

## LEVEL II MEMORANDUM

---

**DATE:** Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019

**TO:** Chief Academic Officers, Montana University System

**FROM:** Brock Tessman, Deputy Commissioner for Academic, Research, and Student Affairs

**RE:** November 2019 Level II Proposals

---

The campuses of the Montana University System have proposed new academic programs or changes under the Level II approval process authorized by the Montana Board of Regents. The Level II proposals are being sent to you for your review and approval. If you have concerns about a particular proposal, you should share those concerns with your colleagues at that institution and try to come to some understanding. If you cannot resolve your concerns, raise them at the Chief Academic Officer's conference call November 6<sup>th</sup>. Issues not resolved at that meeting should be submitted in writing to OCHE by noon on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. If no concerns are received, OCHE will assume that the proposals have your approval.

### **Level II Items**

#### **Montana State University:**

- Request for authorization to consolidate and merge the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology  
[Item #185-2010-R1119](#) | [Request Form](#)

#### **Montana State University Billings:**

- Request to rename and reorganize the College of Allied Health Professions  
[Item #185-2702-R1119](#) | [Request Form](#)
- Request to rename and reorganize the College of Arts and Sciences  
[Item #185-2703-R1119](#) | [Request Form](#)

#### **Montana Technological University:**

- Request to create a Business and Industry department  
[Item # 185-1501-R1119](#) | [Request Form](#)

November 21-22, 2019

**ITEM 185-2010-R1119**

**Request for authorization to consolidate and merge the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Montana State University**

---

**THAT**

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves the administrative organizational change to merge Departments of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and Microbiology and Immunology to form a consolidated and unified Department of Microbiology and Immunology that will represent an interdisciplinary department in the College of Agriculture at Montana State University.

---

**EXPLANATION**

The academic programs and the research conducted by faculty in the discipline areas of microbiology, immunology, cell biology and neuroscience are valued contributors to the overall mission of MSU. Faculty members in these disciplines provide the foundation for undergraduate and graduate education in a variety of scientific subdisciplines in several areas of biology and biomedical sciences.

All departments and academic programs within the Montana University System are expected to strive for continuous improvement in the education they provide to students, in the outreach they provide to the public and in the research they conduct to further the bounds of knowledge. This is an expectation of the Montana Legislature, which appropriates funds to the university system, the Montana Board of Regents, which governs the university system, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, which administers the university system, and of the local administrations of each campus.

At the direction of the Board of Regents and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, MSU undertook a review of all its doctoral programs to evaluate their performance. This review resulted in the MSU Doctoral Prioritization Review Report, a document created by the 16-member MSU Doctoral Program Prioritization Committee. The report classified the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience as one of the lowest performing programs at the university and indicated it was not meeting the performance expectations required of all academic departments at Montana State University.

Aligning the eight tenured faculty members and two instructors in CBN with the 19 tenured and tenure-track faculty, plus over 10 research faculty and instructors in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology will provide a stronger foundation for sustainability and future growth of graduate and undergraduate academic programs and associated research opportunities for students.

The Department of Microbiology and Immunology has been administered by the College of Agriculture for many years. Accounting and bookkeeping changes have been made to align expenditures, which were entirely on the back of the College of Agriculture, with performance indicators that were split unevenly between the College of Agriculture and the College of Letters and Science. This split only added complexity to budgeting and resource allocation decisions. The combined department will now have clear and consistent management of budget account indices, research expenditures, personnel and data reporting of performance indicators in a single college, the College of Agriculture.

The merger of these departments did not change any of the terms and conditions of employment for the faculty members in either unit. The tenurable faculty still retain all rights of tenure. Their offices and laboratories have not moved. The merger has not resulted in any changes to the undergraduate programs that were delivered previously by each of the two units. The merger is budget neutral, no additional resources are necessary as a result of the re-alignment. Changes are already occurring in the graduate program as the faculty work together to develop new courses.

These changes are in alignment with several parts of MSU's new strategic plan, Choosing Promise, specifically Goal 1.2: Expanding high-quality graduate education, as well as Goal 2.2: Expand interdisciplinary scholarship; Goal 2.3: Strengthen institutional reputation in scholarship; and Goal 2.4: Elevate expectations for scholarship.

---

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Academic Proposal

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

ITEM 185-2010-R1119 Submission Month or Meeting: November 21-22, 2019

Institution: Montana State University CIP Code: N/A

Program/Center/Institute Title: Consolidate and merge the Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at Montana State University

Includes (please specify below): Online Offering  Options

Please mark the appropriate type of request and submit with an Item Template and any additional materials, including those listed in parentheses following the type of request. For more information pertaining to the types of requests listed below, how to complete an item request, or additional forms please visit <http://mus.edu/che/arsa/academicproposals.asp>.

     **A. Level I:**

**Campus Approvals**

- 1a. Placing a postsecondary educational program into moratorium** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 1b. Withdrawing a postsecondary educational program from moratorium**
- 2. Establishing, re-titling, terminating or revising a campus certificate of 29 credits or less**
- 3. Establishing a B.A.S./A.A./A.S. area of study**
- 4. Offering an existing postsecondary educational program via distance or online delivery**

**OCHE Approvals**

- 5. Re-titling an existing postsecondary educational program**
- 6. Terminating an existing postsecondary educational program** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 7. Consolidating existing postsecondary educational programs** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 8. Establishing a new minor where there is a major or an option in a major** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 9. Revising a postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 10. Establishing a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S. degree program** *Approval limited to 2 years*

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

**B. Level II:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **1. Establishing a new postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **2. Permanent authorization for a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S degree program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **3. Exceeding the 120 credit maximum for baccalaureate degrees** *Exception to policy 301.11*
- X** \_\_\_\_\_ **4. Forming, eliminating or consolidating an academic, administrative, or research unit** (Curriculum or Center/Institute Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form, except when eliminating or consolidating)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **5. Re-titling an academic, administrative, or research unit**

**Proposal Summary** [360 words maximum]

**What:** Request for authorization of an administrative organizational change to merge Departments of Cell Biology and Neuroscience and Microbiology and Immunology to form a consolidated and unified Department of Microbiology and Immunology that will represent an interdisciplinary department in the College of Agriculture at Montana State University.

**Why:** Aligning the eight tenured faculty members and two instructors in CBN with the 19 tenured and tenure-track faculty, plus over 10 research faculty and instructors in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology will provide a stronger foundation for sustainability and future growth of graduate and undergraduate academic programs and associated research opportunities for students.

**Resources:** The merger of these departments did not change any of the terms and conditions of employment for the faculty members in either unit. The tenurable faculty still retain all rights of tenure. Their offices and laboratories have not moved. The merger has not resulted in any changes to the undergraduate programs that were delivered previously by each of the two units. The merger is budget neutral, no additional resources are necessary as a result of the re-alignment.

**Relationship to similar MUS programs**

N/A

November 21-22, 2019

ITEM 185-2702-R1119

**Request for authorization to rename and reorganize the College of Allied Health Professions at MSU-Billings**

---

**THAT**

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves changing the name of the College of Allied Health Professions to the College of Health Professions and Science and incorporating the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences into the College.

---

**EXPLANATION**

This change corresponds with breaking ground on the Yellowstone Building, which will house the College and has been designed to support student and programmatic needs. The reorganization will facilitate the development of pathways and unique collaborations to more effectively and efficiently serve students interested in the health professions and the sciences. Currently, the Science Department's courses and curricula serve a number of Allied Health programs, including courses in General Chemistry, Introductory Biology, Microbiology for Health Sciences, Nutrition, and Anatomy and Physiology for the Nursing, Health and Human Performance, and Athletic Training programs. In addition, the College of Allied Health Professions offers Science students opportunities in Exercise Physiology, Kinesiology and Athletic Training. Students from both college units engage in the Health Services community through a variety of internship experiences, and after graduation either move directly into careers in Health Care, Medical Laboratory Sciences, and/or continue to graduate programs in Athletic Training, Health Care Administration, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Medicine, Physician Assistant, as well as post-baccalaureate programs in Nursing and Physical Therapy. Restructuring the college unit provide students and faculty increased opportunities to work together, sharing expertise, developing career pathways, and collaborating with the Health Services industry to meet our community and regional needs. The new name will reflect the core mission of MSUB with a focus on two Core Themes: *Theme 1: Build educational programs to support student needs;* and *Core Theme 2: Strengthen relationships with the community to enhance partnership opportunities.*

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

Request Form

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

ITEM 185-2702-R1119 Submission Month or Meeting: November 21-22, 2019

Institution: MSU-Billings CIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Program/Center/Institute Title: Rename and reorganize the College of Allied Health Professions at MSU-Billings

Includes (please specify below): Online Offering \_\_\_\_\_ Options \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the appropriate type of request and submit with an Item Template and any additional materials, including those listed in parentheses following the type of request. For more information pertaining to the types of requests listed below, how to complete an item request, or additional forms please visit <http://mus.edu/che/arsa/academicproposals.asp>.

     **A. Level I:**

**Campus Approvals**

- 1a. Placing a postsecondary educational program into moratorium** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 1b. Withdrawing a postsecondary educational program from moratorium**
- 2. Establishing, re-titling, terminating or revising a campus certificate of 29 credits or less**
- 3. Establishing a B.A.S./A.A./A.S. area of study**
- 4. Offering an existing postsecondary educational program via distance or online delivery**

**OCHE Approvals**

- 5. Re-titling an existing postsecondary educational program**
- 6. Terminating an existing postsecondary educational program** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 7. Consolidating existing postsecondary educational programs** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 8. Establishing a new minor where there is a major or an option in a major** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 9. Revising a postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 10. Establishing a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S. degree program** *Approval limited to 2 years*

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

X **B. Level II:**

1. **Establishing a new postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
2. **Permanent authorization for a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S degree program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
3. **Exceeding the 120 credit maximum for baccalaureate degrees** *Exception to policy 301.11*
- X 4. **Forming, eliminating or consolidating an academic, administrative, or research unit** (Curriculum or Center/Institute Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form, except when eliminating or consolidating)
- X 5. **Re-titling an academic, administrative, or research unit**

**Proposal Summary [360 words maximum]**

We propose to change the name of the **College of Allied Health Professions** to the **College of Health Professions and Science**, incorporating the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences into the college. This change corresponds with breaking ground on the Yellowstone Building, which will house the College and has been designed to support student and programmatic needs. The reorganization will facilitate the development of pathways and unique collaborations to more effectively and efficiently serve students interested in the health professions and the sciences. Currently, the Science Department's courses and curricula serve a number of Allied Health programs, including courses in General Chemistry, Introductory Biology, Microbiology for Health Sciences, Nutrition, and Anatomy and Physiology for the Nursing, Health and Human Performance, and Athletic Training programs. In addition, the College of Allied Health Professions offers Science students opportunities in Exercise Physiology, Kinesiology and Athletic Training. Students from both college units engage in the Health Services community through a variety of internship experiences, and after graduation either move directly into careers in Health Care, Medical Laboratory Sciences, and/or continue to graduate programs in Athletic Training, Health Care Administration, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary Medicine, Physician Assistant, as well as post-baccalaureate programs in Nursing and Physical Therapy. Restructuring the college unit provide students and faculty increased opportunities to work together, sharing expertise, developing career pathways, and collaborating with the Health Services industry to meet our community and regional needs. The new name will reflect the core mission of MSUB with a focus on two Core Themes: *Theme 1: Build educational programs to support student needs*; and *Core Theme 2: Strengthen relationships with the community to enhance partnership opportunities*.



November 21-22, 2019

ITEM 185-2703-R1119

**Request authorization to rename and reorganize the College of Arts and Sciences at MSU-Billings**

---

**THAT**

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves changing the name of the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

---

**EXPLANATION**

We propose to change the name of the **College of Arts and Sciences** to the **College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**. The new college name reflects an organizational change, with the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences integrated with the College of Allied Health Professions, as well as the breadth and scope of the programs being maintained in the unit. The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences includes programs in Art, Music, History, Psychology, Political Science, Mathematics, Communication, English, Modern Languages, Native American Studies, Economics, and Criminal Justice. The departments within the new structure are building on existing collaborations, including the development of student-centered curricular partnerships, to foster program growth and agility in accordance with MSUB's mission. Several core themes are foundational to the College's future plans: Theme 1: *Build educational programs to support student needs*; Theme II: *Progressively grow the university*; and Theme IV: *Unify, invigorate, and engage MSUB's structure and culture*.

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

Academic Proposal

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

ITEM 185-2703-R1119 Submission Month or Meeting: November 21-22, 2019

Institution: MSU-Billings CIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Program/Center/Institute Title: Rename and reorganize the College of Arts and Science at MU-Billings

Includes (please specify below): Online Offering \_\_\_\_\_ Options \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the appropriate type of request and submit with an Item Template and any additional materials, including those listed in parentheses following the type of request. For more information pertaining to the types of requests listed below, how to complete an item request, or additional forms please visit <http://mus.edu/che/arsa/academicproposals.asp>.

