

Level II Action Items

March 2021

From: Deputy Commissioner Brock Tessman
To: Board of Regents

Please see below for an executive overview of the Level II items that are being proposed for your review and action at the March 2021 meeting of the Board of Regents. These items have been submitted by the campuses and reviewed by the Chief Academic Officers of the Montana University System and community colleges. OCHE staff has reviewed the items and provided a short analysis below relying on information submitted by the campuses. For more information and specific details on each item, please see the supporting documentation included on the Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Committee agenda.

University of Montana – Missoula

Retitle the Department of Business Technology to the Department of Business and Technology

Missoula College requests to retitle the Department of Business Technology to the Department of Business and Technology to better reflect the offerings of the Department. The current department name does not accurately portray its curricular offerings in information technology, computer science, and engineering technology. Given the new slate of offerings, the Department has proposed Business and Technology as a more appropriate title. No new/additional resources will be needed.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Montana Technological University

Retitle the Center for Advanced Mineral and Metallurgical Processing (CAMP) to Center for Advanced Materials Processing

Montana Tech requests to retitle the Center for Advanced Mineral and Metallurgical Processing to the Center for Advanced Materials Processing, while keeping the well-known acronym CAMP. The new name better reflects the current work of the Center. No new/additional resources will be needed.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Helena College University of Montana

Retitle the Continuing Education, Workforce Development and Community Engagement Division to Community Education Center

Helena College requests to retitle the Continuing Education, Workforce Development and Community Engagement Division to the Community Education Center to better describe the services offered within the department. The current title does not accurately portray the services that the department has been able to provide to both students and the community. No new/additional resources will be needed.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Montana State University – Bozeman

B.S. in Biomedical Engineering

MSU requests to offer a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering to build upon the existing minor in Biomedical Engineering. Current and prospective students have expressed interest in the new B.S., and it aligns with projected increases in employment of biomedical engineers in coming years. The Intent to Plan proposal was approved in 2019. No new faculty members will be needed in the first few years of the program, but new equipment costing between \$100,000 to \$150,000 will be necessary.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Retitle the Department of Microbiology and Immunology to the Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology

MSU requests to retitle the Department of Microbiology and Immunology to the Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology to better reflect the work of the newly reconfigured departments. The Department of Microbiology and Immunology and the Department of Cell biology and Neuroscience were merged last year, resulting in the formation of a large department at MSU with a variety of research and educational disciplines being represented. In efforts to unify the department and represent the various educational and research opportunities, the faculty worked together over the course of the last 8 months to develop a new name for the department. This name reflects the merger of the two departments, while keeping important components of the original names that represent the nature of our combined research and teaching programs. Minimal costs may be incurred to change letterhead, websites, etc. to reflect the new name.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Ph.D. in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences

MSU requests to offer a Ph.D. in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences to meet growing student and professional demand by building on the existing M.S. in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. The Ph.D. will include two options: 1) exercise nutrition, metabolism, and physiology, and 2) biomechanics and motor control. The proposed Ph.D. will dovetail well with undergraduate programs at MSU, as well as the Registered Dietician program. The Intent to Plan proposal was approved in 2018. The proposal includes the need for one new non-tenure track faculty member and multiple graduate teaching assistant positions.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

M.S. in Cybersecurity

MSU requests to offer a M.S. in Cybersecurity through the College of Engineering. The proposed degree caters to students with a STEM background and provides a path to doctoral studies. The proposed degree meets critical employment needs in Montana and the region. The proposed degree will help with student recruitment efforts and will support the University's research enterprise. No other programs exist at the M.S. level in the MUS. The Intent to Plan proposal was approved in 2019. New resources needed to start the program include an isolated research facility, a tenure-track faculty member, a non-tenure track faculty member, and two graduate teaching assistants.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve

Great Fall College Montana State University

Permanently Authorize the A.A.S. in Cybersecurity

Great Falls College requests permanent authorization of the A.A.S. in Cybersecurity. The temporary A.A.S. was approved by OCHE in October 2018, and the BOR was notified at their November 2018 meeting. The program is operating successfully and is meeting state workforce needs. Students are enrolled both in a full-time capacity and in a part-time capacity as a way to complement their training in other areas. No new/additional resources will be needed.

OCHE STAFF RECCOMENDATION: Approve