, this trend has declined in the past 5-10 years. Instead, recent graduates of the OMFS residency program have pursued positions in private practice.
- ◇ **Reason for proposed termination.** Recent post-DDS students who have been admitted to the OMFS residency program have not elected to undertake the Master of Science Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery concurrently. The last student to complete the program graduated in May 2009. After reviewing the program and its educational and research objectives, the Graduate Education Task Force determined that there is considerable redundancy of this program and the Master of Science Program in Oral Science offered by the College of Dentistry. Therefore, the department and the college have recommended that the Master of Science Program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery be terminated.
- ◇ **Impact on resources.** No faculty or staff reductions or reassignments are anticipated as a result of the proposed program termination. Elimination of this program is not expected to free up existing facilities or equipment.
- ◇ **Impact on workforce.** The proposed program termination is not expected to affect the workforce needs of the state. Dental residents will have the option to pursue the Master of Science or Ph.D. programs in Oral Science if they wish to pursue graduate work.
- ◇ **Alternative programming.** Students interested in a master’s level program will have the option to enroll in the Master of Science Program in Oral Science.
- ◇ **Effect on current students.** A transition period will not be needed because there are no students currently enrolled in this program.
- ◇ **Effective date of termination.** If the proposed program termination is approved by the Board, suspension of new admissions to the program and termination of the program will become effective immediately.