

Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) Report on name change for the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology in the College of Medicine to the Department of Neuroscience in the College of Medicine

The Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) considered the proposal to change the name of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology in the College of Medicine to the Department of Neuroscience in the College of Medicine. This department has a strong research program in neuroscience and is hiring faculty and training students in this area. This department is also responsible for teaching anatomy to medical students and will continue to serve this responsibility. The reason for the name change is to better reflect the activities in the department.

During our discussions, committee members noted that faculty in other departments do conduct research in neuroscience. In addition, there is a BS degree in Neuroscience offered in the College of Arts and Sciences. However, the committee members did not believe that the proposed name change would disadvantage other scientists working in the area, nor should it be confusing to students majoring in this area. The advantages of changing the name were compelling and the committee voted unanimously (9-0) to recommend endorsement of the name change.

Motion: We recommend endorsing the name change for the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology in the College of Medicine to the Department of Neuroscience in the College of Medicine.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the SAOSC committee: Ernie Bailey, Chair of SAOSC

*Committee members: Al Cross, Todd Porter, Lisa Vaillancourt, Melinda Wilson, Michael Kilgore, Devananthan Sudharshan, David Atwood, Susan Effgen and Ernie Bailey

Notes added since this report:

Sheila Brothers noted the application did not include a letter from the Dean of A&S and took the initiative to request one. The letter supports the name change and accompanies the application.

The faculty in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, the College of Medicine Faculty Council voted unanimously for the change. The faculty of the College of Medicine voted 128 in favor and 16 opposed to the name change.

COVER PAGE FOR CHANGES TO ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION OR STRUCTURE OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT

The Senate’s Academic Organization and Structure Committee (SAOSC) is tasked by the University Senate with the review of proposals to change academic organization or structure. The information needed by the SAOSC for the review of such proposals is set forth in *Senate Rules 3.4.2.A.5*¹.

The SAOSC has developed a set of guidelines (from the *Senate Rules*) that are intended to ease the task of proposal submission (available at <http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/forms.htm>). As proposal omissions usually cause a delay in the review process, the individual(s) responsible for the proposal is (are) urged to familiarize themselves with these guidelines before submitting their proposals for review. In particular, the individual responsible for the proposal must fill out Sections I, II and III of this form, as well as include statements and documentation that provide a full accounting of the items a - i, below.

- a. Disposition of faculty, staff and resources (financial and physical);
- b. Willingness of the donating units to release faculty lines for transfer to a different educational unit;
- c. Consultation with the faculty of the unit to which the faculty lines are proposed to be transferred;
- d. Consultation with the faculty of educational unit that will be significantly reduced;
- e. Summary of votes and viewpoints (including dissents) of unit faculty and department/college committees;
- f. Ballots, votes expressing support for or against the proposal by unit faculty and staff and committees;
- g. Letters of support or opposition from appropriate faculty and/or administrators; and
- h. Letters of support from outside the University.

Section I – General Information about Proposal

One- to two-sentence description of change:	I would like to request approval to change the name of the department of Anatomy and Neurobiology to Department of Neuroscience.			
Contact person name:	Bret Smith, PhD	Phone:	859.323.4840	Email: bnsmit4@uky.edu
Administrative position (dean, chair, director, etc.):	Interim Chair, Dept of Anatomy and Neurobiology			

Section II – Educational Unit(s) Potentially Impacted by Proposal

Check all that apply and name the specific unit(s).		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Department of:	Anatomy and Neurobiology
<input type="checkbox"/>	School of:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	College of:	Medicine
<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Center for:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interdisciplinary Instructional Program:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Multidisciplinary Research Center/Institute:	

Section III – Type of Proposal

Check all that apply.

¹ Items a-i are derived from *Senate Rules 3.4.2.A.5*. The Senate Rules in their entirety are available at http://www.uky.edu/Faculty/Senate/rules_regulations/index.htm.)

COVER PAGE FOR CHANGES TO ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION OR STRUCTURE OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT

<i>A. Changes</i>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Change to the name of an educational unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change to the type of educational unit (e.g., from department to school).
<i>B. Other types of proposals</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Creation of a new educational unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consolidation of multiple educational units.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transfer of an academic program to a different educational unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transfer of an educational unit to a different reporting unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Significant reduction of an educational unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Discontinuation, suspension or closure of an educational unit.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Give a one- or two-sentence description below; a complete description will be in the proposal).

Section IV is for internal use/guidance.

Section IV – Guidance for SAOSC, Senate Council and University Senate

SAOSC Review of Type A Proposals (Changes to Type of, or to Name of, an Educational Unit)

- ✓ SAOSC review of proposal.
- ✓ SAOSC recommendation for an additional or joint review by other Senate committee(s) (e.g. Senate's Academic Programs Committee).

