TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Committee on Academic Planning and Review (CAPR)

SUBJECT: Proposed Name Change for Human Development

PURPOSE: For Action by the Academic Senate

ACTION REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the proposed academic unit name change for Human Development to Human Development & Women’s Studies; effective upon the signature of the President for signage and directory information (practical purposes) and for the catalog beginning in 2010.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: At its meeting on March 5, 2009, CAPR reviewed and approved the attached request for a name change from Department of Human Development to Department of Human Development & Women’s Studies by a vote of 7-0-0.
REQUEST FOR CHANGE OF STATUS OF AN ACADEMIC UNIT

Current Unit Name: Department of Human Development
Type of Change requested: ___ Formation; ___ Dissolution; ___ Name Change; ___ Merger
New Unit Name: Department of Human Development and Women's Studies
Proposed effective date of the change (catalog date): 2009
Criteria or reason for this action: To reflect the two already merged units in the unit's name

A. Mission of the academic unit:
   • How does the proposed name/unit more clearly fit the mission of the academic unit?

   A primary component of the Human Development mission statement relates to the importance of interdisciplinary studies programs that integrate theory and methodology from a range of disciplines including women's studies. Specifically, Women's Studies has formally merged with the Human Development. The department offers a minor in Women's Studies. Clearly, the name change reflects the mission of the academic unit.

   • Does the change reflect a change in the unit's mission? Explain

   The name change does not reflect a change in the unit's mission as noted above.

B. Curricular implications:
   • Does the new name/unit reflect past changes in curriculum? Explain

   Yes, the new name reflects past changes in curriculum. Specifically, in Fall 2007 Human Development initiated a revised curriculum in its major. The new curriculum contains a degree option in Women's Development. Three of our other degree options (Childhood Development, Adolescent Development, and Adult Development and Gerontology) offer students electives in Women's Studies. The name change reflects past changes in the curriculum.

   • Does it reflect plans for future curriculum changes? Explain (attach if needed)

   Since Human Development just underwent a major curriculum revision there are no plans for changes at this time.

   • Do any planned changes impinge on other academic units? Explain

   There are no planned changes. Therefore, there will be no impingement of the name change on other academic units.

   • Which other units have been consulted?

   All departments in the College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences were consulted and there were no objections to the name change as it merely reflects the merged reality of Human Development and Women's Studies.
• What are the plans for avoiding unnecessary duplication?

There will be no duplications. Currently Human Development and Women’s Studies operate out of the same office with the same support staff. Moreover, the Department of Human Development chair serves as director of Women’s Studies.

C. Effect on the University:
• How will the new name/unit assist students in finding the program they need?

The new name informs students specifically what the unit is – Human Development and Women’s Studies.

• How does the new name/unit make clear the differences between the academic unit and others in the University?

There should not be any confusion between the new name and other academic units in the University. Human Development is the only unit offering a major and minor in this field. Women’s Studies is the only unit offering a minor in this area of inquiry. Both academic entities have been present on the campus for decades.

• What are the resource/cost implications of the change?

Because Human Development and Women’s Studies have already merged, there will be no new cost in terms of hiring new people or moving any unit. The department will print new stationary and new business cards but only after we have used everything containing the separate unit names. In the long run the department will actually save money since we will not have documents printed with Human Development and Women’s Studies separately.

D. Comparisons:
• What names are used for comparable academic units in other Universities in the CSU System and nationwide?

Nationwide, we have found that Pennsylvania State University has a Department of Human Development and Women’s Studies.

Approval of the Department Chair/Director (s) Patricia Guthrie date 9-19-08
Approval of the College Curriculum Committee/Council date 3/13/09
Approval of the Dean date 3/13/09
Approval of the Provost/VPAA date 3/13/09