

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 4 – K
DATE: March 27-29, 2018

SUBJECT

SDSU Strategic Realignment Request

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

[BOR Policy 2:14](#) – Campus Organization Structure

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

South Dakota State University requests to reorganize the academic colleges at South Dakota State University. This new college structure follows several campus conversations and stakeholder engagement during the recently concluded year-long strategic planning process, which culminated in the approval of South Dakota State University's new strategic plan, *Imagine 2023: Aspire, Discover, Achieve*.

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

These changes would be effective July 1, 2018. The total number of academic colleges and deans in this new structure would be the same as the academic college structure currently in place.

Board staff recommend approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – SDSU Request to BOR: 2018 Strategic Re-Alignment
Attachment II – Current Structure of SDSU Colleges
Attachment III – Pending Structure of SDSU Colleges

DRAFT MOTION 20180327_4-K:

I move to approve SDSU's request to reorganize the academic colleges at South Dakota State University.

February 6, 2018

Dr. Michael Rush, Executive Director
South Dakota Board of Regents
306 East Capitol Avenue, Suite 200
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Dr. Rush,

The purpose of this letter is to seek approval by the Board of Regents of a reorganization of academic colleges at South Dakota State University effective July 1, 2018. This new college structure follows several campus conversations and stakeholder engagement during the recently concluded year-long strategic planning process, which culminated in my approval of South Dakota State University's new strategic plan, *Imagine 2023: Aspire, Discover, Achieve*. Of note, the total number of academic colleges and deans in this new structure is the same as the academic college structure currently in place. Highlights of the college structure changes include:

- Creation of a College of Natural Sciences
 - Department of Biology/Microbiology (move from College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences)
 - Department of Chemistry/Biochemistry (move from College of Arts and Sciences)
 - Department of Physics (move from College of Arts and Sciences)
 - Department of Geography (move from College of Arts and Sciences)
- Elimination of University College
 - Move Exploratory Studies program to the Department of Counseling and Human Development within the College of Education and Human Sciences
 - Move first-year academic advisors to the Student Success Center
- Restructuring and renaming the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
 - Move the Department of Chemistry/Biochemistry, the Department of Physics, and the Department of Geography into the new College of Natural Sciences
 - Administratively place the Department of Economics into the College
- Restructuring and renaming the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences to the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.
 - Move the Department of Biology/Microbiology into the new College of Natural Sciences

As mentioned above, exploration of the merits of strategic realignment of academic units was an item that emerged during strategic planning conversations. Considering that, a task force was formed by Provost Dennis Hedge during September 2017 to study the issue. Jill Thorngren, Dean of the College of Education and Human Sciences chaired the task force. The entire task force membership was:

- Jill Thorngren, Dean, College of Education & Human Sciences – Chair
- Will Aylor, Assistant Vice President, Technology Transfer & Commercialization
- Christi Garst-Santos, Interim Department Head, Modern Languages & Global Studies
- Jose Gonzalez, Associate Professor of Agronomy, Horticulture, & Plant Science/President of Faculty Senate
- Nicole Lounsbery, Assistant Dean, Graduate School
- Jason McEntee, Interim Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences/Department Head, English
- Semhar Michael, Assistant Professor, Mathematics & Statistics
- Matt Miller, Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
- Natalie Thiex, Assistant Professor, Biology & Microbiology

The task force was charged with submitting a report to Provost Hedge identifying the opportunities and challenges of college reorganization with particular attention to:

- Recruitment of new students
- Retention and graduation of current students
- Instructional collaborations and synergies
- New and emerging academic programs (undergraduate and graduate)
- Potential to facilitate research and foster new research opportunities
- Collaboration potential in outreach mission
- Increasing efficiency of operations
- Potential to facilitate long-term strategic growth
- Other areas that may arise as the task force conducts the evaluation

The resulting task force report, along with input from the SDSU Students' Association, and Provost Hedge's review, were the foundation of a recommendation to me to realign academic colleges at South Dakota State University as described in this request and presented in the attached documents. Evidence suggested opportunities to advance student recruitment, possibilities for greater academic collaboration and efficiency, potential to develop additional research collaborations, and enhanced fundraising capabilities through this strategic college realignment. The timing of making this change now is pragmatic due to leadership transitions at the Dean level in each of the affected colleges.

Summary Rationale for the Changes:

The strategic goals of *Imagine 2023: Aspire, Discover, Achieve*, are:

- Excellence through Transformative Education
- Cultivate and Strengthen Community Engagement
- Foster Innovation and Increase Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity
- Be a Growing, High-Performing and Healthy University

By strategically reorganizing our college/department structure, we will be better aligned to achieve success in each goal area. We especially believe this change will enhance student recruitment efforts by increasing the visibility of several majors at SDSU, as well as foster creative curriculum design. Innovative curriculum design will benefit student retention, enhance workforce development through interdisciplinary teamwork, and better prepare graduates as professional and global citizens.

Financial Implications

Financial side-by-sides were analyzed and it was determined there are no negative impacts to the university's overall finances. The University College Dean vacancy will be used to hire the Dean of the College of Natural Sciences.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Dennis Hedge, SDSU's Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Sincerely,

Barry H. Dunn, Ph.D.
President

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cc: Dennis Hedge, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Paul Turman, System Vice President for Academic Affairs

Enclosures

Current Structure of SDSU Colleges



College of Agriculture & Biological Sciences	College of Arts & Sciences	College of Education & Human Sciences	Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering	College of Nursing	College of Pharmacy & Allied Health Professions	University College	Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College
Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering	Architecture	Consumer Sciences	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Undergraduate Nursing	Pharmaceutical Sciences		
Agromony, Horticulture & Plant Science	Aerospace Studies and Military Sciences	Counseling & Human Development	Construction & Operations Management	Graduate Nursing	Pharmacy Practice		
Animal Science	Chemistry & Biochemistry	Health & Nutritional Sciences	Electrical Engineering & Computer Science				
Biology & Microbiology	Economics	Teaching, Learning, Leadership	Mathematics & Statistics				
Dairy & Food Science	English		Mechanical Engineering				
Economics	Geography						
Natural Resource Management	History, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion						
Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences	Modern Languages & Global Studies						
	Physics						
	Psychology						
	School of Communication & Journalism						
	School of Design						
	School of Performing Arts						
	Sociology & Rural Studies						

Pending Structure of SDSU Colleges (July 1, 2018)



College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences	College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences	College of Education & Human Sciences	Jerome J. Lohr College of Engineering	College of Natural Sciences	College of Nursing	College of Pharmacy & Allied Health Professions	Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College
Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering	Architecture	Consumer Sciences	Civil & Environmental Engineering	Biology & Microbiology	Undergraduate Nursing	Pharmaceutical Sciences	
Agronomy, Horticulture & Plant Science	Aerospace Studies and Military Sciences	Counseling & Human Development	Construction & Operations Management	Chemistry & Biochemistry	Graduate Nursing	Pharmacy Practice	
Animal Science	Economics	Health & Nutritional Sciences	Electrical Engineering & Computer Science	Geography			
Dairy & Food Science	English	Teaching, Learning, Leadership	Mathematics & Statistics	Physics			
Natural Resource Management	History, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion		Mechanical Engineering				
Veterinary & Biomedical Sciences	Modern Languages & Global Studies						
	Psychology						
	School of Communication & Journalism						
	School of Design						
	School of Performing Arts						
	Sociology & Rural Studies						