SAOSC Review of Type B Proposals (All Other Changes)

- ✓ SAOSC review of proposal.
- ✓ SAOSC recommendation for an additional or joint review by other Senate committee(s) (e.g. Senate's Academic Programs Committee).
- ✓ SAOSC review of proposals for creation, consolidation, transfer, closure, discontinuation, or significant reduction and educational unit, or transfer of an academic program to a different educational unit (attach documentation).
- ✓ Program review in past three years (attach documentation).
- ✓ Request to Provost for new program review (attach documentation).
- ✓ Open hearing (attach documentation).
 - SAOSC information must be shared with unit 10 days prior to hearing.
 - Open hearing procedures disseminated.

Voting by SAOSC, Senate Council and University Senate

- ✓ Endorse (or do not endorse) the academic organization, reporting, infrastructure, etc.
 - This vote is taken by the SAOSC, SC and Senate for every SAOSC proposal.
- ✓ Approve (or do not approve) the academic status or content of academic program.
 - This vote is taken by the SAOSC, SC and Senate only when the review involves an MDRC.

What is the impetus for the proposed change?

The College of Medicine has proposed to change the name of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology to the Department of Neuroscience. This change will provide an opportunity to emphasize the Department's key strengths in neuroscience that align with the University's educational and health care missions. Given a national priority to develop neuroscience, as well as the Department's current research and teaching emphasis in this area, a clear definition of the research focus and vision in the Department, exemplified by its name as the Department of Neuroscience, would prime it for further growth.

As mentioned above, the current research focus of the Department is mainly on neuroscience, with over seven million dollars a year in grant and contract support for biomedical research on the brain, spinal cord and peripheral nervous system. Four of the faculty are directors of research centers with strong programmatic efforts in neuroscience. This name change will position the Department for further success and recognition in these areas of research, while also maintaining the strong anatomy and neuroscience educational efforts of the Department through focused recruitment and innovative curriculum.

What are the benefits and weaknesses of the proposed unit, with specific emphasis on the academic merits for the proposed change?

The Department is currently largely focused on Medical and Graduate education, and has partnered with other units to develop a strong undergraduate educational program in Neuroscience. By aligning the Department with the educational focus on neuroscience nationally, the Department's research and educational profile will be enhanced dramatically, increasing the ability of the University to recruit top quality graduate and professional trainees. The name change will also allow direct association and comparison with peer units nationally, improving the profile of the Department, the College, and the University as a whole. There are no perceived weaknesses of the name change, as the educational and research strengths of the Department will not change. Teaching efforts in anatomical sciences will continue to be strong, as they have for programmatically similar departments elsewhere. The overwhelming dominance of neuroscience as the research and educational focus in the Department will, however, be better reflected in the new name.

Describe the organization of the current structure and how the proposed structure will be different and better. Current and proposed organizational charts are often helpful in illustrating reporting lines.

The organization of the Department will not be impacted by this name change. However, we have selected an internal College of Medicine faculty member as interim chair of the Department effective July 20, 2016. Once the name change is finalized, we will move forward with a full national search for a neuroscience leader to fill the role of Department Chair. We will include all stakeholders as search committee members including representation from the College of Arts and Sciences and appropriate centers.

How does this change fit with the department, college, and/or university objectives and priorities?

An undergraduate Neuroscience major was approved in Fall 2015 and is housed in the College of Arts & Sciences, with joint leadership from Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology as well as Psychology and Biology. Neuroscience training is now required to compete successfully for entrance into most professional disciplines, including Medicine. To date, 205 undergraduates have declared this major, and this number is projected to be around 400 within three years, making it one of the most desired majors on campus. As noted above, we will include Arts and Sciences leadership on the chair search committee.

How does this change better position the proposers relative to state and national peers, as well as University Benchmark Institutions? How does the change help UK meet the goals of its strategic plan?

Most national peers and benchmark institutions have neuroscience programs and departments are named accordingly. National rankings for NIH research dollars are categorized by the topic of the research, meaning that appropriately named departments are ranked realistically, whereas departments with names that do not reflect their research emphasis are often mis-categorized and are therefore not recognized, which is currently the case for the Department. The name change will resolve this issue. Neuroscience will be featured prominently in the College of Medicine Strategic Plan, which will align with that of the University, and the neuroscience efforts of the College and University will be more easily quantifiable nationally.

Who are the key personnel associated with the proposed unit? Provide qualifications of these personnel in a brief form. A complete curriculum vitae for each person is not needed, although pertinent information in tabular format is helpful.

The department currently consists of 26 full-time faculty and 9 staff. Faculty and staff assignments in the unit will not be impacted by the name change. See attached list for faculty credentials.

Discuss leadership and selection process for appointing a chair, a director, or interim leader and search process, etc.

