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
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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: 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