

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents

From: Board Office

Subject: Request to Discontinue the M.S. and Ph.D. Programs in Veterinary Anatomy and the M.S. and Ph.D. Programs in Physiology

Date: July 7, 2003

Recommended Action:

Approve Iowa State University's request to discontinue the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Veterinary Anatomy and the M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Physiology, effective with the approval of the new Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences.

Executive Summary:

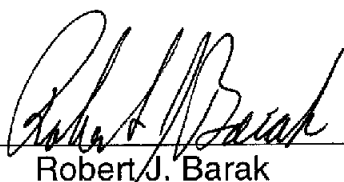
Discontinue
Two Graduate
Programs

The University is requesting discontinuance of the two current graduate programs administered by the Department of Biomedical Sciences in order to offer a single, new graduate major: Biomedical Sciences. This discontinuance is conditional upon the approval of the new graduate programs, M.S. and Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences.

Change is
Partly Due to
Reorganization

The two current programs, Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology, have remained operative since the reorganization of departments in the College of Veterinary Medicine in 1997, resulting in the creation of the Department of Biomedical Sciences. This proposal to offer a single graduate major is, in part, due to the former reorganization. The combination of two previous programs will also allow increased efficiencies and saving of resources. For instance, savings will result from the reduced administrative costs of advertising and recruiting separately for two programs. Additionally, the proposed departmental program will complement and strengthen the Neuroscience Interdepartmental Program that is supported by a number of active research faculty in the Department of Biomedical Sciences.

Attached is additional background material on this request.


Robert J. Barak

Approved: 
Gregory S. Nichols

Proposal for the Discontinuation of Veterinary Anatomy and of Physiology

1. Name of administrator, department or group originating the proposal. Include the name of contact person. **Richard John Martin, Department of Biomedical Sciences**
2. Name of the programs. **MS and PhD programs in Physiology and Veterinary Anatomy**
3. Name of the department which administers the program. **Department of Biomedical Sciences**
4. Rationale for discontinuation.

The Department of Biomedical Sciences seeks to modernize its graduate program and to introduce a single revised new graduate major: Biomedical Sciences. There is a concurrent application for this new graduate major at the same time we are seeking to discontinue the existing Graduate Programs in Veterinary Anatomy and in Physiology. The new departmental program will replace the existing graduate programs and will allow increased efficiencies and saving of resources. We only wish to discontinue the graduate programs named MS and PhD programs in Physiology and in Veterinary Anatomy if the proposal for the new combined Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program is accepted.

5. Availability of similar programs at other Regent's institutions.

Please refer to the program proposal for MS and PhD in Biomedical Sciences where this issue is addressed in detail. Again the request for discontinuation is conditional on the acceptance of the proposal for the new Biomedical Sciences Graduate Major which has significant similarities.

6. Enrollment data for current and previous four years.

**Students in Vet. Anatomy and
Physiology Graduate Programs**

Year	Entering	Earned Degree	Still In Program
1999-2000	2	2	
2000-2001	4		1
2001-2002	6		4
2002-2003	10		8

7. Additional information required by the Board of Regents:
 - a. A survey of students currently enrolled in a program to determine the impact of the discontinuance on their academic plans. The survey should attempt to identify students who wish (i) to complete the program; (ii) to transfer to other programs at the same institution; and (iii) to leave the institution.

All graduate students enrolled in the existing programs of Physiology and Veterinary Anatomy will be allowed to complete their degrees under the existing regulations should they seek to do so, but all students surveyed are expected to transfer to the new proposed major in Biomedical Sciences. The phase out period will be less than 3 years. No one is expected to transfer or leave the institution because of the proposal changes.

- b. On the basis of the data collected, a projection of faculty and staff needed to accommodate student needs in order to maintain program quality, and both a time frame for, and the costs of, program phase-out.

The faculty involved in the proposed new Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program and the graduate majors of Veterinary Anatomy and Physiology are identical. There will be no additional cost associated with the phase out.

- c. A description of the amount of money, if any, that would become available for redirection under the institution's strategic plan as a result of the discontinuance of a program.

There will be a significant administrative saving from reducing the need to run two completely separate graduate programs in the Department to one graduate program. There will be a saving of advertising and secretarial time. This will be used to improve the support of the new single program.

- d. A description of the impact the discontinuance will have on other programs offered by and the overall mission of the institution.

The discontinuance of the majors in Veterinary Anatomy and in Physiology is coupled to the approval and replacement with the major in Biomedical Sciences. There will be no reduction in the overall mission of the institution. If the new major in Biomedical Sciences is not accepted we shall not seek to discontinue the majors in Veterinary Anatomy and in Physiology.

- e. A description of the impact on minorities and on women.

No change in the impact on minorities or women is anticipated

- f. A description of the potential faculty and staff reductions or reassignments that would result from the discontinuance.

No reductions or reassignments are proposed if the discontinuation is accepted and associated with the introduction of the new major in Biomedical Sciences.

- g. A description of how existing facilities and equipment freed by the discontinuance would be utilized.

Facilities will be transferred to the new major in Biomedical Sciences.