

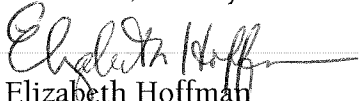
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Office of the Executive Vice
President and Provost
1550 Beardshear Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011-2021
515 294-0070
FAX 515 294-8844

Interoffice Communication

Date: November 29, 2010

To: Micheal Owen
President, Faculty Senate

From: 
Elizabeth Hoffmann
Executive Vice President and Provost


Re: Proposal for a Department Name Change

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has presented the attached proposal to change the name of the Department of Plant Pathology to the "Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology." As has been our practice for previous name change requests, I ask that the Faculty Senate Executive Board review this proposal and provide comments to me.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc: Wendy Wintersteen, Dean

INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date: November 23, 2010
To: Executive Vice President and Provost Hoffman
From: Wendy Wintersteen 

RECEIVED

NOV 29 2010

EVPP OFFICE

I am writing in support of the Department of Plant Pathology's request to change the department's name to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. This name change will allow the College to better market our research in plant pathology and microbiology and the undergraduate and graduate teaching programs in microbiology.

The Department has pursued its interest in a name change for the past three years. The process was stopped during the reorganization discussions that were held during 2010. However, the name change was included as one step in the College's FY11 reorganization plan.

The Department is now ready to proceed with a formal request to allow its name change. I have attached a document outlining the department's request along with supporting letters from appropriate department chairs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences faculty senators voted in favor of this name change (see attached document). In addition, an open forum on this issue was held on October 30, 2009 and very few individuals attended the session and no strong opposition was voiced

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding my request.

WW:tz

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Agronomy

Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences

3218 Agronomy Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011-1010
515 294-5936
FAX 515 294-9985
mdowen@iastate.edu

Interoffice Communication

Date: April 13, 2009

To: Wendy Wintersteen, Endowed Dean
138 Curtiss Hall

From: Micheal D.K. Owen
3218 Agronomy Hall

Re: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences vote on Name Change

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences convened a quorum and met on April 10, 2009. At that meeting, a proposal to change the name of the Department of Plant Pathology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology was discussed. It was moved and seconded to support this name change and the CALS Caucus voted unanimously to recommend that the Department of Plant Pathology now be named the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about recommendation.

Cc: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Faculty Senate Caucus

**Proposal to Change the Name
of the Department of Plant Pathology to
“Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology”**

INTRODUCTION

On February 23, 2007, the faculty of the Department of Plant Pathology voted unanimously to initiate the process of changing our department name to “***Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology***” (***PLPM***). The main motivation for this decision was to more accurately reflect the scope of educational and research programs that our department currently embraces. The Plant Pathology Department at Iowa State University has long had active scholarly programs in the microbial sciences and its faculty have increasingly participated in formal microbial biology research and education at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. ***The proposed name of PLPM qualifies the microbiology pursued in this department as the study of microbes associated with plants in the widest sense.*** Therefore, we will not encroach on other ISU departments’ responsibilities that target different aspects of microbiology.

There are several reasons why the proposed name change is appropriate. In general, all current faculty of our department are engaged in scholarly activities either directly examining microbes themselves or their involvement in plant disease or associations with plants and their environments. Furthermore, the department anticipates growth of scholarly activities in areas outside the traditional plant pathology discipline, including a greater emphasis on environmental microbiology relevant to environmental quality, biofuels, and global change issues. There is also need to support nation-wide efforts to secure the future of both plant pathology and microbiology during a time in which the importance to societal and environmental wellbeing of these broad microbiology sub-disciplines is becoming increasingly apparent. For example, issues ranging from food safety concerns (*E. coli* O157:H7), to emerging plant diseases (Asian soybean rust, Ug99 wheat/barley stem rust), bioterrorism targeting the Nation’s food security through plant pathogens, and biofuels (lignocellulosic ethanol fermentation) clearly show the interconnectivity of plant pathology and microbiology. These issues as well as additional aspects are discussed in the following paragraphs.

RATIONALE FOR THE CHANGE

1) Research

By definition, plant pathologists study plant-associated microbes and, therefore, are Microbiologists. Plant Pathology is a sub-discipline of the broader field of Microbiology and all faculty in the department i) directly examine microbes (bacteria, fungi, protists, nematodes, and viruses) involved in establishing plant disease or associated with plants or the plant environment, ii) study plant responses to these microbes, iii) conduct epidemiological, modeling, or monitoring studies of current and emerging plant pathogens, or conduct research that combines two or more of these activities. The current

status of our departmental faculty is shown in the following Table. Interestingly, the Department of Plant Pathology already houses faculty that are more appropriately described as microbiologists than plant pathologists in a traditional sense.