After an internal search and vetting process, an interim department chair was selected by the Faculty, effective July 20, 2016. The interim chair has over 30 years of neuroscience research, service, and administrative experience and understands well the research and educational goals of the Department. Pending the department name change, a full national search will be enacted to find a strong neuroscience leader to focus and develop the neuroscience research efforts of the department, while maintaining the strong anatomy and neuroscience education efforts. A search committee will be named by the Dean of the College of Medicine and the position will be advertised nationwide. Candidates will be interviewed by the Department Faculty, who will recommend preferred candidate(s) to the Dean for appointment.

What is the function of the faculty/staff associated with the proposed change and how is that relationship defined? Discuss DOE, adjunct, full-time, voting rights, etc.

The current faculty and staff will not be impacted by the proposed name change. However, the topic of the name change was brought before several audiences as outlined below.

- 6/15/2016 – Presented for discussion at College of Medicine General Faculty meeting and was well received.
- 6/20/2016 - Presented at Anatomy & Neurobiology department meeting for discussion prior to official vote and was well received.
- 6/21/2016 – Presented at College of Medicine Faculty Council meeting for discussion and was well received.
- 6/24/2016 – Presented at College of Medicine Clinical Chairs meeting for discussion and was well received.
- 6/28/2016 – Presented at College of Medicine Neurology department meeting for discussion and was well received.
- 6/28/2016 – Submitted for vote via email to all faculty in Anatomy & Neurobiology
 - Received full and complete support of the name change: 24 of 26 Faculty responded, all in the affirmative.
- 6/29/2016 – Presented at College of Medicine Basic Science Chairs & Center Directors meeting for discussion and was well received.
- 7/5/2016 – Presented at College of Medicine Council of Chairs meeting for discussion and was well received.
- 7/5/2016 – Presented to College of Medicine Curriculum Committee for discussion and vote.
 - All 6 committee members present voted in favor of the name change.
- 7/29/2016 – Presented to Faculty Council by Dr. Michael Kilgore (Chair) for official vote. Vote was unanimous with 9 representatives in attendance in favor of the name change. The other 3 affirmed support to the Faculty Council Chair by email.
- 8/31/2016 – Presented for a formal vote at College of Medicine General Faculty meeting
 - Poll closed on 9/28/19: In Favor - 128; Opposed - 16

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology Faculty

Name	Title
Warren J. Alilain, PhD	Associate Professor
Anders H. Andersen, PhD	Associate Professor, Research
Adam Bachstetter, PhD	Assistant Professor
Guoying Bing, MD/PhD	Professor
Luke H. Bradley, PhD	Associate Professor
Wayne A. Cass, PhD	Professor; Director of Graduate Studies
Marilyn J. Duncan, PhD	Professor
Samuel R. Franklin, PhD	Associate Professor, Special Title
Don M. Gash, PhD	Professor
James W. Geddes, Ph.D.	Professor; Associate Dean for Research; Director, Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Center
Greg A. Gerhardt, Ph.D.	Professor
Marilyn L. Getchell, PhD	Professor Emeritus
Brian T. Gold, PhD	Associate Professor
Richard C. Grondin, PhD	Associate Professor
Edward D. Hall, Ph.D.	Professor; William R. Markesbery, M.D. Chair in Neurotrauma Research
April Richardson Hatcher, PhD	Associate Professor, Special Title
Brian R. MacPherson, PhD	Professor, Special Title
Joshua Morganti, PhD	Assistant Professor, Research
Kristen Platt, PhD	Lecturer
David Powell, PhD	Assistant Professor, Research
Jill M. Roberts, PhD	Assistant Professor, Research
Stephen W. Scheff, PhD	Professor
Indrapal N. Singh Ph.D.	Associate Professor, Research
Bret N. Smith, Ph.D.	University Research Professor; Interim Chair, Dept of Anatomy & Neurobiology; Director, Epilepsy Center
Patrick G. Sullivan, Ph.D.	Professor; Endowed Chair, Spinal Cord & Brain Injury Research Center
Linda J. Van Eldik, PhD	Professor; Director Sanders-Brown Center on Aging/Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
Zhiming Zhang, MD/PhD	Associate Professor

Brothers, Sheila C

From: McCormick, Katherine
Sent: Saturday, October 01, 2016 11:15 AM
To: Brothers, Sheila C
Subject: FW: re: COM's request to change Department name to Neuroscience

From: Kornbluh, Mark
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 9:01 PM
To: McCormick, Katherine
Cc: DiPaola, Robert S Bosch, Anna
Subject: re: COM's request to change Department name to Neuroscience

Dear Katherine,

The College of Arts and Sciences has no objection to the change of a departmental name within the College of Medicine to the Neuroscience Department. We have agreed the intercollegiate undergraduate neuroscience major remains housed in the College of Arts and Sciences within the Department of Biology and that the two colleges will continue to work together in the area of neuroscience.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Yours,

Mark Kornbluh
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences