



**PCC Proposal to Rename the Ph.D in “Veterinary Medical Science” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (Senate Document #19-20-42)**

**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 Ph.D in “Veterinary Medical Science” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (Senate Document #19-20-42), 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 Beyroudy**, 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 Ph.D. Program in “Veterinary Medical Sciences” to “Comparative Biomedical Sciences” (PCC 19034)

**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.

Applicants with a D.V.M., M.D., or equivalent or related degree in biological sciences plus a master’s degree, may be admitted to the Ph.D. program. In exceptional cases, admission to the Ph.D. program without the M.S. degree may be considered but these candidates must complete a minimum of 24 hours of course work.

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.

# 474: 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. Wed, 13 Nov 2019 21:10:54 GMT  
Xiaoping Zhu (xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
2. Mon, 25 Nov 2019 17:32:22 GMT  
Tyra Monnity (tgallman): Approved for AGNR Curriculum Manager
3. Thu, 05 Dec 2019 16:10:56 GMT  
Mark Carroll (mcarroll): Rollback to Initiator
4. Fri, 06 Dec 2019 16:33:34 GMT  
Xiaoping Zhu (xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
5. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 18:31:57 GMT  
Tyra Monnity (tgallman): Approved for AGNR Curriculum Manager
6. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 20:03:08 GMT  
Mark Carroll (mcarroll): Approved for AGNR PCC Chair
7. Thu, 12 Dec 2019 21:07:29 GMT  
Joseph Sullivan (jsull): Approved for AGNR Dean
8. Wed, 22 Jan 2020 22:27:10 GMT  
Michael Colson (mcolson): Approved for Academic Affairs Curriculum Manager
9. Fri, 07 Feb 2020 15:19:59 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 17:31:09 GMT

**Viewing: 474 : Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC)**

**Last approved: Fri, 18 Oct 2019 20:23:59 GMT**

**Last edit: Thu, 05 Dec 2019 17:31:08 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**

Doctoral

**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**

Doctor of Philosophy

**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:**

Applicants with a D.V.M., M.D., or equivalent or related degree in biological sciences plus a M.S. degree may be admitted to the Ph.D. program. In exceptional cases, admission to the Ph.D. program without a M.S. degree may be considered but these candidates must complete a minimum of 24 hours of course work. Ph.D. candidates who have previously completed the D.V.M. and/or M.S. degree must meet the minimum course requirements of 12 credits, and a minimum of twelve dissertation research credits (VMSC899). No more than two credits of Special Problems (VMSC699) are acceptable as part of the 12 required course credits. Two additional seminar credits (VMSC698) are required.

Students are required to register for one seminar credit (VMSC698) each academic year. Two seminar credits will be counted toward degree requirements. All students are expected to attend seminars regularly. Students are required to take a written and oral comprehensive examination and submit and defend their Ph.D. dissertation in partial fulfillment of the doctoral degree (see below).

## DOCTORAL REQUIREMENTS

During the first semester, the student selects an advisor and with the help of the advisor forms an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee and the student must meet by the end of the second semester to approve the student's plan of study. By the end of the second semester the student will submit to the Advisory Committee a dissertation research proposal. An oral and written comprehensive examination is required for advancement to candidacy. Prior to the final dissertation, an oral examination is required for advancement to candidacy. A student must be admitted to candidacy for the doctorate within five years after admission to the doctoral program and at least six months before the date on which the degree will be conferred. It is the responsibility of the student to submit an application for admission to candidacy when all the requirements for candidacy have been fulfilled. Applications for admission to candidacy are made in duplicate by the student and submitted to the graduate program for further action and transmission to the Graduate School. Application forms may be obtained at the Graduate School, Room 2123, Lee Building, or on the web. Paperwork must be received by the Graduate School prior to the 25th of the month in order for the advancement to become effective the first day of the following month. Doctoral candidates are automatically registered for six (6) credits of Doctoral Dissertation Research (899), for which they pay the flat candidacy tuition. Prior to the final dissertation oral examination, the candidate must present a public seminar. Details on the Graduate School policy on the Doctoral Dissertation and Examination may be found in the Graduate School Catalog at: [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/doctoral\\_degree\\_policies.htm](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/doctoral_degree_policies.htm)

Dissertations are to be submitted to the Graduate School in electronic format after final approval of the dissertation by the Dissertation Examining Committee. See the University of Maryland Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) website at <http://dissertations.umi.com/umd> or the University of Maryland Thesis and Dissertation Style Guide (<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/styleguide> (<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/styleguide/>)) for the details of this process.

## Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
VMSC698	Seminar in Veterinary Medical Science	2
Select 10 credits of coursework		10
<b>Dissertation Research Requirements</b>		
VMSC899	Dissertation Research	12
Total Credits		24

## 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 16:10:56 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: 474

# Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 12/05/19 12:31 pm

Viewing: **474 : Comparative Biomedical Sciences (CBSC) ~~Veterinary Medical Sciences (VMSC)~~**

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

Last edit: 12/05/19 12:31 pm

Changes proposed by: Yanjin Zhang (zhangyj)

Catalog Pages Using this Program

[Veterinary Medical Sciences, Doctor of Philosophy \(Ph.D.\)](#)

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. 11/13/19 4:10 pm  
Xiaoping Zhu  
(xzhu1): Approved for D-VMSC Chair
2. 11/25/19 12:32 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 11:33 am  
Xiaoping Zhu  
(xzhu1): Approved  
for D-VMSC Chair
5. 12/12/19 1:31 pm  
Tyra Monnity  
(tgallman):  
Approved for AGNR  
Curriculum  
Manager
6. 12/12/19 3:03 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 Doctoral

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
Doctor of Philosophy

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:

Applicants with a D.V.M., M.D., or equivalent or related degree in biological sciences plus a M.S. degree may be admitted to the Ph.D. program. In exceptional cases, admission to the Ph.D. program without a M.S. degree may be considered but these candidates must complete a minimum of 24 hours of course work. Ph.D. candidates who have previously completed the D.V.M. and/or M.S. degree must meet the minimum course requirements of 12 credits, and a minimum of twelve dissertation research credits ([VMSC899](#)). No more than two credits of Special Problems ([VMSC699](#)) are acceptable as part of the 12 required course credits. Two additional seminar credits ([VMSC698](#)) are required.

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prior to the 25th of the month in order for the advancement to become effective the first day of the following month. Doctoral candidates are automatically registered for six (6) credits of Doctoral Dissertation Research (899), for which they pay the flat candidacy tuition. Prior to the final dissertation oral examination, the candidate must present a public seminar. Details on the Graduate School policy on the Doctoral Dissertation and Examination may be found in the Graduate School Catalog at: [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/doctoral\\_degree\\_policies.htm](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/doctoral_degree_policies.htm)

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## Curriculum requirements

### Course List

Course	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
<a href="#">VMSC698</a>	Seminar in Veterinary Medical Science	2
Select 10 credits of coursework		10
Dissertation Research Requirements		
<a href="#">VMSC899</a>	Dissertation Research	12
Total Credits		24

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

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

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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

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