Table 1: Current faculty and their microbial biology research focus.

Faculty	Rank	Microbe	Research Area
T. Baum	Prof. and Chair	Nematodes/Fungi	Signal transduction mechanisms leading to infection and parasitism
G. Beattie	Assoc. Prof.	Bacteria	Ecology of leaf associated bacteria and their interactions with plants
A. Bogdanove	Assoc. Prof.	Bacteria	Functional genomics of bacterial plant pathogens and plant susceptibility
E. Braun	Professor	Bacteria/Fungi	Disease cytology; induced resistance
C. Bronson	Professor	Fungi	Genetics of fungal pathogens
M. Gleason	Professor	Bacteria/Fungi	Ecology and epidemiology of diseases of fruit and vegetable crops
L. Halverson	Asst. Prof.	Bacteria	Physiology and ecology of soil bacteria and their interactions with plants
T. Harrington	Professor	Fungi	Ecology and evolution of plant pathogens and ligno-cellulose degraders
J. Hill	Professor	Viruses	Viral ecology and disease mechanisms
N. Lauter	Asst. Prof.	Fungi	Barley-stem rust and barley-powdery mildew molecular interactions
L. Leandro	Asst. Prof.	Fungi	Biology and epidemiology of soybean fungal pathogens
A. Miller	Professor	Viruses	RNA virus replication and translation
G. Munkvold	Assoc. Prof.	Fungi	Mycotoxin production and pathogen detection
F. Nutter	Professor	Bacteria/Fungi	Epidemiology and risk assessment of plant pathogens – crop biosecurity issues
A. Robertson	Asst. Prof.	Fungi	Epidemiology of fungal diseases
G. Tylka	Professor	Nematodes	Soybean cyst nematode ecology and epidemiology
S. Whitham	Assoc. Prof.	Viruses/Fungi	Viral mediated induction of host infection responses
R. Wise	Professor	Fungi	Genomics and bioinformatics of barley-powdery mildew pathosystem
X. Yang	Professor	Fungi	Epidemiology of plant diseases, including Asian soybean rust

2) Teaching

The name change is requested, in part, to more accurately reflect the teaching and advising activities of our faculty. When the Biological Sciences at ISU were reorganized in 2003, two of the former Microbiology faculty joined the Department of Plant Pathology. At about that same time, the Department of Plant Pathology began an effort

to increase its presence in undergraduate teaching by becoming more actively involved in teaching microbiology courses. The Departments of Plant Pathology and Animal Science agreed to jointly administer the newly formed Undergraduate Microbiology Major in the then College of Agriculture when this major was established in 2003. Currently, ten Plant Pathology faculty also participate in the Interdepartmental Graduate Microbiology Program.

At the present time, nine of the 17 Plant Pathology state-funded faculty are actively involved in teaching twelve different Microbiology courses.

<i>Micro 201</i>	<i>Introduction to Microbiology</i>
<i>Micro 302</i>	<i>Biology of Microorganisms</i>
<i>Micro 320</i>	<i>Microbial Physiology and Genetics</i>
<i>Micro 408/508</i>	<i>Virology</i>
<i>Micro 440</i>	<i>Laboratory in Microbial Physiology, Diversity & Genetics</i>
<i>Micro 456</i>	<i>Principles of Mycology</i>
<i>Micro 477/577</i>	<i>Bacterial-Plant Interactions</i>
<i>Micro 509</i>	<i>Plant Virology</i>
<i>Micro 554</i>	<i>Virology</i>
<i>Micro 555</i>	<i>Fungal Biology</i>
<i>Micro 556</i>	<i>Microbial Ecology and Environmental Monitoring</i>
<i>Micro 692</i>	<i>Molecular Biology of Plant-Pathogen Interactions</i>

Plant Pathology faculty members taught an average of 48% of the student credit hours in microbiology courses from fall 2005 to spring 2007. In other words, Plant Pathology faculty do a substantial amount of teaching in the Microbiology undergraduate program and also contribute significantly to the interdepartmental Microbiology graduate major.