     **A. Level I:**

**Campus Approvals**

- 1a. Placing a postsecondary educational program into moratorium** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 1b. Withdrawing a postsecondary educational program from moratorium**
- 2. Establishing, re-titling, terminating or revising a campus certificate of 29 credits or less**
- 3. Establishing a B.A.S./A.A./A.S. area of study**
- 4. Offering an existing postsecondary educational program via distance or online delivery**

**OCHE Approvals**

- 5. Re-titling an existing postsecondary educational program**
- 6. Terminating an existing postsecondary educational program** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 7. Consolidating existing postsecondary educational programs** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 8. Establishing a new minor where there is a major or an option in a major** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 9. Revising a postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 10. Establishing a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S. degree program** *Approval limited to 2 years*

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

X **B. Level II:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. **Establishing a new postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. **Permanent authorization for a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S degree program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. **Exceeding the 120 credit maximum for baccalaureate degrees** *Exception to policy 301.11*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. **Forming, eliminating or consolidating an academic, administrative, or research unit** (Curriculum or Center/Institute Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form, except when eliminating or consolidating)
- X \_\_\_\_\_ 5. **Re-titling an academic, administrative, or research unit**

**Proposal Summary** [360 words maximum]

We propose to change the name of the **College of Arts and Sciences** to the **College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**. The new college name reflects an organizational change, with the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences integrated with the College of Allied Health Professions, as well as the breadth and scope of the programs being maintained in the unit. The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences includes programs in Art, Music, History, Psychology, Political Science, Mathematics, Communication, English, Modern Languages, Native American Studies, Economics, and Criminal Justice. The departments within the new structure are building on existing collaborations, including the development of student-centered curricular partnerships, to foster program growth and agility in accordance with MSUB's mission. Several core themes are foundational to the College's future plans: Theme 1: *Build educational programs to support student needs*; Theme II: *Progressively grow the university*; and Theme IV: *Unify, invigorate, and engage MSUB's structure and culture*.

November 2019

ITEM 185-1501-R1119

**Request authorization to create a department entitled Business and Industry**

---

**THAT**

Montana Technological University requests authorization to create a department titled Business and Industry by combining the Business and Technology options with three of the Trades area offerings.

---

**EXPLANATION**

Create a department titled "Business and Industry" which combines the Business and Accounting Technology options with three of the Trades area offerings - Construction, Civil Engineering Technology and Drafting Technology. By instituting this change, it will assist with better collaboration among programs and assist with potential transition into four-year degree programs. This change will also help the current Trades department chair, since his department will reduce their program specialty areas from seven to four. This will allow him to spend more time with those four specialty areas.

---

**ATTACHMENTS**

Proposal Request Form

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

ITEM 185-1501-R1119 Submission Month or Meeting: November, 2019

Institution: Highlands College of MT Tech CIP Code: 52.0216

Program/Center/Institute Title: Business and Industry

Includes (please specify below): Online Offering \_\_\_\_\_ Options \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the appropriate type of request and submit with an Item Template and any additional materials, including those listed in parentheses following the type of request. For more information pertaining to the types of requests listed below, how to complete an item request, or additional forms please visit <http://mus.edu/che/arsa/academicproposals.asp>.

     **A. Level I:**

**Campus Approvals**

- 1a. Placing a postsecondary educational program into moratorium** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 1b. Withdrawing a postsecondary educational program from moratorium**
- 2. Establishing, re-titling, terminating or revising a campus certificate of 29 credits or less**
- 3. Establishing a B.A.S./A.A./A.S. area of study**
- 4. Offering an existing postsecondary educational program via distance or online delivery**

**OCHE Approvals**

- 5. Re-titling an existing postsecondary educational program**
- 6. Terminating an existing postsecondary educational program** (Program Termination and Moratorium Form)
- 7. Consolidating existing postsecondary educational programs** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 8. Establishing a new minor where there is a major or an option in a major** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 9. Revising a postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal Form)
- 10. Establishing a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S. degree program** *Approval limited to 2 years*

**Montana Board of Regents**  
**ACADEMIC PROPOSAL REQUEST FORM**

X **B. Level II:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. **Establishing a new postsecondary educational program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. **Permanent authorization for a temporary C.A.S. or A.A.S degree program** (Curriculum Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form)
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. **Exceeding the 120 credit maximum for baccalaureate degrees** *Exception to policy 301.11*
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. **Forming, eliminating or consolidating an academic, administrative, or research unit** (Curriculum or Center/Institute Proposal and Completed Intent to Plan Form, except when eliminating or consolidating)
- X 5. **Re-titling an academic, administrative, or research unit**

**Proposal Summary** [360 words maximum]

**What:** Create a department titled "Business and Industry" which combines the Business and Accounting Technology options with three of the Trades area offerings - Construction, Civil Engineering Technology and Drafting Technology. By instituting this change, it will assist with better collaboration among programs and assist with potential transition into four-year degree programs. This change will also help the current Trades department chair, since his department will reduce their program specialty areas from seven to four. This will allow him to spend more time with those four specialty areas.

**Why:** The name change will better reflect the programs that will exist within the department.

**Resources:** No new resources are needed.

**Relationship to similar MUS programs :** N/A