

Approved by the Board of Trustees
March 12, 2015

Board Meeting
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RENAME THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACOLOGY AND DOCTOR OF
PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACOLOGY, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, CHICAGO

Action: Rename the Master of Science in Pharmacology and Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmacology, College of Medicine

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Interim Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Interim Vice President, University of Illinois with the advice of the Chicago Senate, College of Medicine, and Graduate College, recommends the renaming of the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy of Pharmacology as the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology.

Pharmacology is an integrative science, encompassing a variety of disciplines including genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry, and physiology. The major objective of the pharmacological sciences is the molecular understanding of signal transduction and signal transmission events that regulate and interfere with specific cell functions. Another objective is the development of new therapies and strategies for treatment of various disease processes. The Department of Pharmacology offers training in molecular and cellular pharmacology and integrative biology leading to the Ph.D. The M.S. is awarded only if students decide not to complete the doctorate and provided they have accomplished enough research to write and defend a master's thesis.

In early 2014, the Department of Pharmacology began discussions about renaming the M.S. and Ph.D. in Pharmacology as the M.S. and Ph.D. in Cellular and Molecular Pharmacology. Faculty concluded that the current program name does not represent the depth and breadth of research conducted by faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students. Furthermore, the new and more descriptive name will be comparable with programs offered by peer departments and institutions. Finally, the new name will assist the department in their recruitment efforts of top-tier students, fellows, and faculty by clarifying that departmental research extends beyond drug discovery and testing to include translational research at the molecular, cellular, organ-system, and whole-animal levels of investigation. The department name and content of the graduate programs will remain the same.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respect 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 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.