

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs **Consent**

AGENDA ITEM: 4 – L (1)

DATE: March 27-29, 2018

SUBJECT

Naming Requests – NSU – Department Name Changes

CONTROLLING STATUTE, RULE, OR POLICY

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

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Northern State University requests to make the following changes to existing department names:

- The History, Political Science, Sociology and Geography department will change to The Department of History and Social Sciences (Attachment I)
- The Biology, Chemistry & Physics, & Mathematics department will change to Science and Mathematics department (Attachment II)

IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

These changes would allow the departments to be more reflective of their current offerings.

Board staff recommend approval.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I – NSU Request to change the History, Political Science, Sociology and Geography department

Attachment II – NSU Request to change the Biology, Chemistry & Physics, & Mathematics department

DRAFT MOTION 20180327_4-L(1):

I move to approve NSU's requests to change the History, Political Science, Sociology and Geography department to the Department of History and Social Sciences; and change the Biology, Chemistry & Physics, & Mathematics department to the Science and Mathematics department.



February 1, 2018

Dear Provost Alan LaFave and Dean Joshua Hagen:

The Department of History, Sociology, Political Science & Geography voted on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 to enact the following changes to department name:

History, Political Science, Sociology and Geography department will change to: The Department of History and Social Sciences.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Usitalo', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Steven A. Usitalo

Chair, Department of History, Sociology, Political Science & Geography



2-1-18

Dear Dr. Hagen:

Our department is implementing some curricular changes starting in the fall of 2018. For one thing, we are inactivating the Physics minor, as we do not have the staff or student interest to offer the necessary upper-level physics courses.

Thus, our current departmental name (Biology, Chemistry & Physics, & Mathematics) will not be reflective of what we will be offering. Faculty discussed this issue at a recent department meeting and held a vote, and the name we wish to use going forward is "Science and Mathematics". Biology and Chemistry really function as a single unit for the most part, so there is no need to list them separately.

If you have any questions related to this change, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jodie Ramsay'.

Dr. Jodie Ramsay
Professor of Biology and Department Chair
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