Approved by the Board of Trustees

May 16, 2024

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Board Meeting

May 16, 2024

RENAME AND REVISE THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIOLOGY, COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE GRADUATE COLLEGE, URBANA

**Action:** Rename and Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College

**Funding:** No new funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to rename and revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Biology.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Biology as currently configured serves students pursuing the concentration in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution. Revising the program name to “Doctor of Philosophy in Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior” (PhD in EEB) and eliminating the concentration in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution, as proposed in a separate report item, has several benefits. First, the revised name matches the name of the sponsoring department – the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior. Second, renaming as the PhD in EEB clarifies the degree program mapping, bringing it into alignment with other programs in other departments within the School of Integrative Biology. These programs (e.g., the Department of Plant Biology’s PhD in Plant Biology and the Department of Entomology’s PhD in Entomology) list the sponsoring department as the major, not as a concentration. Third, the name “PhD in Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior” more accurately describes the curricular content and faculty research, providing clarity for current and prospective students. The program will seek a revised Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code, changing from the code for Biology/Biological Sciences, General to Ecology and Evolutionary Biology to better fit the curriculum, as well.

There are no financial implications nor implications for faculty, staff, facilities, or other resources as a result of this proposed name change.

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 of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.