



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

UNIVERSITY SENATE

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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 Ph.D. in Journalism and Public Communication as the Ph.D. in Journalism Studies

Senate Document Number: 07-08-29

**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 Philip Merrill College of Journalism proposes to rename the Ph.D. in Journalism and Public Communication as the Ph.D. in Journalism Studies. The name change will reflect more accurately the nature of the academic program, and will eliminate confusion with degree programs offered by the Department of Communication in the College of Arts & Humanities.

The proposal is submitted to the Senate by the Office of Academic Affairs following favorable recommendation by the Academic Planning Advisory Committee (APAC) on February 4, 2008 and the Graduate Programs, Curricula & Courses Committee on February 7. **The proposal is being submitted to the Senate Executive Committee for consideration for the March 13 Senate agenda, provisional upon approval by the Graduate Council on March 5 and by the Senate Programs, Curricula & Courses Committee on March 7. The Office of Academic Affairs requests that the Senate Executive Committee place the proposal on the March 13 Senate agenda to expedite approval and implementation. 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 proposal, it would still require further approval by the President and the Chancellor (with notification to the Maryland Higher Education Commission).

B. Recommendation:

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

C. Committee Work:

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

D. Alternatives:

The Senate could decline to approve the name change.

E. Risks:

If the Senate does not approve the name change, confusion could arise from disparities between the name of the degree program and its content, and the name of the degree program and the college in which it is housed.

F. Financial Implications:

There are no indications of a financial risk.