UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

UNIVERSITY SENATE

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SENATE LEGISLATION APPROVAL

Date:	December 10, 2015
To:	Wallace D. Loh
From:	Willie Brown Chair, University Senate
Subject:	Approval of the PCC Proposal to Rename the "Master of Library Science" to the "Master of Library and Information Science"
Senate Document #:	15-16-13

I am pleased to forward for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, "PCC Proposal to Rename the 'Master of Library Science" to the "Master of Library and Information Science'" Andrew Harris, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee, presented the proposal. The University Senate approved the proposal at its December 9, 2015 meeting.

We request that you inform the Senate Office of your decision as well as any subsequent action related to your conclusion.

Enclosure: Approval of the PCC Proposal to Rename the "Master of Library Science" to the "Master of Library and Information Science"
Senate Doc. No. 15-16-13

WB/rm

Cc: Mary Ann Rankin, Senior Vice President and Provost
        Reka Montfort, Executive Secretary and Director, University Senate
        Michael Poterala, Vice President and General Counsel
        Steven Marcus, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs
        Elizabeth Beise, Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs
        Sylvia B. Andrews, Academic Affairs
        Andrew Harris, Chair of the PCC Committee
        Brian Butler, Dean, College of Information Studies
        Ann Weeks, Associate Dean, College of Information Studies
        Tricia Donovan, Program Coordinator, College of Information Studies
        Lindsay Sarin, M.L.S. Program Manager, College of Information Studies

Approved: _____   Date: _____12-14-2015_____
        Wallace D. Loh
        President

University Senate
TRANSMITTAL FORM

Senate Document #:	15-16-13
PCC ID #:	15020
Title:	Rename "Master of Library Science" to "Master of Library and Information Science"
Presenter:	Andrew Harris, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee
Date of SEC Review:	November 23, 2015
Date of Senate Review:	December 9, 2015
Voting (highlight one):	1. On resolutions or recommendations one by one, or 2. In a single vote 3. To endorse entire report
Statement of Issue:	The College of Information Studies proposes to rename its Master of Library Science program. The official name of the program is "Library and Information Services." The program is referred to by the degree award that students receive: "Master of Library Science" (M.L.S.). This proposal is to change both the title of the program and the degree award. The program name will change to "Library and Information Science" and the degree credential will change to "Master of Library and Information Science." Since the program was established in 1965, the program content has broadened from training librarians to training information professionals in a variety of contexts. M.L.S. graduates hold positions in many kinds of institutions, including libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, research institutions, universities, and more. Changing the name of the program and degree award will help convey to potential employers that graduates are trained for information careers outside of libraries. Of 61 American Library Association accredited programs, the University of Maryland is one of six that still use the M.L.S. degree award. 45 of 61 accredited programs include "Information" in their degree award. This proposal was approved by the Graduate School Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee on October 28, 2015, and was

	approved by the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee at its meeting on November 6, 2015.
Relevant Policy # & URL:	N/A
Recommendation:	The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate approve this program and degree award change.
Committee Work:	The committee considered this proposal at its meeting on November 6, 2015. Tricia Donovan, Program Coordinator for Professional Education in the College of Information Studies, and Lindsay Sarin, M.L.S. Program Manager, presented the proposal. After discussion, the committee voted to recommend the proposal.
Alternatives:	The Senate could decline to approve this program and degree award name change.
Risks:	If the Senate declines to approve this program and degree award name change, graduates will be at an unnecessary disadvantage when applying for non-librarian information positions.
Financial Implications:	There are no significant financial implications with this proposal.
Further Approvals Required:	If the Senate approves this proposal, it would still require further approval by the President, the Chancellor, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

<table>
<tr><td>PCC LOG NO.</td><td>15020</td></tr>
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- Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School:
Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: **01203500**
Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program:
Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: **1350101**

Type of Action (choose one):

☐ Curriculum change (including informal specializations)   ☐ *New academic degree/award program*

☐ Curriculum change for an LEP Program   ☐ New Professional Studies award iteration

X *Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration*   ☐ New Minor

☐ *Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration*   ☐ Request to create an online version of an existing

☐ *Suspend/delete program*   program

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

The College of Information Studies (Maryland's iSchool) plans to modify the name of the Master of Library Science degree program to Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS), to better reflect the current and future information climate.

