



University Senate TRANSMITTAL FORM

Senate Document #:	11-12-13
PCC ID #:	11003
Title:	Proposal to Rename the Department of Geography as the Department of Geographical Sciences
Presenter:	David Salness, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee
Date of SEC Review:	October 24, 2011
Date of Senate Review:	November 9, 2011
Voting (highlight one):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Behavioral and Social Sciences and the Department of Geography propose to change the name of the department to the Department of Geographical Sciences. The proposed name reflects the direction of the field and better represents the department's teaching and research activities. Two other proposals, Senate Docs 11-12-14 and 11-12-15 have been submitted to rename the department's academic degree programs.
Relevant Policy # & URL:	
Recommendation:	The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate accept the name change.
Committee Work:	<p>The PCC Committee considered the proposal at its October 7, 2011, meeting. Chris Justice, Chair of Geography, and Kathy Beardsley, Associate Dean of Behavioral and Social Sciences, were present to discuss the proposal and answer questions.</p> <p>The Academic Planning Advisory Committee approved the proposal on September 19, 2011. The Senate PCC Committee voted and approved the proposal on October 7, 2011.</p>
Alternatives:	The Senate could decline to approve the new name for this department.
Risks:	If the Senate does not approve the new name, then the department will retain its existing name, which does not accurately reflect the activities of the department or the direction of the field.
Financial Implications:	There are no significant financial implications with this proposal.

<p>Further Approvals Required: <i>(*Important for PCC Items)</i></p>	<p>If the Senate approves this proposal, it would still require further approval by the President.</p>
---	--

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.

PCC LOG NO.

11003

- Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School:

BSOS

Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: **01202800**

Unit Codes can be found at: https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm

Department/Program: Geography Department

Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: **1281501**

Type of Action (choose one):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum change (including informal specializations) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New academic degree/award program</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> New Professional Studies award iteration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> New Minor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Suspend/delete program</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

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

Summary of Proposed Action:

The Geography Department proposes to change its name to the **Department of Geographical Sciences**. This name is in keeping with key National Academy initiatives (Committee on Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences in the Next Decade; National Research Council, *Understanding the Changing Planet, Strategic Directions for the Geographical Sciences*, National Academy Press, 2011) and better represents our research, bridging human dimensions of global change and earth systems science with geospatial information technologies including remote sensing and GIS.

We have sent notification of the proposed name change to UMD departments in related disciplines (including ENST and ENSP), asking if they had any concerns. No objections to the change were made.

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

1. Department Committee Chair / Faculty Advisory Committee *George Heurt* *George Heurt* 3/14/11
2. Department Chair *Chris Justice* *Chris Justice* 3/14/11
3. College/School PCC Chair *Martha E. Geores* *Martha E Geores* 7/21/11
4. Dean *Katherine Pedro Beardsley* *Katherine Pedro Beardsley* 7-21-11
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) _____
6. Chair, Senate PCC *David Felness* *David Felness* 10/7/11
7. University Senate Chair (if required) _____
8. Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost _____

Michael D Colson

From: Frank J. Coale [fjcoale@umd.edu]
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2011 7:23 AM
To: cjustice-contact
Subject: RE: Proposed Department Name Change

Chris,

The Department of Environmental Science and Technology has no objection to your plan to rename your department the Department of Geographic Sciences.

Best,
Frank

=====
Frank J. Coale, Ph.D.
Professor and Department Chair
Department of Environmental Science and Technology
1109 H. J. Patterson Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742 USA
Tel: 301-405-1306
Email: fjcoale@umd.edu

From: Chris Justice [justice@hermes.geog.umd.edu]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2011 6:25 PM
To: rtourang-contact; Dennis H. Wood; Eric D. Wish; Gary D. LaFree; Sandra L. Hofferth; Jeffrey F. Werling; Kathleen Jane Smarick; Mark Lichbach; Nan Bernstein Ratner; Peter Murrell; Paul A. Shackel; Reeve Doering Vanneman; Sally S. Simpson; Thomas H. Carr; Thomas S. Wallsten; William W. Falk; jtownshe-contact; Wayne McIntosh; Frank J. Coale; ajanetos-contact; carton-contact; Michael Brown; Bruce R. James; Wendy L. Whittemore; Kim Nickerson
Subject: Proposed Department Name Change

Department Chairs and Colleagues

The Geography Department has been undergoing major changes in the past few years with our recent hires who bring strength in the human dimensions of global change and global modeling.

We want to follow the trend of other leading Geography Departments and change our name to better reflect who we are.

We are proposing changing our name to the **Department of Geographic Sciences**.

As part of the process, if you have any concerns about this proposed name change we would like your input.

Chris Justice

Professor and Chair
Department of Geography
University of Maryland