



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Department of Pathology, 30 North 1900 East, 3R330 SOM, Salt Lake City, Utah 84132

February 24, 2011

Chuck Wight
Dean of the Graduate School
310 Park Building

RE: Proposal to change the name of the Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology to Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology and change the M.Phil in Experimental Pathology to an M.S. in Microbiology and Immunology

Dear Chuck:

Attached is a draft of our proposal to change the name of the Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology and change the M.Phil in Experimental Pathology to an M.S. in Microbiology and Immunology. When I met with you several months regarding this, you suggested that we do the changes all at the same time. Since these are essentially name changes and we not adding an additional degree, we followed the template for "Name Changes of Programs or Administrative Units." As soon as you give us the go ahead, we will finalize the document and start it through the system. I have attached a list of PAC-12 and peer institutions as to what they have in microbiology and immunology. In addition, two letters of support from Dr. Brad Cairns, Chair/Head of the Molecular Biology Program, and Dr. Sandy Parkinson, Head of the Microbial Biology Program in Biology, are included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Fujinami, PhD
Professor

A PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE Ph.D. IN EXPERIMENTAL PATHOLOGY TO THE Ph.D. IN MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY; ELIMINATE THE M.PHIL IN EXPERIMENTAL PATHOLOGY AND REPLACE THE M.PHIL WITH AN M.S. IN MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

1. Request

The Department of Pathology proposes to change the name of its Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology to Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology. In addition, change the M.Phil in Experimental Pathology to an M.S. in Microbiology and Immunology.

2. Need

The need is to align the name of the degree with the name of the Division. Prior to the current administration in the Department of Pathology and the Division of Microbiology and Immunology, the former name of the Division was Experimental Pathology and then it was changed to Cell Biology and Immunology. The more recent name change is to reflect more accurately the expertise and research of the faculty in the Division and to be more consistent with peer institutions who have department or institutes that have the name of microbiology and/or immunology in the name.

There is also an M.Phil in Experimental Pathology and this is a terminal degree. The Department would like to change the M.Phil to an M.S. in Microbiology and Immunology. This would also allow faculty to accept students directly into their labs to do a research project and if appropriate apply to the PhD program in Pathology. A student obtaining an M.Phil cannot obtain a Ph.D. in the same department.

An MS degree typically requires a total of 30 semester hours of course work and the successful completion of a thesis. At least 23 hours must be formal course work with a grade of B- or better and 7 hours must be research hours leading to a thesis. The MS thesis must involve original research that formally addresses a current issue in the student's specialty. An MS supervisory committee consisting of three faculty members, the majority of who must be regular faculty members in the student's major department will also be required. Committee members must be faculty members who hold an academic or professional doctorate, the terminal degree in the relevant field, and/or must have demonstrated competence to do research and scholarly or artistic work in the student's general field. All graduate students must maintain minimum registration from the time of their formal admission through completion of all requirements for the degree they are seeking unless granted an official leave of absence.

3. Institutional Impact

There should be little, in any, institutional impact with changing the name of the Ph.D. degree and replacing the M.Phil with the MS degree.

4. Costs

At this time, the only anticipated costs include printing of revised brochures. The budgetary impact is expected to be nominal.

5. Practice Elsewhere

It is a generally accepted and expected that the name of graduate degree follows the name of the department or division. Attached is a summary of PAC-12 and peer institutions and their departments or programs in microbiology and immunology.

6. Changes, if any, in precise names of degrees offered.

Change name of Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology to Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology. Change the name of the M.Phil degree in Experimental Pathology to M.S. degree in Microbiology and Immunology.

7. Changes, if any, in catalog prefix descriptions, course designations, etc.

There are no anticipated course prefixes changes since PATH is used for the department course prefixes.

University of Utah PAC-12 and Peer Institutions

Arizona State

Graduate Program in Microbiology
School of Life Sciences and The Biodesign Institute – Area of Immunology

Oregon State University

Department of Microbiology

Stanford University

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

University of Arizona

Microbiology and Pathobiology Graduate Program

University of California at Berkeley – Medical School is a joint program with UCSF

Graduate Group in Microbiology
Center for Microbiology at UC Berkeley
Department of Molecular & Cell Biology
Immunology and Pathogenesis

University of California at Irvine

Institute for Immunology
Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics

University of California at Los Angeles

Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics

University of California at San Diego

Molecular Pathology PhD Program – Microbiology and Immunology

University of Cincinnati

Department of Molecular Genetics, Biochemistry & Microbiology
Department of Internal Medicine
Division of Immunology, Allergy and Rheumatology

University of Colorado, Denver

Integrated Department of Immunology
Department of Microbiology

University of Illinois – Chicago
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

University of Iowa
Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Immunology
Department of Microbiology

University of New Mexico
Molecular Genetics and Microbiology

University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

University of Oregon – Oregon Health & Science University
Molecular Microbiology & Immunology at OHSU

University of Pittsburgh
Department of Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
Department of Immunology

University of Southern California
Department of Molecular Microbiology & Immunology

University of Virginia
Microbiology Department
Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics
Immunology – Research Area

University of Washington
Department of Microbiology
Department of Immunology

December 1, 2010

Charles A. Wight
Dean, The Graduate School
University of Utah
302 Park Building

Dear Dr. Wight:

I am writing in support of the degree changes in the Department of Pathology (Division of Microbiology and Immunology) at the University of Utah.

Changing the name of the current PhD degree from Experimental Pathology to Microbiology and Immunology and creating a MS in Microbiology and Immunology will better align the degree names with the current interest group of the Division of Microbiology and Immunology faculty participating in the Program of Molecular Biology at the University of Utah. It will also provide a clearer presence on campus to potential new students who are interested in microbiology and immunology, since we do not have a department of microbiology and/or immunology at the University of Utah which are usually associated with universities with very high research activity. I also understand that the degree name changes along with eliminating the MPhil and creating the MS will not impact the Program of Molecular Biology in a negative manner, but should help draw additional students to consider our Program in the future. Therefore, I support the changes the Department of Pathology is initiating.

Sincerely,



Bradley R. Cairns, PhD
Director, Molecular Biology Program
University of Utah School of Medicine

Bradley R. Cairns
Investigator
Professor

Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah
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January 4, 2011

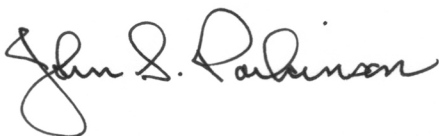
Charles A. Wight
Dean, The Graduate School
University of Utah
302 Park Building

Dear Dr. Wight:

I'm writing in support of the name and degree changes proposed by the Division of Microbiology and Immunology in the Department of Pathology at the University of Utah School of Medicine. They have requested to change the name of their Ph.D. degree from "Experimental Pathology" to "Microbiology and Immunology". In addition, they want to eliminate their M.Phil. degree and replace it with a M.S. degree in Microbiology and Immunology.

As Director of the Microbial Biology Program at the University of Utah, I feel that there is no significant overlap between the goals of our program, operated through the Department of Biology, and those of the Division of Microbiology and Immunology in the Department of Pathology. The Microbial Biology Program recruits and admits a few Ph.D. students each year with research interests in basic microbiology, but we do not offer coursework or research opportunities in immunology or medical microbiology. Thus, the changes proposed by the Department of Pathology should lead to a graduate program that nicely complements that of the Microbial Biology Program in Biology. Together, these two programs will offer a much broader array of microbiology opportunities than is currently available on campus and should be able to attract more and better graduates students interested in microbiological research.

Sincerely,



John S. Parkinson
Director, Microbial Biology Program
Distinguished Professor of Biology