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**REQUEST FOR A PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY:
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE II PROGRAM AND MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
ARCHITECTURAL SCIENCE TO MASTER OF SCIENCE PROGRAM IN ARCHITECTURE**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to change the name of the Master of Architecture II Program and the Master of Science Program in Architectural Science to the Master of Science Program in Architecture.

Executive Summary: The proposed name change will consolidate the two research degrees (Master of Architecture II Program and Master of Science Program in Architectural Science) into one research degree with multiple research tracks. This change was strongly recommended by the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB) during their last visit in 2006. This proposal was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. No concerns were raised when it was presented to the Iowa Coordinating Council for Post-High School Education. The proposed program addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to “provide educational excellence and impact.”

Background:

- ◇ **Description of existing program.** The current programs are 30-credit research degrees with a required graduate thesis. The Master of Architecture II Program is a non-accredited post-professional degree for applicants who hold a professional degree in Architecture or other affiliated design fields and who are interested in conducting design-based graduate research. The Master of Science in Architectural Science Program is for applicants who hold a bachelor's degree in any field who are interested in conducting graduate-level research on the built environment. Program applicants are encouraged to define a study area that aligns with the academic expertise of the Department of Architecture faculty, such as Sustainability and Green Design, Rural and Urban Studies, Representation and Digital Media, Design Inquiry, Advanced Building Design, Architectural and Construction History, and Building Science and Construction.
- ◇ **Proposed name.** The proposed name change will clarify the differences between the accredited professional degrees needed for practice and licensure and research degrees for prospective students and future accreditation teams. Nationally, the Master of Science Program in Architecture is considered a terminal design degree for holders of an accredited professional bachelor's degree in architecture. In addition to professional jobs, these students may apply for academic jobs. The proposed name change is likely to encourage more applicants by better defining the degree requirements and the research expertise available in the department.
- ◇ **Duplication.** There are no other institutions of higher education in Iowa that offer a Master of Science Program in Architecture.
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** The proposed name has been adopted by graduate programs at the University of Michigan, University of Cincinnati, Texas Tech University, and Kansas State University.

- ◇ Projected enrollment. The projected enrollment is expected to grow from six students to 14 students within the next seven-year period. Currently, the majority of applicants to the non-professional degrees are international students. The department expects this pattern to continue because the program is short and flexible and it suits the professional backgrounds of international applicants.

- ◇ Resources. The University anticipates that no new resources will be needed because resources from the existing programs will provide staff, facilities, and equipment for the proposed re-named program.