

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

REQUEST FOR A PROGRAM NAME CHANGE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
BIOMEDICAL ETHICS AND MEDICAL HUMANITIES PROGRAM TO
BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES PROGRAM

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to change the name of the Biomedical Ethics and Medical Humanities Program to the Bioethics and Humanities Program.

Executive Summary: The proposed name presents a more concise descriptor which will better align the University of Iowa's program with the name of the national organization. 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 objective (1.1) to "offer high-quality programs through ongoing program improvement for undergraduate, graduate, professional, and non-degree students and special school students."

Background:

- ◇ **Program mission.** The Program's mission is to advance a rigorous understanding of human health and healthcare through knowledge gained from bioethics, the medical humanities, and related disciplines through teaching, research, scholarship, and service.
- ◇ **Proposed name.** The proposed name parallels current national practice. The proposed name is the same as that of the major bioethics/humanities organization in the United States – The American Society of Bioethics and Humanities.
- ◇ **Comparable name at other institutions.** The proposed name has been adopted by Northwestern University, University of South Florida, Medical College of Wisconsin, New York University, Johns Hopkins University, University of South Carolina, University of Louisville, Penn State University, and East Carolina University Brody School of Medicine.
- ◇ **Other units not affected.** The proposed name will not affect the names of other academic programs. There are no students directly affiliated with this program; therefore, there will be no impact on credit hours or on course configurations.
- ◇ **New funds not needed.** The proposed name change will not require any additional resources; there will be no effect on faculty recruitment, facilities, or funding.