



**PCC Proposal to Rename the Master of Science in “Veterinary Medical Science” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (Senate Document #19-20-41)**

**TO Wallace D. Loh | President**

**FROM Pamela Lanford | Chair, University Senate**

I am pleased to forward the accompanying legislation for your consideration and approval. Betsy Beise, member of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee, presented the PCC Proposal to Rename the Master of Science in “Veterinary Medical Science” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (Senate Document #19-20-41), which the University Senate approved at its meeting on March 3, 2020. Please inform the Senate of your decision and any administrative action related to your conclusion.

Approved:

Date:

03-25-2020

Wallace D. Loh  
President

Copies of this approval and the accompanying legislation will be forwarded to:

- Mary Ann Rankin**, Senior Vice President and Provost
- Reka Montfort**, Executive Secretary and Director, University Senate
- Michael Poterala**, Vice President and General Counsel
- Cynthia Hale**, Associate Vice President for Finance and Personnel
- John Bertot**, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs
- Elizabeth Beise**, Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs
- Sylvia B. Andrews**, Academic Affairs
- Craig Beyrouthy**, Professor and Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Yanjin Zhang**, Associate Professor, Veterinary Medicine Program
- Janna Bianchini**, Chair, Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee



## PCC Proposal to Rename the Master of Science Program in “Veterinary Medical Sciences” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (PCC 19033)

**PRESENTED BY** Janna Bianchini, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee

**REVIEW DATES** SEC – February 21, 2020 | SENATE – March 3, 2020

**VOTING METHOD** In a single vote

**RELEVANT POLICY/DOCUMENT** NA

**NECESSARY APPROVALS** Senate, President, Chancellor, and Maryland Higher Education Commission

### ISSUE

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The Department of Veterinary Medicine proposes to rename its M.S. and Ph.D. programs in Veterinary Medical Sciences to Comparative Biomedical Sciences. This research-based curriculum is distinct from the department’s professional Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (D.V.M.). The latter is offered on the Virginia Tech campus, is jointly administered by the University of Maryland and Virginia Tech through the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, and is the practitioner program designed for those students who wish to pursue a career as a veterinarian. In contrast, the Veterinary Medical Sciences programs (offered on the College Park campus) are focused on educating the next generation of scientists in the techniques for and approaches to analyzing infectious diseases and therapeutic development. The name change to Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC) is intended to help students better distinguish the goals of the research-based program from the professional doctorate. CBSC covers both basic and applied veterinary and biomedical sciences for improving animal, human, and environmental health. The integration of the animal, human, and environmental health is a relatively new thrust in the field, known as “One Health.” Several graduate programs, at the colleges of veterinary medicine in comparable universities, have already adopted the CBSC title.

A minimum of 24 semester with hours of graduate coursework and six hours of thesis research credit (VMSC799) is required for the M.S. degree.

The proposed name change was endorsed by the Graduate School Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee on January 30, 2020, and by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee on February 7, 2020.

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

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The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate approve this name change.

## **COMMITTEE WORK**

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The committee considered this proposal at its meeting on February 7, 2020. The committee met with the graduate program director, Dr. Yanjin Zhang, who made a brief presentation and responded to questions. The committee voted to endorse the name change.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

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The Senate could decline to approve the name change.

## **RISKS**

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If the Senate declines to approve this degree program, the University will lose an opportunity to better market and recruit this degree program to prospective graduate students.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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There are no significant financial implications.

# 473: COMPARATIVE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (CBSC)

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## In Workflow

1. D-VMSC Chair (xzhu1@umd.edu)
2. AGNR Curriculum Manager (ecooper@umd.edu;%20tgallman@umd.edu)
3. AGNR PCC Chair (jsull@umd.edu;%20mcarroll@umd.edu)
4. AGNR Dean (jsull@umd.edu)
5. Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager (mcolson@umd.edu)
6. Graduate School Curriculum Manager (aambrosi@umd.edu)
7. Graduate PCC Chair (aambrosi@umd.edu)
8. Dean of the Graduate School (sfetter@umd.edu;%20aambrosi@umd.edu)
9. Senate PCC Chair (jcw@umd.edu;%20mcolson@umd.edu)
10. University Senate Chair (mcolson@umd.edu)
11. President (mcolson@umd.edu)
12. Chancellor (mcolson@umd.edu)
13. MHEC (mcolson@umd.edu)
14. Provost Office (mcolson@umd.edu)
15. Graduate Catalog Manager (aambrosi@umd.edu)