The Department of Plant Pathology has enthusiastically embraced its expanded role in the Interdepartmental Microbiology undergraduate and graduate majors. We are committed to strengthening these programs and help them grow. It is not our intention to change the focus of these programs. To the contrary, we will actively take steps to ensure that changing the name of our department does not confuse prospective students seeking information about the Interdepartmental Microbiology programs and to highlight how those programs are distinct from the department.

During our most recent external review in 2005, the Department was commended for its active participation in the undergraduate Microbiology Major and we were encouraged to continue pursuing our goal of strengthening the Plant Pathology Department through active participation in both the undergraduate and graduate Interdepartmental Microbiology programs.

3) *An evolving discipline*

The discipline of Plant Pathology is evolving fast and our proposed name better reflects the breadth of topics currently encompassed by this field and by the discovery and learning taking place in our department. The field of Plant Pathology over the years has

increasingly focused on more fundamental aspects of the interactions between plants, vectors, and microbes, contributing to a knowledge base pertinent to many Microbiology disciplines. This is reflected in an increasing number of faculty that are exploring the biology and ecology of microbes in their own right or under other environmental contexts, without focusing on mechanisms, incidence, or consequences of plant disease. This knowledge base has and will continue to contribute to many Microbiology disciplines beyond traditional plant pathology. Students interested in such levels of biological inquiry are routinely recruited from interdepartmental graduate programs, including the Interdepartmental Microbiology Programs.

4) Increased visibility of Microbiology at ISU.

ISU has a rich history in Microbiology that reflects the trends and institutional realities of the times. The department of Bacteriology arose out of the Botany department in 1910 and eventually assumed the name Microbiology to better reflect the scholarly activities of the department. Similarly, the Department of Plant Pathology arose out of the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology in a 1979 reorganization. A more recent reorganization of the Biological Sciences on the ISU campus lead to numerous changes, including the dissolution of the Microbiology Department concomitantly with the creation of the interdepartmental undergraduate and graduate Microbiology Programs. At that time, the Plant Pathology Department assumed co-oversight with the Animal Science Department of the undergraduate Microbiology Program while two of the microbiology faculty joined the Plant Pathology Department. Simultaneously, there was an increase in participation by the plant pathology faculty in the undergraduate and graduate Microbiology instruction. The present trajectory suggests that there will be a continuously increasing need and opportunity for Plant Pathology faculty to participate in the undergraduate and graduate Interdepartmental Microbiology teaching programs and in guiding undergraduate and graduate research in microbiology. By adopting the proposed name change we will increase the visibility of ISU's Microbiology programs, facilitating recruitment of undergraduate majors in Microbiology and graduate students in the Microbiology and Plant Pathology degree programs. Although there is a Department of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine in the College of Veterinary Medicine at ISU, it does not have an undergraduate teaching mission and hence this name change should not encroach on their mission. The proposed name change will continue and expand on the rich history of strong relationships between the disciplines of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at ISU while increasing the visibility of Microbiology, benefiting all departments participating in the interdepartmental Microbiology Programs at ISU.

5) The Bioeconomy

The growing efforts in the Bioeconomy at ISU require novel microbiological expertise in teaching and research. Our department is in a key position to contribute to the growing Bioeconomy efforts at ISU. Microbiology is fundamental to many aspects of the Bioeconomy, providing a tool to facilitate the release or transformation of plant components into simpler fundamental raw materials that are the building blocks for many Bioeconomy end-products. For example, many fungi enzymatically degrade plant cell

wall components during both pathogenic and non-pathogenic interactions with living and dead plants. Expansion of microbe-facilitated release and transformation of plant material is central to advances in the Bioeconomy and is a discipline that would be most logically housed in our department.

6) Other departments across the Nation

The proposed change also parallels national trends in renaming traditional academic plant pathology departments, reflecting a broadening of interests, scholarly activities, instructional needs, and management. Several Plant Pathology Departments have taken on new names, most of which incorporate Microbiology or derivatives thereof (Table 2). This likely reflects both historical arrangements within the institutions and the historical interconnectedness of these disciplines. Similarly, our proposed name change has received strong support because it highlights our history and tradition while reflecting our evolving mission and maintaining our identity and presence to clientele, who rely on our services to deal with current and emergent plant diseases affecting crops in the state of Iowa, nationally and internationally.

