

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Consolidation of the Departments of Oral Biology and Dental Public Health Sciences into the Department of Oral Health SciencesRECOMMENDED ACTION:

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Department of Oral Biology and the Department of Dental Public Health Sciences be consolidated into a single Department of Oral Health Sciences.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED ACTION:

The proposed departmental consolidation was presented to Interim Provost Mary Lidstrom as a cost savings measure by Dean Martha Somerman after extensive discussion with and endorsement by the Chair of the Department of Dental Public Health Sciences, the Acting Chair of the Department of Oral Biology, the individual faculty members of both departments, the School of Dentistry Faculty Council, and the School of Dentistry Executive Committee.

The consolidation of the departments, under one Chair, will result in cost savings, provide administrative efficiencies among staff, and foster collaborations in teaching and mentoring of students and junior faculty. Moreover, these two departments represent a major research arm for the School of Dentistry, and thus, bringing these two departments together under strong leadership is expected to have a synergistic effect for the School's research programs, including efficiencies in grant support and the development of new research directions. Enhanced interactions between the basic and translational research structure in the Department of Oral Biology and the clinical, behavioral and public health research structure in the Department of Dental Public Health Sciences is anticipated from this reorganization.

Effective July 1, 2011, the Department of Dental Public Health Sciences will have 4.06 FTE tenured positions; 16.86 FTE total faculty positions. The Department of Oral Biology will have 2.61 FTE tenured faculty positions; 4.7 FTE total faculty positions. The curriculum will remain unchanged by this reorganization, which includes pathology/oral pathology courses for the specialty graduate programs as well as the MS, DDS/PhD, and PhD programs currently in the Department of Oral Biology.

REVIEW PROCESS:

Following University of Washington "Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination Procedures" (Faculty Code Section 26-41), Provost Lidstrom referred the matter for discussion to the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Consolidation of the Departments of Oral Biology and Dental Public Health Sciences into the Department of Oral Health Sciences (continued p. 2)

Because the consolidation of these two departments will not result in the elimination of any degrees; removal of tenured faculty, or of untenured faculty before the completion of their contract; a significant change the terms and conditions of employment of the faculty; a significant change to the overall curriculum of the School of Dentistry; or a significant departure from the School of Dentistry mission, the review was evaluated under the provisions governing "Limited Reorganization." The voting faculty members of these two departments were notified of the process to seek a full review of the reorganization by the Secretary of the Faculty. No petition for further review was submitted to Provost Lidstrom. Therefore, having considered the proposed departmental consolidation using a process consistent with the rules promulgated for reorganizations under the Faculty Code, Provost Lidstrom supports the consolidation of the Departments of Oral Biology and Dental Public Health Sciences into the Department of Oral Health Sciences effective July 1, 2011.