Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to change the name of the majors in Exercise Science to Kinesiology under the M.S., M.S. non-thesis, and Ph.D. degrees will be an agenda item for the March 21, 2008, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Mr. David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Dr. Arnett C. Mace, Jr.
Professor Jere W. Morehead
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE GRADUATE MAJOR
IN EXERCISE SCIENCE TO KINESIOLOGY

Major Name Changes:
Current Major Name: Degrees Proposed Major Name:
Exercise Science Ph.D., M.S., M.S.-nonthesis Kinesiology

JUSTIFICATION:

As a result of a reorganization of the College of Education in 2004, the former Departments of Exercise Science and Physical Education and Sport Studies were merged into the Department of Kinesiology. The merger consolidated closely-related programs focused on the study of physical activity and sport in a single department. Throughout the United States, similar programs are frequently found in a single department named Kinesiology. These Departments typically have a single graduate major named Kinesiology under the Ph.D. and M.S. degrees. We currently have two graduate majors, Exercise Science (under the Ph.D., M.S. and M.S.-nonthesis degrees) and Physical Education and Sport Studies (under the Ph.D., Ed.D., M.A. and M.Ed.). Given our current administrative structure, two majors are no longer needed and we seek to consolidate our seven graduate programs into three under a single major named Kinesiology. The consolidation will: 1) align the name of the graduate major with the Department name, as it is in most departments, helping to focus the identity of the Department around the name Kinesiology and improve cohesion among programs, 2) make us similar to most of our Kinesiology department peers that have a single major, 3) reduce confusion among students over major/department names, 4) simplify the description of our programs, 5) eliminate redundant and low-enrollment programs, and 6) consolidate reporting (e.g., assessment reports, major and credit-hour counts, etc.).

To accomplish the consolidation, we propose changing the name of the major in Exercise Science to Kinesiology (this proposal) and moving programs currently under the Physical Education and Sport Studies major to the new Kinesiology major (Ph.D. to Ph.D., M.A. to M.S., and M.Ed. to M.S.-non-thesis). If approved, we will then terminate the major in Physical Education and Sport Studies under the Ph.D., Ed.D., M.A. and M.Ed. degrees.

SIGNATURES:

Louis A. Castenell, Jr., Dean
College of Education

Kirk J. Cureton, Head
Department of Kinesiology

Sally J. Zepeda
College/School Curriculum Committee Chair