Please attach/submit additional documents as needed to fully complete each section of the form. See information about Level II proposals.

I. DEPARTMENT / PROGRAM:

Division of Biological Sciences / Biology

II. SUMMARY:

We seek approval to change the name of the Bachelor of Arts in Biology to Bachelor of Science in Biology; The University of Montana – Missoula for the Cellular & Molecular Biology, Ecology & Organismal Biology, Genetics & Evolution, Field Ecology, and Human Biological Sciences options within the current B.A. program. The Natural History, Teacher Preparation in Biology and Teacher Preparation in General Science options will retain the B.A. designation.

The Division of Biological Science has had a long-standing, successful, and traditional BA Program across the eight degree options named above. However, students planning to go on to graduate school, medical school or other professional post-Baccalaureate programs have collectively expressed a long-term desire to rename their degree to a B.S. based on their perception that a B.S. is a greater asset and conveys a greater sense of accomplishment and preparation for these advanced activities and better reflects the depth of disciplinary and cognate coursework they’ve mastered.

The DBS Curriculum Committee and the DBS faculty agree that the five options indicated above for transition from the B.A. to B.S. designation warrant that change because of 1) the deeper extent of disciplinary preparation; 2) the higher number of required credit hours of cognate coursework, most notably 4 – 8 Cr. of Math, 8 – 20 Cr. of Chemistry and 5 – 10 – Cr. of Physics); and 3) the higher number of upper division BIOX courses required (see attached comparative table and coursework checklists for each option).

Due to the greater numbers of disciplinary and cognate course credits required for the degree in and the cap on total credits to degree, students pursuing degrees in these 5 options are more highly trained in the (sub)disciplines of Biology than students in the other three options and less broadly trained in the Arts and Humanities than students in the other 3 options and in the general student population because they have access to fewer elective courses outside of their chosen Biology option (see attached coursework checklists for each option). Thus, the B.S. is the more appropriate degree for these options than the B.A.

For these reasons, the DBS Curriculum Committee forwarded a seconded motion to the full DBS faculty to change the name of the Bachelor of Arts in Biology to Bachelor of Science in Biology; The University of Montana – Missoula for the Cellular & Molecular Biology, Ecology & Organismal Biology, Genetics & Evolution, Field Ecology, and Human Biological Sciences options. This motion was unanimously approved and is now forwarded as a Level II proposal.
III. PRELIMINARY APPROVAL

Requestor: William Holben, DBS Curric. Comm. Chair Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/28/15

Phone / Email: 406-243-6365/bill.holben@msou.mtu.edu

Program Chair: Charles Janson Signature: [Signature] Date: 9/28/15

Other affected Programs: NONE

Signature: [Signature] Date: __________________

Signature: __________________ Date: ____________

Signature: __________________ Date: ____________

Dean:

Dean of the Library:

Signature: [Signature] Date: __________________

X Resources included in the proposal are sufficient to adequately support the new program’s library needs.

Initial Review in Provost’s Office: Signature: [Signature] Date: 10/1/15

After the Faculty Senate approves the proposal on a consent agenda; the Provost’s Office forwards the item for Board of Regents approval at the next possible meeting.

IV. TYPE OF PROGRAM CHANGE

☐ Establish a new degree; add new major to existing degree
☐ Adding a minor or certificate where there is no major or option in a major
☐ Retitling a degree (e.g. from B.A. to B.F.A.)
☐ Forming, eliminating or consolidating a college, division, school, department, institute, bureau, center, station, laboratory, or similar unit.*

V. PROPOSAL

See Level II Instructions

Attach the following completed forms:
Board of Regents Item Template Form
Board of Regents Curriculum Proposal Form (For a new Center, Institute, Bureau, Station, Laboratory or similar unit, submit Center Proposal Form instead.)Board of Regents Academic Request Form

*Eliminating or consolidating does not require Curriculum Proposal or Center Proposal Form.

V SUBMISSION

Submit the complete Level II proposal to the Provost’s Office for preliminary approval. After all signatures have been obtained, submit original, and an electronic file to the Faculty Senate Office, UH 221, camie.foos@msou.mtu.edu