

IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION
NOTICE OF INTENT

to initiate a
NEW, EXPANDED, COOPERATIVE, DISCONTINUED, PROGRAM COMPONENT OR OFF-CAMPUS
INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM OR ADMINISTRATIVE/RESEARCH UNIT

University of Idaho

Institution Submitting Proposal

College of Graduate Studies

Name of College, School, or Division

Indicate if this NOI is for an Academic X or Professional-Technical \_\_\_\_\_ Program

A New, Expanded, Cooperative, Contract, or Off-Campus Instructional Program or Administrative/Research Unit (circle one) leading to:

(degree or certificate)

Proposed Starting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR NEW PROGRAMS ONLY

FOR OTHER ACTIVITY:

Program (i.e., degree) Title & CIP 2000 (CIP assigned upon receipt of NOI in Provost Office)

- Program Component (major/minor/option/emphasis)
Off-Campus Activity/Resident Center
Administrative/Research Unit
Addition/Expansion
Discontinuance/consolidation
X COLLEGE NAME CHANGE

This Notice of Intent has been approved by:

College Dean (Institution) Date

State Administrator, SDPTE Date

Graduate School Dean (as applicable) Date

Chief Fiscal Officer (Institution) Date

SBOE/OSBE Approval Date

Chief Academic Officer (Institution) Date

President Date

**Before completing this form, refer to the "Board Policy Section III.G. Program Approval and Discontinuance.**

- Briefly describe the nature of the request e.g., is this a new program (degree, program, or certificate) or program component (e.g., new, discontinued, modified, addition to an existing program or option).

This action is to change the name of the University of Idaho College of Graduate Studies to a name consistent with the current role of administering four university-wide interdisciplinary programs in addition to the Graduate College. **The new name will be the College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies.**
- Briefly describe how the institution will ensure the quality of the program (e.g., accreditation, professional societies, licensing boards, etc.).

The name change will not change the nature or quality of the programs within the College, as the name change only makes it consistent with its current mission and administrative roles. The four interdisciplinary programs ;the Neurobiology Program, the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Program, the Environmental Science Program, as well as the Interdisciplinary degree program, are already administered within the College of Graduate Studies. All the programs presently have directors who report to the Associate Dean of the College. The name change is anticipated to have no effects on University or program accreditation, professional societies, licensing boards, or the like.
- Duplication--Is this request unique to the system? If not, briefly describe the rationale for the duplication.

There are no similar colleges within the state of Idaho.
- Succinct statement of need for program or program modification. Include student and state need, demand, and employment potential. Attach a Scope and Sequence, DPTE Form Attachment B, for professional-technical education requests. (Use additional sheets if necessary.).

In recent years there has been an increased emphasis in interdisciplinary teaching and research at the University of Idaho and across the nation. This has been driven by an increasing emphasis in funding of multi-investigator, interdisciplinary research and teaching grants by federal granting agencies. In spanning multiple disciplines, interdisciplinary programs by their very nature reach across the traditional boundaries of colleges and departments. In this context, interdisciplinary is defined as meaning University-wide, or programs involving faculty from more than two colleges where no single college has a majority of the curriculum or faculty. Four University of Idaho programs within the College of Graduate Studies currently meet this definition. The M.S. program in Interdisciplinary Studies has been in COGS since the creation of the program. The new Neuroscience program faculty come from 4 colleges and 8 departments. The new Bioinformatics and Computational Biology program faculty come from 3 colleges and 8 departments, while the Environmental Science program (EnvS) faculty come from 8 colleges and 26 departments.

In January 2003, the Idaho State Board of Education (SBOE) approved new MS and PhD programs in Neuroscience, Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, and the addition of a Ph.D. program to the EnvS program (now offering B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees). Administration of these three interdisciplinary programs is currently within the College of Graduate Studies (COGS).

The faculties of all three programs asked that their programs not be administered within any of the traditional academic colleges. Instead they requested that the programs be administered in a "neutral" college that could equally represent the multiple disciplines within each program. It was decided, therefore, that the three programs would be administered COGS.

