

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR A PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY:
FROM BACHELOR OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN CULINARY SCIENCE TO BACHELOR OF
SCIENCE PROGRAM IN CULINARY FOOD SCIENCE**

Action Requested: Consider recommending approval of the request by Iowa State University to change the name of the Bachelor of Science Program in Culinary Science to the Bachelor of Science Program in Culinary Food Science in the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and Human Sciences.

Executive Summary: The proposed program name change will better reflect the current academic preparation for program students. 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 Culinary Science Program is a food science-based program in which students develop basic culinary skills together with knowledge of the accompanying sciences. Graduates combine food product development and entrepreneurial skills with scientific and technological knowledge. Students take courses in food science and human nutrition and in the hospitality management program to learn methods of creating, adapting, and enhancing new and existing food products.
- ◇ **Reason for proposed name change.** The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition created the Culinary Science Program to meet the needs of the food industry for employees with specific education in food science fundamentals and culinary science expertise. ISU was the first academic institution to create such a program; therefore, was no precedent for the degree name. The recommendation for the proposed name change is based on two primary factors:
 1. Changing the name to Culinary Food Science will more accurately reflect the academic preparation of students. This program requires 41 credit hours of food science and human nutrition courses; this is only four credit hours fewer than is required for the food science program. Both Culinary Science and Food Science students complete the fundamental food science courses in food chemistry, food microbiology, food quality assurance, food ingredient interactions and formulations, and food product development. Therefore, the Culinary Science program qualifies students for careers in food science and is rigorous in food science courses. It is distinct from the Food Science Program because Culinary Science students take several unique courses, including professional skills in culinary science, fundamentals of culinary science, and 16 credit hours in hotel, restaurant and institutional management, which are not required in the Food Science Program. In these courses, students develop basic culinary skills. Food Science students take additional courses in food processing and engineering.

2. After offering this program for five years, graduates are becoming employed in good positions; however, graduates are finding that human resource managers may not understand that the curriculum is based in food science. Furthermore, the companies using electronic scanning systems to screen applications typically search for the terms “food science” which means that Culinary Science graduates are sometimes overlooked. The proposed name would identify the academic food science expertise obtained through this program.
- ◇ Comparable name at other institutions. This program is unique in the state of Iowa. ISU was the first to create a program which combines food science fundamentals with culinary science expertise. Only one of its peer 11 institutions, Ohio State University, has a culinary program and it is named Culinary Science. Drexel University has a culinary arts and food science program.
 - ◇ Consistency with accreditation requirements. This program is not accredited.
 - ◇ Effect on program configuration. The number of credit hours and the curricular requirements will remain the same. If the proposed name change is approved, diplomas of graduates will designate the new name – Culinary Food Science. This will more accurately reflect the academic preparation of students and their ability to compete for positions requiring a “food science” degree.
 - ◇ Effect on students. Current students and those already admitted to the program will have the option of retaining the current program title (Culinary Science) or changing to the proposed name (Culinary Food Science) without affecting their coursework. All students admitted after January 2016 will be admitted to the Culinary Food Science Program.
 - ◇ Effect on resources. There are no anticipated costs resulting from changing the program name. Most of the recruitment and program description materials are in electronic form; therefore, the cost of these materials in print format is not anticipated.
 - ◇ Proposed name consistent with College mission. ISU’s mission is to create, share, and apply knowledge to make Iowa and the world a better place. The proposed name change will more accurately reflect the sharing and application of food science knowledge with culinary knowledge and skills. The College’s mission is to expand human potential across the lifespan by improving science and technology that applies throughout people’s daily living and learning. The proposed name change will more clearly link culinary science to people’s daily living and learning through the inclusion of food.
 - ◇ Workforce needs. The 2013-2014 senior survey indicated that nine out of the 10 Culinary Science graduates (90%) were employed with an average salary of \$48,000.
 - ◇ Date of implementation. The proposed program 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 Spring 2016.