RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN REGENERATIVE MEDICINE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEGREE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees (the “Bylaws”) for Case Western Reserve University (the “University”) states, in relevant part, that the Board of Trustees shall oversee the educational programs of the University; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section A, Par. 2 of the Constitution of the University Faculty states in relevant part that the Faculty Senate shall make recommendations to the President for consideration and transmittal to the Board of Trustees with respect to policies governing standards for curricula and content of all degree programs; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on October 2, 2017, the Faculty Senate approved the proposed Master of Science in Regenerative Medicine and Entrepreneurship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:
the Board of Trustees of the University authorizes the officers of the University to take and oversee all necessary actions in order to create the Master of Science in Regenerative Medicine and Entrepreneurship Degree Program.
October 24, 2017

Juscelino Colares
Chair, Faculty Senate
c/o Rebecca Weiss
Secretary of the Faculty Senate
Adelbert Hall

Dear Professor Colares:

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, I forward the Department of Bioethics’ proposal to change the degree name from “MA in Bioethics” to “MA in Bioethics and Medical Humanities”. This degree name change more accurately describes the department’s curricular offerings and student educational experience in the program. The degree name change was discussed at department meetings and is supported by the department faculty. The proposed change has been recommended for approval by the School of Medicine’s Faculty Council, on September 18, 2017, according to established School of Medicine procedures.

I support approval of this department’s degree name change.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD

cc: Phoebe Stewart, Chair, Faculty Council
Mark Aulisio, Chair, Department of Bioethics
Nicole Deming, Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Human Resources
At its September 18, 2017 meeting, the Faculty Council voted to recommend approval of the Bioethics Department’s request for a degree name change from “MA in Bioethics” to “MA in Bioethics and Medical Humanities”. Dr. Eileen Anderson-Fye, Director of the Bioethics MA Program and Associate Professor of Bioethics, presented the proposal to the Faculty Council.

The proposed degree name more accurately reflects the MA program’s curricular offerings and the education students are receiving in Bioethics and Humanities. The synergy and merging of these two areas is indicative of a very strong national trend. Humanities and social medicine have been part of the department for many years. New faculty members have been brought on board to provide training at the intersection of bioethics and medical humanities.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the degree name change. A vote was taken, 29 members were in favor, none opposed, and one abstained. The motion passed.

After your review, I hope you will join me in recommending approval of the bioethics degree name change.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phoebe L. Stewart, Ph.D.
Faculty Council Chair
Professor of Pharmacology
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

cc: Nicole Deming, JD, MA
August 9, 2017

Members of the School of Medicine Faculty Council:

The Bioethics department is requesting a degree name change from M.A. in Bioethics to M.A. in Bioethics and Medical Humanities. Case Western Reserve University’s Master’s of Arts in Bioethics degree program has long been among the nation’s leaders in providing students a rich educational experience that includes a broad range of interdisciplinary courses along with clinical rotations. In addition to two core foundation classes, the program allows students to focus on particular areas of academic interest through approved elective courses spanning 10 disciplines within four schools across the university.

In 1998, three years after Case Western Reserve launched its master’s program, the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities emerged from the consolidation of three existing professional organizations—two focused on bioethics, and the third on “health and human values.” The new association’s name reflected the significant synergistic relationship between ethics and humanities, both in terms of the scholarly disciplines themselves and also has they applied practically in health care settings. In fact, Case Western Reserve’s program has included content drawn from the humanities for many years—as have graduate degree offerings at other universities. By and large, however, the nomenclature for these programs has remained unchanged.

As part of its 2014-2015 strategic planning process, faculty in the Department of Bioethics evaluated both the content of its educational programs and the terminology used to describe it. These conversations ultimately resulted in a consensus that medical humanities should be more explicitly designated within the M.A. program’s curriculum—and that the name of the degree should reflect this change. Specifically, we are writing to request the degree name be changed to M.A. in “Bioethics and Medical Humanities.”

In 2016, the department added a new track within the MA program, Medicine, Society and Culture (MSC). This concentration includes a new core course, BETH410, Foundations of Medicine, Society and Culture; it is required for all MSC students and open to any student in the Bioethics M.A. program. This class provides intensive review of scholarly themes and compelling issues in medical humanities and social medicine. As part of development of the MSC track’s foundational course, bioethics faculty also updated the content of the foundations courses required of all M.A. students; these now include clearly articulated medical humanities programming, as well as precepting in medical humanities as part of their clinical experiences. Additional courses in medical humanities have been added to the department’s elective offerings.

These discussions and revisions within our department’s educational offerings reflect a larger academic trend within the field, in part driven by growing national recognition of the value and importance of medical humanities to health care and bioethics—both for patients and practitioners alike. In 2015, for example, the University of Rochester launched a new master’s program in
medical humanities and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s inaugurated one in Medicine, Literature and Culture. That same year Johns Hopkins University announced a new undergraduate major in medicine, science and humanities, and this fall the Northeast Ohio Medical University offers its own new program, Master of Arts in Medical Ethics and Humanities.

Other programs include:

**Albert Einstein College of Medicine**
Einstein–Cardozo Masters of Science in Bioethics and Montefiore-Einstein Certificate in Bioethics and Medical Humanities

**Michigan State University**
Master of Arts in Bioethics, Humanities, and Society

**Northwestern University**
Master of Arts in Medical Humanities and Bioethics

**University of Louisville**
The Interdisciplinary Master of Arts in Bioethics and Medical Humanities

**University of South Florida**
Masters Program in Medical Humanities and Bioethics

In short, this name change more accurately reflects the MA program’s curricular offerings. It also reflects national developments and, finally, represents an important move toward continuing to attract outstanding students in an increasingly competitive environment.

We appreciate your consideration of this proposal, and stand ready to provide any additional information that may be of value in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Mark P. Aulisio, PhD
Susan E. Watson Chair and Professor of Bioethics

Eileen P. Anderson-Fye, EdD
Associate Professor of Bioethics
Director, Bioethics M.A. Program