



University Council

February 9, 2024

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2023-2024

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Graduate School – Rodney Mauricio

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Pharmacy to change the name of the major in Pharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.) to Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences (B.S.) and the name of the minor in Pharmaceutical Sciences to the minor in Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences will be an agenda item for the February 16, 2024, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

ACADEMIC PROGRAM NAME CHANGE JUSTIFICATION FORM

Date: September 11, 2023

Department/Division: Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences

School/College/Unit: College of Pharmacy

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2024

PROGRAM NAME CHANGES:

Current Program Name: Pharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.)

Proposed Program Name: Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences (B.S.)

Current Program Name: Minor in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Proposed Program Name: Minor in Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences

JUSTIFICATION:

The objective of Pharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.) and the minor in Pharmaceutical Sciences is to prepare students with emphasis in pharmaceutical sciences. The Pharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.) curriculum begins with the Georgia core requirement to develop a strong foundation in mathematics and sciences (chemistry, biology, and physics). In the third and fourth years, the curriculum includes advanced courses in subjects including human physiology, biochemistry, pharmacology, medicinal chemistry, pharmaceutical analysis, biological therapeutics, pharmaceutical drug development, and advanced drug delivery systems. In addition, this curriculum provides hands-on laboratory courses in pharmaceutical drug development and a two-semester undergraduate research project or internship to fulfill the University's experiential learning requirement. The curriculum prepares the students for careers in the pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical industries and healthcare, as well as graduate and professional degrees, including medical, dental, nursing, and physician assistant programs. The minor in pharmaceutical sciences, combined with other majors such as business, marketing, and nutritional sciences, enhances job opportunities in pharmaceutical sales and marketing, business development, and healthcare.

Currently, this major and minor are primarily chosen by students who are seeking a career in pharmacy or the pharmaceutical industry. In the past ten years, approximately 60% of graduates from this major have been accepted to graduate programs (M.S. or Ph.D.) or professional schools (pharmacy, medical, dental, nursing), and the remaining have taken careers in government, hospitals, and pharmaceutical and biomedical sciences.

Changing the major and minor names to Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences (B.S.) and the minor in Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences will be beneficial for several reasons:

1. The proposed name would be more attractive to students who are looking for pre-health and biomedical sciences career tracks that are not currently considering these programs due to the current name.
2. This interdisciplinary name will enable students seeking internships, jobs, or admission to graduate and professional programs to be more competitive candidates. Many pharmacy schools use Pharmaceutical Sciences as the undergraduate program name. However, these programs typically focus on admission to the school's Pharm.D. program or preparing students for entry-level pharmaceutical scientist positions. At UGA, the B.S. curriculum prepares students for careers in the pharmaceutical industry and biomedical health sciences, as well as graduate and professional degrees, such as in medical and nursing fields.
3. Finally, changing the name would be in line with the department's current name and areas of faculty research: Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences.

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Change the name of the major in Pharmaceutical Sciences (B.S.) to Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences (B.S.)

Change the name of the minor in Pharmaceutical Sciences to the minor in Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences

College: College of Pharmacy

Department: Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2024

School/College:

- College of Pharmacy Dean, Kelly Smith, 10/9/2023
- College of Pharmacy Associate Dean for Science Education, Research, and Technology, Dr. Michael Bartlett, 10/10/2023