CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY, IMMUNOLOGY, AND BIOCHEMISTRY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOCHEMISTRY, MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors rename the Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Biochemistry in the School of Medicine, to the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology & Immunology, effective February 5, 2018.

Description of Request

In December 2016, the Board of Governors acted to merge the former departments of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Immunology & Microbiology into a new Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Biochemistry. This was done in order to align the School's strategic vision and resources to support the viability and success of its teaching and research programs utilizing Immunology & Microbiology's focus on immunotherapy and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology's focus on emerging technologies to become a Center of Excellence in inflammatory processes which lead to diseases as diverse as cancer, cardiovascular disease, infectious disease, stroke, diabetes, digestive disorders, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's, and eye diseases, among others.

As part of the ongoing post-merger process of integration, and after discussion and a vote of the faculty, the department faculty and administration feel that the proposed name better reflects the expertise, focus, and direction of the department, and recommend the name change.

Approvals

The proposed name was voted on by the faculty of Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Biochemistry and has been approved by the Dean of the School of Medicine and the Provost.