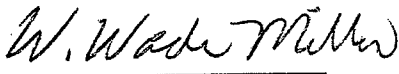
Table 2: Departments/Divisions with Plant Pathology and Microbiology in their name

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Title</i>
Cornell University	Department of Plant Pathology and Plant-Microbe Biology
University of Arizona	Division of Plant Pathology and Microbiology in the Plant Sciences Department
University of California-Berkeley	Plant and Microbial Biology
University of California-Riverside	Plant Pathology and Microbiology
University of Missouri	Plant Microbiology and Pathology Program in the Division of Plant Sciences
Texas A&M	Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Agricultural Education and Studies
201 Curtiss Hall
Ames, Iowa 50011-1050
Administration and Graduate Programs 515 294-5872
Undergraduate Programs 515 294-6924
Extension Programs 515 294-4076
FAX 515 294-0530

Date: March 4, 2009
To: Thomas Baum, Chair
Department of Plant Pathology

From: 
W. Wade Miller
Chair, AgLS Curriculum Committee

Re: Proposed name change

Thank you for coming to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Curriculum Committee meeting today (March 4, 2009) to present the proposal to change the name of the Department of Plant Pathology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. The Committee voted unanimously to support this proposal.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Interdepartmental Microbiology Program
207 Science I
Ames, Iowa 50011-3211
515 294-1630
FAX 515 294-6019

April 29, 2008

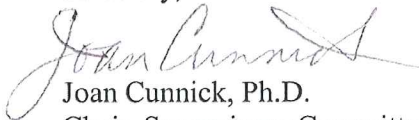
Thomas Baum, Chair
Dept of Plant Pathology
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

Dear Thomas,

As chair of the Supervisory Committee for the Undergraduate Microbiology Program, I am writing in support of the proposed name change for the Department of Plant Pathology. The Supervisory Committee met recently to discuss your proposed name change. The committee sees the importance of this name change for the current Plant Pathology Department. The committee was particularly enthusiastic about the possibilities of recruiting more microbiology faculty within the renamed department that can offer teaching as well as research opportunities for the undergraduate students in the Undergraduate Microbiology Program. The committee felt that the name change would increase the visibility of Microbiology Programs on the Iowa State University campus. The committee expressed concern that the name change may lead to confusion on the part of prospective students. However, we are encouraged that your department is actively pursuing ways to avoid the perception that (with the name change) microbiology at ISU will be limited to Plant Microbiology.

We look forward to working with you to expand opportunities for undergraduate students and to develop web pages that highlight the breadth of opportunities in the study of microbiology at ISU.

Sincerely,



Joan Cunnick, Ph.D.
Chair, Supervisory Committee
Undergraduate Microbiology Program

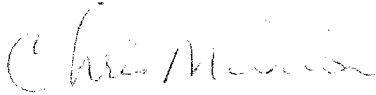
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Interdepartmental Microbiology Program
201 Science I
Ames, Iowa 50011-3211
515-294-1630
FAX 515-294-6019

April 12, 2008

Thomas Baum
Chair, Plant Pathology

After consulting the Supervisory Committee of the Interdepartmental Microbiology major, I have been asked to write this memo of support for the name change of the Department of Plant Pathology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Faculty from Plant Pathology have always been a large component of the major, being active in establishing the program and heavily involved in its administration. Since no additional graduate programs will be established with a microbiology focus by the department, we see this as an opportunity to increase visibility of the discipline on campus and maybe help strengthen the existing interdepartmental major. I encourage the two units to work closely together to make this happen.



Chris Minion
Chair, Interdepartmental Microbiology

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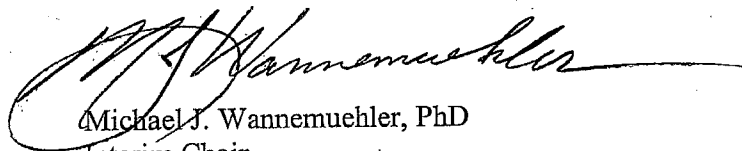
College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Veterinary Microbiology
and Preventive Medicine
2180 Veterinary Medicine Complex
Ames, Iowa 50011-1250
515 294-5776
FAX 515 294-8500

Thomas Baum, Chair
Dept. Plant Pathology
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

Dear Dr. Baum:

