

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST FOR PROGRAM NAME CHANGES AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University to change the names of the degree programs in the Department of Kinesiology in the College of Human Sciences.

Executive Summary: The proposed names recognize the national trend to use the name “Kinesiology” for the discipline, particularly among the highest-ranked universities and doctoral programs. The proposed name changes will make the program titles consistent with the department name. If approved, the change would result in the following:

- ◆ B.S. in Health and Human Performance to B.S. in Kinesiology and Health;
- ◆ M.S. in Exercise and Sport Science to M.S. in Kinesiology; and
- ◆ Ph.D. in Health and Human performance to Ph.D. in Kinesiology.

This request has been reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. The proposed names are consistent with similar programs in peer institutions.

Background:

- ◆ Kinesiology is the study of human movement and physical activity. The focus of the Department of Kinesiology, as stated in its mission, is to “promote health and well-being by creating and disseminating knowledge about physical activity and active living.”
- ◆ In February 2007, the Board of Regents approved a name change in the Department of Health and Human Performance to the Department of Kinesiology. The rationale for the name change was that it would make ISU’s department consistent with other similar departments. In a ranking of doctoral programs in Kinesiology¹, 15 of the top 20 ranked departments used Kinesiology in their department name. ISU’s department was one of the five programs in the top 20 that did not use that title.

Details about the proposed name change are available in the Board Office.

¹ Thomas & Reeve, 2006.