## Approval Path

1. Tue, 19 Nov 2019 14:53:35 GMT  
Xiaoping Zhu (xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
2. Mon, 25 Nov 2019 17:30:07 GMT  
Tyra Monnity (tgallman): Approved for AGNR Curriculum Manager
3. Thu, 05 Dec 2019 16:10:21 GMT  
Mark Carroll (mcarroll): Rollback to Initiator
4. Fri, 06 Dec 2019 16:32:22 GMT  
Xiaoping Zhu (xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
5. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 18:30:29 GMT  
Tyra Monnity (tgallman): Approved for AGNR Curriculum Manager
6. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 20:02:01 GMT  
Mark Carroll (mcarroll): Approved for AGNR PCC Chair
7. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 21:07:20 GMT  
Joseph Sullivan (jsull): Approved for AGNR Dean
8. Wed, 22 Jan 2020 22:27:05 GMT  
Michael Colson (mcolson): Approved for Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager
9. Fri, 07 Feb 2020 15:19:55 GMT  
Angela Ambrosi (aambrosi): Approved for Graduate School Curriculum Manager

## History

1. Sep 16, 2019 by Angela Ambrosi (aambrosi)
2. Oct 18, 2019 by William Bryan (wbryan)

Date Submitted: Thu, 05 Dec 2019 17:29:54 GMT

**Viewing: 473 : Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC)**

**Last approved: Fri, 18 Oct 2019 20:23:28 GMT**

**Last edit: Thu, 05 Dec 2019 17:29:52 GMT**

Changes proposed by: Yanjin Zhang (zhangyj)

## Proposed Action

Rename Program

## Program Name

Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC)

**Program Status**

Active

**Effective Term**

Fall 2020

**Catalog Year**

2020-2021

**Program Level**

Graduate Program

**Program Type**

Master's

**Delivery Method**

On Campus

**Departments****Department**

Veterinary Medicine Program

**Colleges****College**

Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Program/Major Code**

VMSC

**MHEC Inventory Program**

Veterinary Medical Sciences

**CIP Code**

512504 - Veterinary Microbiology and Immunobiology.

**HEGIS**

129958

**Degree(s) Awarded****Degree Awarded**

Master of Science

**Proposal Contact**

Yanjin Zhang: zhangyj@umd.edu, 301-314-6596

**Proposal Summary**

Change the program name from Veterinary Medical Science (VMSC) to Comparative Biomedical Science (CBSC).

**Program and Catalog Information****Catalog Program Requirements:****Thesis only:** 30 credits

Students with adequate undergraduate training usually complete the master's degree within two years.

Course	Title	Credits
VMSC698	Seminar in Veterinary Medical Science	1
VMSC799	Thesis Research	6

Select one graduate level biometrics or biochemistry course	3
Select at least 12 credits of VMSC courses	12
Select eight additional credits	8
Total Credits	30

During the first semester the student selects an advisor, and with the help of the advisor forms an Advisory Committee with the approval by the program's Graduate Education Committee. By the end of the second semester with the advice of the Advisory Committee, the student files a proposed schedule of course work including at least one credit of seminar (VMSC698). A minimum of 24 semester with hours of graduate courses and six hours of thesis research credit (VMSC799) is required for the degree. No less than 12 credits should be from courses 600 level or higher; at least 12 credits must be earned in the major subject. Three credits of graduate biometrics or biochemistry and one seminar credit (VMSC698) are required. No more than two credits of Special Problems (VMSC699) are acceptable as part of the 24 required course credits.

Students must maintain an overall GPA of 3.0 or better in courses taken for graduate credit. The committee may require remedial courses if the student enters with inadequate prerequisites or deficiencies in the undergraduate program. By the end of the second semester, a thesis research proposal must be approved and filed. The student must present the thesis in a public seminar and pass a final oral examination given by the Advisory Committee.

