Graduate Council Report
September 7, 2006

The Graduate Council approved the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences request to change the college name to the College of AgriLife Sciences.
5. Nonsubstantive Change: Change in Name of College

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
College of AgriLife Sciences
NONSUBSTANTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE REQUEST

NAME OF INSTITUTION: Texas A&M University

CHANGE REQUEST: Change the name of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to the College of AgriLife Sciences.

Display how administrative unit(s) and program(s) would appear on the Coordinating Board program inventory; include Texas CIP code designation(s). (Administrative Unit codes will be supplied.)

College of AgriLife Sciences

Admin Codes

Proposed date for implementation of administrative change: Spring 2007

Person(s) to be contacted for further information about administrative change(s):

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Signatures:

____________________________________  _______________________________________
Campus Chief Executive Officer  Date

____________________________________  _______________________________________
System Chief Executive Officer (As appropriate)  Date

Governing Board approval date:
PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE

CHANGE THE NAME OF

the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
TO
the College of AgriLife Sciences

AT
TENAS A&M UNIVERSITY

I. Change requested

A. Change the name of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences to the College of AgriLife Sciences at Texas A&M University, as shown in the table below.

B. No change in administrative load is expected as a result of this name change.

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences currently has approximately 309 tenured/tenure-track faculty and a total of 22 instructional personnel (e.g., lecturers). In FY05, the College attracted over $49 million in external research funding which speaks to the breadth of the faculty’s research capabilities.

During the Fall 2005 semester, the College’s total student enrollment was 6,167, which consisted of 5,176 undergraduate and 991 graduate students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT NAME</th>
<th>PROPOSED NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (COALS)</td>
<td>College of AgriLife Sciences</td>
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II. Reason for Request

With 28 undergraduate programs and 64 graduate programs in 15 academic departments, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences is well positioned to offer a broad range of educational experiences to students. The College enjoys a positive reputation among its peers across the United States, and its faculty has an outstanding record of research accomplishments. The College’s potential for serving the educational needs of students and the research needs of society is great, but the College’s name has been found to be limiting this potential. With this in mind, the College’s administration recently took action to evaluate the situation and strategically reposition the College to accurately reflect its capabilities and program offerings.
Agriculture as a sector of the economy has changed dramatically over the past half century. However, images and perceptions of agriculture have not. In the minds of most people, the term "agriculture" conveys farm animals, images of hard labor, antiquated mechanical implements, and low-paying jobs that are low tech. Nothing could be further from the truth. No longer is agriculture driven by production, but rather by consumer wants and needs.

The word "agriculture" is not representative of the world-changing, life-enhancing academic programs within the College. This confusion leads to misunderstandings among prospective students and parents, and is ultimately causing reduced funding, lost opportunities, student recruiting difficulties, and a general lack of respect. This misunderstanding associated with the term "agriculture" suggests the need to realign the name of the College with the unlimited opportunities associated with its technology-rich, academic programs.

In April of 2006, an outside firm was engaged to assist the College in a strategic positioning initiative to assess and evaluate its brand and name. Of the more than 6,000 individuals who were invited to participate in brand assessment surveys and personal interviews, 2,013 individuals responded, representing a highly respected 32.5% response rate. It is important to note that this included 4,000+ current students within the College and over 1,000 high school students. Eighteen key observations were discerned from this research. Key findings of this research confirmed that the College's brand is misunderstood. Furthermore, while the term "life sciences" is recognized within academia, it was confusing and its meaning was unclear to many high school students and survey participants. It is interesting to note that survey participants from other agriculture schools and peers across the country confirmed that the term "agriculture" was troubling and a limiting factor in student recruiting.

Given the limiting factors associated with the term "agriculture," the College's administration and department leaders recognize the need to reposition its image and brand with a name change that reflects the "unlimited opportunities" associated with its academic programs, its focus on important global issues, a technology-rich learning environment, and a world-class education.

The proposal is to change the name to the College of AgriLife Sciences. This conveys that "Agriculture is Life." There is no life without it. This new name respects agriculture, yet ties it to its very nature -- life -- and modernizes it to convey all that the College represents. It is a version of the current name, so there should be no question about the use of the words, life or sciences. "Agriculture is Life," and the College's name has been morphed to contain life. It is that simple.
III. Role and Scope

The proposed name change will not alter the role and scope of the college or institution; rather, it will serve to communicate the breadth of opportunities associated with a course of study in the College of AgriLife Sciences. The College's mission statement will remain constant as follows:

The College of AgriLife Sciences prepares students for leadership roles in a technology-driven, knowledge-based, global society by providing a world-class education to students who are pursuing tomorrow's careers in the life sciences, natural resources, environmental management, agribusiness, food and fiber production, and marketing.