As Interim Chair of Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine, I am writing to you to indicate the support of the VMPM faculty for the proposed name change of your department to "Plant Pathology and Microbiology". The VMPM faculty recognize that the name change reflects the direction and strength of your department and that there will be no negative impact on our department. We feel that there are many opportunities for the two faculties to collaborate in order to meet the missions of both departments including support of the Interdepartmental Graduate Program in Microbiology. Increasing the visibility of microbiology will only help to further the possibility that microbiology can be one of the magnet undergraduate and graduate disciplines at ISU and will be in line with the University's strategic plan. This change may also help recruit outstanding microbiologists to ISU. We wish you good fortune with your vision for the department, and stand ready to assist in any way that we can.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Wannemuehler, PhD
Interim Chair
Veterinary Microbiology and Preventive Medicine

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

College of Agriculture and Life
Sciences

Department of Animal Science

1221 Kildee Hall

Ames, IA 50011-3150

Ph: (515) 294-2160

Fax: (515) 294-6994

February 11, 2009

Dr. Thomas Baum, Chair
Department of Plant Pathology
351 Bessey
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

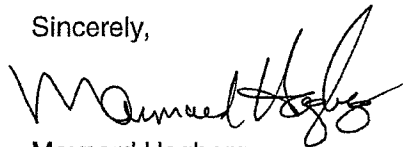
Dear Dr. Baum:

The Department of Animal Science has had discussions relative to your request to change the name of your department to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. The concerns of faculty in our department go well beyond those affiliated with the interdepartmental microbiology program. The major concern with the name change has to do with the perception of microbiology at ISU. It should be noted that at least 50% of the undergraduate students in microbiology have an orientation toward mammalian microbiology. Microbiology is an important part of animal and human health. The concern of our faculty is that by changing the name to Plant Pathology and Microbiology it might infer that all microbiology at ISU is in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology.

If your department is willing to work at making sure that this concern is addressed and the perception minimized, the Department of Animal Science is agreeable to allow this name change to go forward.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Maynard Hogberg
Professor and Chair

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics
& Molecular Biology (BBMB)
1210 Molecular Biology Building
Phone: (515) 294-6116
Fax: (515) 294-0453

December 28, 2007

Dr. Thomas J Baum
Professor and Chair
Department of Plant Pathology
Iowa State University

RE: PLP name change

Dear Thomas:

Today, we live in a world of science that knows no real boundaries. Increasingly, science is becoming multidisciplinary and team driven. It is obvious from your analysis of the research activities of the department that this is indeed the case for Plant Pathology as well. I think the proposed name change to "Plant Pathology and Microbiology" is a positive reinforcement of the structure of your faculty and the reality of the "continuum" that exists between plant pathology and microbiology. I am quite certain that the new name will raise the visibility of the department in academic circles. I extend to you my strong support for the new name. Best regards,

Sincerely,

Guru

Guru Rao
Professor/Interim Chair
BBMB



Date: March 5, 2008

To: Thomas Baum, Chair
Department of Plant Pathology

From: Jonathan Wendel, Chair
Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology

Re: Proposed name change

I am writing in support of your Department's proposal to change its name to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Your proposal highlights a number of reasons that this is an excellent idea. In particular this strikes me as an excellent opportunity to build microbiology excellence not only in your Department, but on campus. This will have a positive ripple effect throughout the life sciences at ISU. For example, a Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology might make ISU more attractive to any microbial ecologist or evolutionary biologist who might be interested in joining our faculty or entering one of our graduate programs. I do not anticipate any negatives associated with your proposal. I have shared your proposal with the EEOB faculty and no objections were raised against your proposal. In summary, you have my full support for this proposed name change.

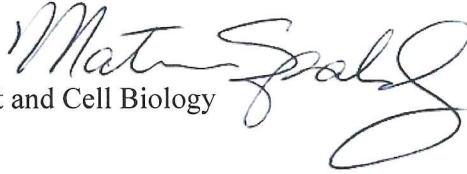
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Genetics,
Development and Cell Biology
1210 Molecular Biology Building
Ames, IA 50011-3260
TEL (515) 294-3909
FAX (515) 294-6755

DATE: March 5, 2008

TO: Thomas Baum, Chair
Department of Plant Pathology

FROM: Martin Spalding, Professor and Chair
Department of Genetics, Development and Cell Biology