Details on the Graduate School policy on the Master's Thesis Examination may be found in the Graduate School Catalog at [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/masters\\_degree\\_policies.htm](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/masters_degree_policies.htm). The thesis must be submitted to the Graduate School in electronic format after final approval of the document by the Thesis Examining Committee. See the University of Maryland Thesis and Dissertation Style Guide (<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd>) (<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd/>) for the details of this process.

## Program Modification Information

**Impact on current students. It should be specifically acknowledged that students enrolled in the program prior to the effective date of any curriculum change may complete their program under the old requirements if they wish. The courses required must remain available, or suitable substitutions specifically designated.**

Just the program name change. There is no impact on current students.

## Linked Programs

### Renaming Program

**Provide a rationale for renaming the program.**

The Department of Veterinary Medicine operates the Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMSC) graduate program, which concentrates on zoonotic infectious disease research. The VMSC graduate program offers Master of Science (MS) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in the academic fields of veterinary medical, biomedical, and comparative medical sciences.

The current name, VMSC, is often misinterpreted as a professional track for those desiring to become practicing veterinarians. However, the VMSC program focuses on a much broader spectrum with educating the next generation of scientists in the techniques and approaches to analyze infectious diseases and therapeutic development. We sincerely believe that this misinterpretation is based solely on the program name and is actively discouraging applicants. The change is necessary for the development and success of the graduate education program in the Department of Veterinary Medicine.

Changing the graduate program name to Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC) more closely aligns with the academic and training of the degree program and conforms with the department's research areas of virology, bacteriology, immunology, epidemiology, and vaccinology. Currently, several other research-based Veterinary schools across the country, including Louisiana State University, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Georgia, Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, and Cornell University, successfully uses the name of Comparative Biomedical Sciences as a graduate program title.

The proposed name change from VMSC to CBSC has been fully endorsed by all faculty members in the graduate program. This change will clearly define the goals of the graduate program and ultimately attract students who are interested in our research.

### Reviewer Comments

**Mark Carroll (mcarroll) (Thu, 05 Dec 2019 16:10:21 GMT):** Rollback: Please remove the attachment and all wording pertaining to changes in the program curriculum from the proposal, and then resubmit. Curriculum changes are a separate item from a program name change and need to be submitted as a separate proposal.

Key: 473

# Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 12/05/19 12:29 pm

Viewing: **473 : Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC) ~~Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMSC)~~**

Last approved: 10/18/19 4:23 pm

Last edit: 12/05/19 12:29 pm

Changes proposed by: Yanjin Zhang (zhangyj)

Catalog Pages Using this Program

[Veterinary Medical Sciences, Master of Science \(M.S.\)](#)

Proposed Action **Rename Program**

Program Name

## In Workflow

1. D-VMSC Chair
2. AGNR Curriculum Manager
3. AGNR PCC Chair
4. AGNR Dean
5. Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager
6. Graduate School Curriculum Manager
7. Graduate PCC Chair
8. Dean of the Graduate School
9. Senate PCC Chair
10. University Senate Chair
11. President
12. Chancellor
13. MHEC
14. Provost Office
15. Graduate Catalog Manager

## Approval Path

1. 11/19/19 9:53 am  
Xiaoping Zhu  
(xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
2. 11/25/19 12:30 pm  
Tyra Monnity  
(tgallman): Approved for AGNR Curriculum Manager

3. 12/05/19 11:10 am  
Mark Carroll  
(mcarroll): Rollback  
to Initiator
4. 12/06/19 11:32 am  
Xiaoping Zhu  
(xzhu1): Approved  
for D-VMSC Chair
5. 12/12/19 1:30 pm  
Tyra Monnity  
(tgallman):  
Approved for AGNR  
Curriculum  
Manager
6. 12/12/19 3:02 pm  
Mark Carroll  
(mcarroll):  
Approved for AGNR  
PCC Chair
7. 12/12/19 4:07 pm  
Joseph Sullivan  
(jsull): Approved for  
AGNR Dean
8. 01/22/20 5:27 pm  
Michael Colson  
(mcolson):  
Approved for  
Academic Affairs  
Curriculum  
Manager
9. 02/07/20 10:19 am  
Angela Ambrosi  
(aambrosi):  
Approved for  
Graduate School  
Curriculum  
Manager