The proposed name of the college does not conflict with the name of any existing program or college at Texas A&M University or within the state of Texas. Moreover, the name change more accurately reflects the current role and scope of the college. Letters of concurrence with the proposed name change have been received from the following colleges, departments, and programs in life sciences at Texas A&M University, and are on file in the Office of the Dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences:

ACTUAL RESPONSES ARE PENDING
Etc.

IV. Accreditation

The name change will not affect any operational aspects or accreditations of the "College of AgriLife Sciences" or Texas A&M University. There will be no changes in classes, distribution of personnel, availability of facilities or availability of equipment.

V. Additional Proposals - None

VI. Resources
A. No increases in personnel are anticipated due to the name change.
B. No increases in salaries are anticipated due to the name change.
C. The College will not be pursuing additional changes associated with this name change.
D. No changes in facilities will be required due to the name change.
E. No new equipment will be required as a result of the name change.
VII. **Costs**

No savings will be realized as a result of this name change. Minor expenditures will be incurred with the proposed name change to include website changes, marketing and associated printing of departmental and college stationery, business cards and publications.

No major changes in signage will be required as a result of the college name change. We anticipate the University will change the college’s name as regular updates are made to brochures, campus maps, etc.
Graduate Council Report
September 7, 2006

The Graduate Operations Committee approved the proposed Academic Calendar for 2007-2008.
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Proposed 2007-2008 ACADEMIC CALENDAR
Fall Semester 2007*

August 24  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day to register for fall semester classes and pay fees.
August 26  Sunday. Freshman Convocation.
August 27  Monday. First day of fall semester classes.
August 31  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day for adding/dropping courses for the fall semester.
September 7 Friday.
  • Academic Convocation
  • 5 p.m. Last day to apply for all degrees to be awarded in December.
October 15  Monday, noon. Mid-semester grades due in Office of the Registrar.
November 2  Friday, 5 p.m.
  • Last day for all students to drop courses with no penalty (Q-drop).
  • Last day to change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type.
  • Last day to officially withdraw from the University.
Nov 15-Dec 4  Thursday-Tuesday. Preregistration for 2008 spring semester.
November 22-23 Thursday-Friday. Thanksgiving holiday.
December 3  Monday.
  • Redefined day, students attend their Friday classes.
  • Dead day, classes meet. No regular course exams (except for laboratory and one-hour classes) shall be given on these days.
December 4  Tuesday.
  • Last day of fall semester classes.
  • Redefined day, students attend their Thursday classes.
  • Dead day, classes meet. No regular course exams (except for laboratory and one-hour classes) shall be given on these days.
December 5-6  Wednesday-Thursday. Reading days, no classes.
December 7, 10-12  Friday, Monday-Wednesday. Fall semester final examinations for all students.
December 14  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day for December undergraduate degree candidates to apply for Tuition Rebate.
December 14-15  Friday-Saturday. Commencement and Commissioning.
December 17  Monday, noon. Final grades for all students due in Office of the Registrar.
December 24-Jan 1 Monday-Tuesday. Faculty and Staff holiday.

*All dates and times are subject to change.  Proposed 08/02/06
Spring Semester 2008*

January 11  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day to register for spring semester classes and pay fees.
January 14  Monday. First day of spring semester classes.
January 18  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day for adding/dropping courses for the spring semester.
January 21  Monday. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Faculty and Staff holiday.
January 25  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day to apply for all degrees to be awarded in May.
March 3    Monday, noon. Mid-semester grades due in Office of the Registrar.
March 10-14  Monday-Friday. Spring break.
March 13-14  Thursday-Friday. Faculty and Staff holiday.
March 21  Friday. Reading day, no classes.
April 1    Tuesday, 5 p.m.
   • Last day for all students to drop courses with no penalty (Q-drop).
   • Last day to change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type.
   • Last day to officially withdraw from the University.
April 10-25  Thursday-Friday. Preregistration for the 2008 first term, second term, 10-week summer semester and fall semester.
April 21  Monday. Muster. Campus ceremony.
April 28  Monday. Dead day, classes meet. No regular course exams (except for laboratory and one-hour classes) shall be given on these days.
April 29  Tuesday.
   • Last day of spring semester classes.
   • Redefined day, students attend their Friday classes.
   • Dead day, classes meet. No regular course exams (except for laboratory and one-hour classes) shall be given on these days.
April 30-May 1  Wednesday-Thursday. Reading days, no classes.
May 2, 5-7  Friday, Monday-Wednesday. Spring semester final examinations for all students.
May 9  Friday, 5 p.m. Last day for May undergraduate degree candidates to apply for Tuition Rebate.
May 9-10  Friday-Saturday. Commencement, Commissioning, and Final Review.
May 12  Monday, noon. Final grades for all students due in Office of the Registrar.

