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November 10, 2016

Peter J. Harte, PhD  
Chair, Faculty Senate  
c/o Rebecca Weiss  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate  
Adelbert Hall

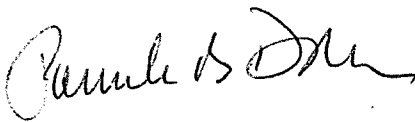
Dear Professor Harte:

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, I forward a proposal to change the name of the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics to the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. This name change more accurately describes the department's diverse expertise and activities. The name change was discussed at multiple department meetings and is strongly supported by the department faculty. The proposed change has been recommended for approval by the School of Medicine's Faculty Council, on May 16, 2016, according to established School of Medicine procedures.

I strongly support approval of this department name change.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD

cc: Dr. Maureen McEnery, Chair, Faculty Council  
Dr. Jonathan Haines,  
Dan Anker  
Nicole Deming



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

Jonathan L. Haines, PhD  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Mary W. Sheldon, MD Professor of Genomic Sciences  
Director, Institute for Computational Biology

Wolstein Research Building  
Suite 2-529  
2103 Cornell Avenue  
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April 14, 2016

Phone 216.368.3197

Pamela B. Davis, M.D., Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Pam:

With this letter I am formally requesting that the Department Epidemiology & Biostatistics, of which I am the chair, change its name to the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. As discussed below, the faculty of the department and I strongly believe that this is in the best interest of the department, the faculty, our students, the School of Medicine, and the University.

**Background:**

The Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics has a long history of both growth and change. The first efforts in the relatively new area of public health arose in the late 1940's with the efforts of Dr. John Dingle, along with the recruitment of several additional faculty, to form the department of Preventive Medicine with a focus on epidemiological research. With the growing importance of quantitative analysis in all areas of medicine, a Department of Biometry was also formed somewhat later. In July, 1985, there was a significant realignment of the departmental structures, with the creation of the Departments of Environmental Health Sciences and Epidemiology & Biostatistics from the previous Departments of Epidemiology & Community Health and Biometry.

The Department of Environmental Health Sciences has had various success after the first chair, Dr. Rosenkrantz left CWRU in the early 1990's. Dr. Dorr Dearborn was named permanent chair in July 2006 and continued the efforts of the Department and the Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health. However, over this time several faculty moved to other positions and others retired, making continued active research and teaching difficult. After a few years only Dr. Dearborn was an active investigator, and the Master's and Ph.D. programs were suspended in 2011. With Dr. Dearborn's retirement in 2015, the Department of Environmental Health Sciences has no primary faculty and we have requested that it be merged with the current Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics.

Under the chairmanships of Dr. Harold Hauser, Dr. Alfred Rimm and Dr. Robert Elston, the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics has substantially grown in both size and scope. It has become an essential department both for its strong leadership in independent research and its collaborative efforts in enabling and supporting team science. The Department reaches well beyond its own boundaries with integration in numerous departments and centers across Cleveland. Over the past 30 years the Department has maintained its expertise in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, but has also expanded its scope to include Health Services Research, Population & Public Health, and Genetic Epidemiology.

In 2011, the division of Medical Informatics was formed within the Center for Clinical Investigation, headed by Dr. G.Q. Zhang, who along with three additional faculty developed a research and

educational program focused on aggregating and analyzing large-scale clinical data. With the departure of Dr. Zhang in 2015, the remaining faculty transferred their primary appointments to the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, further expanding the scope of the department.

**Current Status:**

Under Dr. Haines, the Department has embraced a unifying theme of big data generation, data integration, and data analysis. This spans the more traditional disciplines already represented in the Department including epidemiology, biostatistics, public and community health, health services research, and genetic epidemiology, but it also now includes expanding expertise in Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics. Along with absorbing multiple faculty from the former division of Medical Informatics, we have recently requested that the Department of Environmental Health Sciences be merged into Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, both further expanding the breadth of our expertise. With this substantial expansion of expertise tied together with our underlying themes of big data and data integration, it became obvious that a re-examination of the departmental name was needed.

**Proposal:**

Departmental names need to convey the expertise and mission of the faculty, the breadth of their research, teaching, and service activities, and their identity as a group of interacting closely related disciplines. In this regard, the current name of the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics clearly has not kept up with the evolving and expanding roles of the departmental faculty. We have had numerous formal and informal discussions within the department and have settled upon a new and more comprehensive name. We propose that the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics be renamed as the Department of Population & Quantitative Health Sciences. This name avoids the problem of trying to enumerate all the various disciplines encompassed by our work (inevitably a long and unwieldy name), while appropriately describing the breadth of our activities. This name was discussed at several faculty meetings and the motion to request changing to this new name passed without dissent. In an examination of other departments around the country, we did not identify another department with this exact name, which also gives us a unique position nationally. Thus this new name will aid in our ability to recruit and retain the best faculty and students.

**Summary:**

The Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, with its growing activities in integrating data and expertise across multiple disciplines and particularly its interest in integrating environmental exposure data with biological and clinical data, requires a name that appropriately captures its evolving activities. We strongly and unanimously request that the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics change its name to the Department of Population & Quantitative Health Sciences.

Sincerely,



Jonathan L. Haines, PhD  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Director, Institute for Computational Biology  
Interim Chair, Department of Environmental Health Sciences  
Mary W. Sheldon, MD Professor of Genomic Sciences  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

Memorandum

To: Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University

From: William Schilling, PhD  
Chair, Faculty Council

Re: Dual Degree Program

Date: June 27, 2016

At its May 16, 2016, meeting, the Faculty Council voted to recommend approval to formally change the name of the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics to the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. Dr. Jonathan Haines, Chair of the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics presented the proposal to the Faculty Council.

This name change request follows the proposal that Faculty Council reviewed and recommended approval to merge of the Department of Environmental Health into the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics. A letter was sent to Dean Davis by Jonathan Haines formally requesting the name change. The department unanimously supports this name change. PQHS will be the shorthand for the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name change from Epidemiology & Biostatistics to Population and Quantitative Health Sciences. A vote was taken, all were in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

After your review, I hope you will join me in recommending approval to change the name of the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics to the Department of Population and Quantitative Health Sciences.

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

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William P. Schilling, Ph.D.  
Faculty Council Chair  
Professor of Physiology and Biophysics  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

cc: Nicole Deming, JD, MA