## History

1. Sep 16, 2019 by



Angela Ambrosi

(aambrosi)

2. Oct 18, 2019 by

William Bryan

(wbryan)

**Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC) ~~Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMSC)~~**

Program Status Active

Effective Term Fall 2020

Catalog Year **2020-2021**

Program Level Graduate Program

Program Type Master's

Delivery Method On Campus

Departments

Department

Veterinary Medicine Program

Colleges

College

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Program/Major Code VMSC

MHEC Inventory Program Veterinary Medical Sciences

CIP Code 512504 - Veterinary Microbiology and Immunobiology.

HEGIS 129958

MHEC Recognized Area(s) of Concentration

Degree(s) Awarded

Degree Awarded

Master of Science

If other, new degree award:

## Proposal Contact

**Yanjin Zhang: [zhangyj@umd.edu](mailto:zhangyj@umd.edu), 301-314-6596**

## Proposal Summary

**Change the program name from Veterinary Medical Science (VMSC) to Comparative Biomedical Science (CBSC).**

## Program and Catalog Information

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Provide the catalog description of the proposed program. As part of the description, please indicate any areas of concentration or specializations that will be offered.

### Catalog Program Requirements:

#### Thesis only: 30 credits

Students with adequate undergraduate training usually complete the master's degree within two years.

#### Course List

Course	Title	Credits
<a href="#">VMSC698</a>	Seminar in Veterinary Medical Science	1
<a href="#">VMSC799</a>	Thesis Research	6
Select one graduate level biometrics or biochemistry course		3
Select at least 12 credits of VMSC courses		12
Select eight additional credits		8
Total Credits		30

During the first semester the student selects an advisor, and with the help of the advisor forms an Advisory Committee with the approval by the program's Graduate Education Committee. By the end of the second semester with the advice of the Advisory Committee, the student files a proposed schedule of course work including at least one credit of seminar ([VMSC698](#)). A minimum of 24 semester with hours of graduate courses and six hours of thesis research credit ([VMSC799](#)) is required for the degree. No less than 12 credits should be from courses 600 level or higher; at least 12 credits must be earned in the major subject. Three credits of graduate biometrics or biochemistry and one seminar credit ([VMSC698](#)) are required. No more than two credits of Special Problems ([VMSC699](#)) are acceptable as part of the 24 required course credits.

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to the Graduate School in electronic format after final approval of the document by the Thesis Examining Committee. See the University of Maryland Thesis and Dissertation Style Guide (<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd>) for the details of this process.

Sample plan. Provide a term by term sample plan that shows how a hypothetical student would progress through the program to completion. It should be clear the length of time it will take for a typical student to graduate. For undergraduate programs, this should be the four-year plan.

List the intended student learning outcomes. In an attachment, provide the plan for assessing these outcomes.

## Program Modification Information

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**Just the program name change. There is no impact on current students.**

### Linked Programs

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Indicate in the space below all programs to which this program is formally linked (e.g., approved combined bachelor's/master's programs, dual master's programs, or joint-programs with other universities). If the proposed modification will affect the linked program, provide as an attachment the new curriculum for each arrangement and provide supporting correspondence from the director of the linked program.

### Renaming Program

---

Provide a rationale for renaming the program.

The Department of Veterinary Medicine operates the Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMSC) graduate program, which concentrates on zoonotic infectious disease research. The VMSC graduate program offers Master of Science (MS) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degrees in the academic fields of veterinary medical, biomedical, and comparative medical sciences.

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The proposed name change from VMSC to CBSC has been fully endorsed by all faculty members in the graduate program. This change will clearly define the goals of the graduate program and ultimately attract students who are interested in our research.

### Supporting Documents

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Attachments

Administrative  
Documents

Reviewer

Comments

**Mark Carroll (mcarroll) (12/05/19 11:10 am):** Rollback: Please remove the attachment and all wording pertaining to changes in the program curriculum from the proposal, and then

resubmit. Curriculum changes are a separate item from a program name change and need to be submitted as a separate proposal.

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