RE: Proposed Name Change

I am writing in support of your proposal to change the name of your Department from the Department of Plant Pathology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology. Although we have only very minimal research in microbiology in GDCB and no bona fide microbiologists amongst the current faculty, we certainly may wish to hire someone in this area in the future, in which case I think the increased visibility brought by your name change will have a beneficial impact on our ability to recruit top prospects in microbiology. I anticipate no negative impacts on the GDCB Department from such a change. In summary, you have my full support for this proposed name change.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Agronomy
Crop, Soil, and Environmental Sciences
Ames, Iowa 50011-1010
515 294-1360
FAX 515 294-3163

May 28, 2008

Dr. Thomas Baum
Department of Plant Pathology
351 Bessey
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

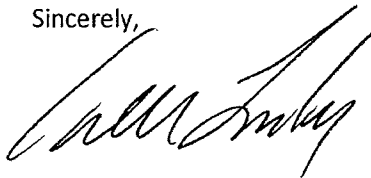
Dear Dr. Baum:

Thank you for sharing your proposal to change your department name from Plant Pathology to Plant Pathology and Microbiology. As you know Agronomy has a focus in microbiology from the standpoint of soil microbiology and its relationship to soil properties as they relate to plant growth and development.

I have discussed your name change with our faculty and there was a general consensus that the name change is consistent with the composition of your faculty. There were no objections from agronomy faculty to the name change.

Good luck as you pursue changing your name and we look forward to working with your department.

Sincerely,

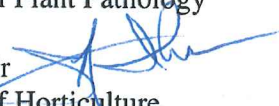


Kendall R. Lamkey
Chair, Department of Agronomy
Pioneer Distinguished Chair in Maize Breeding

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 18, 2007

TO: Thomas J. Baum, Professor and Chair
Department of Plant Pathology

FROM: Jeff Iles, Chair 
Department of Horticulture

RE: Plant Pathology name change

Academic departments within the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences pride themselves in their ability and willingness to forge collegial and mutually beneficial relationships, and a shining example of that cooperative spirit exists between the Department of Horticulture and Department of Plant Pathology. And in that spirit, I am pleased to support the initiative forwarded by the Department of Plant Pathology that would change their departmental name to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology.

The Department of Plant Pathology has offered a thoughtful and convincing argument for this important and necessary name change. In essence, they feel the proposed departmental name better reflects the current (and future) make-up of the faculty and their research programs. Furthermore, they believe the new name will convey an attitude of strength and stability to their many clients in Iowa and around the world.

Changing the name of a department or college truly is a weighty matter, but Dr. Baum and his talented faculty have convinced me the name Plant Pathology and Microbiology is the correct and appropriate name for this important member of the CALS team.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Department of Natural Resource
Ecology and Management
339 Science II
Ames, Iowa 50011-3221
515 294-1626
FAX 515 294-2995

March 12, 2008

Dr. Thomas J. Baum, Professor and Chair
Department of Plant Pathology
Iowa State University
351 Bessey Hall
Ames, IA 50011 USA

Dear Dr. Baum,

I wish to lend my support for the Department of Plant Pathology's request to change the department's name to "Plant Pathology and Microbiology." It is my belief that the name change better reflects the composition of the department's faculty and the department's scholarly programs. Modernizing the department's name will enhance the department's ability to attract outstanding students, attract and retain outstanding faculty, and increase the level of extramural funding.

Again, I fully support your department's request for the name change. The result will ultimately favor the department and the university.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Engle /s/
Chair and Professor

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

**Department of Food Science
and Human Nutrition**

Ruth S. MacDonald, RD PhD
Professor and Chair

2312 Food Sciences Bldg
Ames, Iowa 50011-1061

515-294-3011

FAX 515-294-8181

ruthmacd@iastate.edu

Thomas Baum, Professor and Chair
Plant Pathology
351 Bessey Hall

March 4, 2008

Dear Thomas:

Thank you for sharing with this me your discussion of changing your department name to *Plant Pathology and Microbiology*. As you know we have a strong focus in microbiology in our department in the area of food microbiology and food safety. We also have been very focused in fermentation science. Several of my faculty are active participants in the interdisciplinary microbiology programs, as well.

As I discussed your proposal with the FSHN faculty there was a general response that your name change is appropriate given your focus on plant microbiology. They agree that the addition of microbiology to your department title better defines your faculty interests. Therefore, we have no objections to the change you propose.

We would like to be cautionary, however, that as programs evolve, microbiology continues to have broad involvement across many disciplines and that FSHN contributes to the educational and research programs related to microbiology at the campus level.

Best regards as you pursue this name change.