Departmental/Unit Contact Person for Proposal:

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APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair _____

2. Department Chair _____

3. College/School PCC Chair _____

4. Dean _____

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) _____

6. Chair, Senate PCC _____ 11/5/2015 _____

7. University Senate Chair (if required) _____

8. Senior Vice President & Provost _____

OVERVIEW AND RATIONALE

The College of Information Studies (Maryland's iSchool) has four degrees: a Master of Human Computer Interaction, a Master of Information Management, a PhD in Information Studies, and the degree from which the College was founded the Master of Library Science (MLS). The MLS degree was established in 1965 and since then information field has moved well beyond libraries. We propose that the name be changed to Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) so as to better reflect the current and future information climate.

The MLS Program's mission statement goes a long way in describing the variety and breath of the field:

> The Master of Library Science Program educates students in the
> knowledge, skills, habits of thought and inquiry, and ethics of the
> library and <u>information professions</u> to enable them to be leaders in
> the state, national, and global <u>information society</u>.

The MLS degree and its graduates focus on and hold positions many kinds of institutions including libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, research institutions, and many more. Potential careers following the MLS degree are numerous and varied, with librarianship being just one of many diverse possibilities. Non-librarian careers include, but are certainly not limited to competitive intelligence, data science, digital preservation, database management, user experience specialists, curators, etc. With the continued changes to the information professions it has become essential that the MLS degree name be updated to reflect the new face of librarians and information. Failing to include the word "information" in the title of the MLS degree can be limiting for students who wish to pursue one of the many non-librarian careers for which the degree prepares them. Potential employers, not familiar with the degree or the curriculum, may pass over those applicants who lack the "I" (information) in their degree acronym.

In addition to improving employability of graduates the degree name update will also bring the College of Information Studies in line with our ALA Accredited Program peers. Out of the 61 accredited programs, only 6 still use MLS as their degree designation. Meanwhile 45 of 61 include "I" (information) in their degree designation[1]. Of the top ten ranked programs from U.S. News and World Report (Maryland is 10th)[2] only 3 (including Maryland) are MLS degrees. Updating our name to better reflect the program's curriculum, the types of careers our graduates are prepared for, and to better reflect the national standards is an essential part of ensuring the future of the MLS Program.

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[1] http://www.ala.org/CFApps/lisdir/directory_pdf.cfm

[2] http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-library-information-science-programs/library-information-science-rankings

IMPACT

As an ALA accredited program the iSchool will have to notify the ALA of the change of program name as part of its biennial narrative (next due in Fall 2015) or in a letter of justification of name change and subsequent letter confirming the official change of name are all that are required.

Within the College the administrative impacts on the name change are relatively minimal. The College will need to update the website, promotional and recruitment materials, job titles (such as the MLS Program Manager), stationery, and signage. As updates to these materials are already annual duties, the impact is minimal. We will also need to provide press releases and information regarding the change to our current students and alumni to alert them to the changes and inform them of any potential impacts on them.

Curriculum, learning outcomes, and other curricular activities will not be impacted by this change because the diversity of opportunities, skills, and institutions impacted by the information professions are already present.

From:	Ann Carlson Weeks
Sent:	Monday, October 26, 2015 6:10 PM
To:	Michael D Colson; Tricia Donovan
Subject:	RE: PCC Questions

Hi Mike:

We want to change both the name of the degree and the name of the program.

Ann Carlson Weeks, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Academic Programs
College of Information Studies
University of Maryland
4105 Hornbake Building, South Wing
College Park, MD 20742
301-405-2060
acweeks@umd.edu

From: Michael D Colson
Sent: Monday, October 26, 2015 4:46 PM
To: Tricia Donovan; Ann Carlson Weeks
Subject: PCC Questions

Dear Tricia and Ann,

The proposal that you will be presenting on Wednesday will be the renaming of the MLS. This is more time-sensitive because it will have to be approved by the University System and MHEC. We need a clarification on this proposal, however. The technical name of the program is "Library & Information Services" (see http://www.mhec.state.md.us/utilities/results_school.asp?D1=College+Park&D2=Master&submit=+++Search++) . The degree award that is bestowed is the Master of Library Service. So if we think about this in traditional Master program terms (e.g., a Master of Arts in History), then students have been receiving a Master of Library Science (degree award) in Library and Information Services (program).
So my question is this, are you asking to change both the program title and the degree award? This will help us to know what has to be changed and who to contact. Thanks.

-Mike