

AACR 4

Office of the President
December 14, 2004

Members, Board of Trustees:

CHANGE IN NAME OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve a change in the name of the College of Agriculture's Department of Agronomy to the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, effective in the spring 2005 semester.

Background: The proposed change better reflects the range of activities that the faculty are engaged in. These include traditional agronomy, basic plant science, agronomic soils, and environmental soils research, teaching, and extension. The name Plant and Soil Sciences better communicates this range to persons outside the department and is better understood than the name Agronomy. The new name reflects two of the degree programs associated with departmental faculty, and this identity will aid in recruitment and decrease confusion among the applicants. The new name will also help align the faculty with opportunities in plant bioengineering and environmental sciences.

The proposal has been approved by the department faculty, and the Agriculture Faculty Council, and the College Curriculum Committee; reviewed and recommended by the Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure; and recommended by the Senate Council on behalf of the University Senate. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____