

AACR 2

Office of the President
June 9, 2009

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Science degree with a major in Reproductive Sciences and Doctor of Philosophy degree with a major in Reproductive Sciences (CIP Code 26.0905, PROG = GS MS RESI and GS PHD RESI), effective in the fall 2009 semester.

Background: The birth of the first baby by in vitro fertilization (IVF) followed by embryo transfer (ET) in 1978 created a new discipline within the field of reproduction that is collectively referred to as assisted reproductive technology or ART. With the introduction of ART came the need for graduates with added knowledge and skills in clinical reproduction who are able to supervise and direct ART laboratories and to contribute to the developing auxiliary fields in the area of ART laboratory accreditation and regulation. The National Institutes of Health Roadmap for medical research and the directive to catalyze translation research has further strengthened the need for professionals with training and skills applicable to both basic research and clinical application in the field of reproduction.

The Ph.D. in Reproductive Science is an interdisciplinary program proposed by the Division of Clinical and Reproductive Sciences in the College of Health Sciences. The program is designed for students wishing to pursue professional careers in the reproductive sciences. Students successfully completing the first two years of the required curriculum in the doctoral degree and successfully passing the Qualifying Examination will be awarded an “en passant” M.S. in Reproductive Science. Although it is expected that most students will continue in the program and earn the Ph.D., there may be an occasional student who will need to leave the Ph.D. program early and not complete the degree.

This program has the approval of the appropriate Councils and University Senate, and it has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____