

May 14, 2012

**CHRIS CALVERT, CHAIR**  
**CA&ES Executive Committee**

**RE: Name Change Request Proposal: Human and Community Development**

A proposal has been received to change the name of Human and Community Development to Human Ecology. A web link to the Division's February 24, 2011, response sited in the proposal, is provided.

The Davis Division of the Academic Senate forwarded the referenced proposal to all divisional standing committees as well as Faculty Executive Committees within each college/professional school. Comments from the Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council were received.

**Majority Consensus: The Academic Senate supports the name change.**  
**Comments from the two formal committee responses are below.**

Graduate Council

Graduate Council supports the merger of Department of Human and Community Development with Environmental Design into a new department known as Human Ecology. Graduate Council consulted three graduate programs regarding the possible impact on graduate education (see below). In the event that the department decides at a later date to develop a PhD program in Human Ecology, before the matter is brought to Graduate Council, our expectation is that the graduate programs in Ecology and Anthropology will be consulted.

Response from Graduate Program in Ecology:

*"I met with the Ecology Executive Committee and had an email discussion with our faculty in Environmental Policy and Human Ecology about the proposal for a Human Ecology Department. The consensus was that little confusion was anticipated to arise from the similarity in names between these entities.*

*We appreciate you and Graduate Council bringing this issue to our attention. Should the Human Ecology Department propose to create a graduate group this could indeed create confusion. Therefore we would like to be kept in the loop should any such plans arise."* Sharon P. Lawler, Chair, Graduate Group in Ecology

Response from Graduate Program in Psychology:

*"I am writing in response to your request for feedback from the Department of Psychology about the proposal to change the name of the Department of Human and Community Development and Environmental Design to the Department of "Human Ecology." The Psychology Department met to discuss the name change on Wednesday, April 11, 2012. The department fully supports the change and believes that it has both pedagogical and practical merit.*

*Our support of the name change is in contradiction to statements in Chair Powell's letter of February 24, 2011, in which the department is said to object to it. We have no idea where the objection originated since your request was the first that we had heard of the issue. Thus, we would like to set the record straight and state our unequivocal support for the name "Department of Human Ecology." Debra Long, Chair, Department of Psychology Response from Graduate Program in Anthropology.*

Undergraduate Council

The Undergraduate Council supports the name change from Human and Community Development to Human Ecology and is pleased by the perceived faculty energy around this name. Furthermore, members of the committee from Psychology would like to reiterate that there is no concern from the Department of Psychology and other members opined that Human Ecology is a logical home for Textiles and Clothing, a practice that occurs at other institutions.

Sincerely,



Linda F. Bisson, Chair  
Davis Division of the Academic Senate  
Professor: Viticulture and Enology

LFB:sas