



TRANSMITTAL AND ABSTRACT OF SENATE REPORT

Date Presented to the Senate: March 13, 2008

Presenter: Carmen Balthrop, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee

Subject of Report: Proposal to rename the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Family Studies as the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Family Science

Senate Document Number: 07-08-28

**Voting: (a) on resolutions or recommendations one by one, or
(b) in a single vote
(c) to endorse entire report**

A. Statement of Issue:

The School of Public Health and the Department of Family Science propose to rename the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Family Studies as the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in Family Science. The name change will reflect more accurately the evolution of the field and nature of the academic program, and will avoid confusion by making the degree program names consistent with the department name.

The proposals are being submitted to the Senate by the Office of Academic Affairs following favorable recommendation by the Academic Planning Advisory Committee (APAC) on November 19, 2007. The proposals to rename the M.S. and Ph.D. were approved by the Graduate Programs, Curricula & Courses Committee on December 13, 2007. The proposals are being submitted to the Senate Executive Committee for consideration for the March 13 Senate agenda, **provisional upon approval of the proposals to rename the M.S. and Ph.D. programs by the Graduate Council on March 5, and approval of all three proposals by the Senate Programs, Curricula & Courses Committee on March 7. The Office of Academic Affairs requests that the Senate Executive Committee place the proposals on the March 13 Senate agenda to expedite approval and implementation of the proposals. All necessary approvals will be in place by the time the full Senate meets on March 13. No controversy is anticipated.**

If the Senate approves the proposals, they would still require further approval by the President and the Chancellor (with notification to the Maryland Higher Education Commission).

B. Recommendation:

Provisional upon a vote of its members on March 7, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate approve the name changes.

C. Committee Work:

The Committee will consider the proposals at its meeting on March 7.

D. Alternatives:

The Senate could decline to approve the name changes.

E. Risks:

If the Senate does not approve the name changes, confusion could arise from disparities between the name of the degree programs and their content, and the names of the degree programs and the department in which they are housed.

F. Financial Implications:

There are no indications of a financial risk.