*All dates and times are subject to change.  Proposed 08/02/06
Summer Session 2008*

May 23  Friday, 5 p.m.  Last day to register for first term and 10-week semester and pay fees.
May 26  Monday.  Memorial Day.  Faculty and Staff holiday.
May 27  Tuesday.  First day of first term and 10-week semester classes.
May 30  Friday, 5 p.m.
  • Last day for adding/dropping courses for the first term and the 10-week semester.
  • Last day to apply for degrees to be awarded in August for students completing degree
    requirements in the first term.
June 16 Monday, 5 p.m.
  • Last day for all students to drop courses with no penalty for the first term (Q-drop).
  • Last day to change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type for first term.
  • Last day to officially withdraw from the University for first term.
June 27 Friday.  Last day of first term classes.
June 30 Monday.
  • First term final examinations.
  • No 10-week semester classes.
  • Last day to register for the second term and pay fees, 5 p.m.
July 1  Tuesday.  First day of second term classes.
July 3  Thursday.
  • First term final grades due in Office of the Registrar, noon.
  • Last day to apply for degrees to be awarded in August for students completing degree
    requirements in the second term or 10-week semester, 5 p.m.
July 4  Friday.  Independence Day holiday.
July 7  Monday, 5 p.m.  Last day for adding/dropping courses for the second term.
July 16 Wednesday, 5 p.m.
  • Last day for all students to drop courses with no penalty for the 10-week semester (Q-drop).
  • Last day to officially withdraw from the University for 10-week semester.
July 22 Tuesday, 5 p.m.
  • Last day for all students to drop courses with no penalty for the second term (Q-drop).
  • Last day to change Kinesiology 198/199 grade type for second term.
  • Last day to officially withdraw from the University for second term.
August 4 Monday.  Last day of second term and 10-week semester classes.
August 5-6 Tuesday-Wednesday.  Second term and 10-week semester final examinations for all students.
August 7 Thursday, noon.  Grades for degree candidates from departments due in Office of the Registrar.
August 8 Friday.
  • Commencement and Commissioning.
  • Last day for August undergraduate degree candidates to apply for Tuition Rebate, 5 p.m.
August 9 Saturday.  Texas A&M University at Galveston Commencement.
August 11 Monday, noon.  Final grades for second term and 10-week semester due in Office of the Registrar.

*All dates and times are subject to change.

Proposed 08/02/06
PROPOSED, ABBREVIATED ACADEMIC CALENDAR, 2008-2009

*FALL, 2008

August 25  Monday. First day of fall semester classes.
November 27-28  Thursday-Friday. Thanksgiving holiday.
December 2  Tuesday. Last day of fall semester classes.
December 3-4  Wednesday-Thursday. Reading days, no classes.
December 5, 8-10  Friday, Monday-Wednesday. Fall semester final examinations for all students.
December 12-13  Friday-Saturday. Commencement and Commissioning.

*SPRING, 2009

January 12  Monday. First day of spring semester classes.
January 19  Monday. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Faculty and Staff holiday.
March 9-13  Monday-Friday. Spring Break.
April 10  Friday. Reading day, no classes.
April 28  Tuesday. Last day of spring semester classes. Redefined day.
April 29-30  Wednesday-Thursday. Reading days, no classes.
May 1, 4-6  Friday, Monday-Wednesday. Spring semester final examinations for all students.
May 8-9  Friday-Saturday. Commencement, Commissioning, and Final Review.

*SUMMER SESSION, 2009

May 25  Monday. Memorial Day. Faculty and Staff holiday.
May 26  Tuesday. First day of first term and 10-week semester classes.
June 26  Friday. Last day of first term classes.
June 29  Monday. First term final examinations. No 10-week semester classes.
June 30  Tuesday. First day of second term classes.
August 3  Monday. Last day of second term and 10-week semester classes.
August 4-5  Tuesday-Wednesday. Final examinations for the second term and 10-week semester.
August 7  Friday. Commencement and Commissioning.
August 8  Saturday. Texas A&M University at Galveston Commencement.

*All dates and times are subject to change. Proposed 08/02/06