

Board Meeting
May 16, 2019

RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL
ARTS AND SCIENCES, URBANA

Action: Rename the Department of Animal Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to rename the Department of Animal Biology, changing the name to the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior.

The proposed departmental name change is primarily motivated by three factors: 1) Animal Biology is not a recognized discipline, which has hindered the department's ability to recruit graduate students and to be compared with peer programs at other institutions; 2) the name "Animal Biology" is routinely confused with the Department of Animal Sciences in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences by faculty and graduate school applicants; and, 3) the name "Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior" better reflects the teaching and research mission of the current faculty.

A name change was the top recommendation from the department's 2017-2018 external review. The proposed new name, Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior, is strongly supported by the department's faculty as well as by the College of Liberal Arts and Science's faculty.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.