From its beginning in 1993, until the time of the University-wide reorganization and consolidation in 2002-2003, the Environmental Science Program was housed in the College of Letters and Science (L&S) with the budget in the Provost's Office. When L&S was eliminated, the B.S. Environmental Science program (EnvS) was moved on an interim basis in the Spring of 2002 into the new College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences (CLASS). In a meeting in the Spring of 2002, the Environmental Science faculty asked that the program be moved out of CLASS into a neutral college. In January and February of 2003, meetings were held with the Provost, Vice

President for Research, Deans (Moscow, Boise, Idaho Falls), and Associate Deans. These were followed by meetings in March and April of 2003 with the Deans Council, EnvS faculty and department heads in various colleges. Thereafter, with administrative approval by the Provost, the EnvS program and the two other programs were housed in COGS.

As a result of these several actions, the 4 programs are all now administered in COGS. This includes all positions (directors and staff), budgets and academic programs. Through much planning and effort, policies have also been implemented to distribute rewards to participating faculty and departments (student head counts, course hour credits, B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees counts, faculty recognition). Curriculum committees, student advising, and academic petitions, etc., are all currently administered within COGS. Primarily to keep lines of communication open with all Colleges, the Directors will periodically report to a Board of Deans, a subset of the Deans Council.

Until COGS is renamed College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies (COGIS), to reflect its encompassing the EnvS undergraduate program, students within the EnvS B.S. degree program will continue to be transcribed through CLASS, on a temporary basis, and honors definitions will continue to be calculated within CLASS for graduating *cum laude*, *summa cum laude*, and *magna cum laude*. One of several reasons for the college name change is to give the college a name appropriate for interdisciplinary programs, including those that have both undergraduate and graduate degree programs. By approving this NOI, the BS in EnvS can be transcribed from the same college where the program resides administratively.

Once the name and resulting catalog changes have been made, other needed actions can be completed. These include transcribing of the B.S. EnvS within COGIS, establishment of honors definitions for the B.S. EnvS degree in COGIS, and decisions on new University-wide committee memberships for COGIS. As appropriate, actions will be discussed and approved through normal channels, such as the University Curriculum Committee, the Committee on Committees, and Faculty Council.

The administration of these four academic programs in COGIS gives them the neutral home they need, and the new name will give the programs more visibility to external donors, granting agencies, and potential students. The name change will be accomplished without need for new resources and will provide a permanent, neutral home for University of Idaho interdisciplinary programs. Interdisciplinary programs within COGIS will be defined as University-Wide. For a program to be within COGIS, it will have to involve more than 2 colleges, with no single college having a majority of the curriculum or faculty.

This NOI has been discussed and approved by the Neuroscience Program Curriculum Committee and faculty, the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Curriculum Committee and faculty, and the Environmental Science Program Curriculum Committee and faculty. The Graduate Council has also discussed it. The minutes of each of these meetings are attached.

5. Describe how this request is consistent with the State Board of Education's policy or role and mission of the institution. (i.e., centrality) .

The missions of the University of Idaho include teaching, research and service. The broad objectives relating to these functions are: (a) to offer undergraduate and graduate academic programs of excellent quality in the liberal arts, the sciences and many professional disciplines; (b) to add knowledge through research, scholarship, and creative activities in both fundamental and applied fields; and (c) to make readily available to all people of the State the results of research, including that in the arts and sciences. The University of Idaho historically has had certain unique functions. Specifically, the university has had the responsibility to serve as (a) the land-grant institution for the State of Idaho, with responsibility for instruction, research and extension, and public service in the fields of agriculture, forestry, mining, and engineering; (b) the graduate and research center and a center for professional education for the State; and, (c) the center for comprehensive graduate programs leading to the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. The proposed name change is consistent with this continuing role and mission of the University of Idaho and specifically addresses the university's responsibilities to offer state of the art programs in interdisciplinary research and teaching.

The name change involves a consolidation of program administration, which at no cost increases the efficiency and effectiveness of graduate and undergraduate research and teaching programs at the University of Idaho. It meets the Board's Statewide Plan for Higher Education by meeting the goals and strategies as stated in Directions for Higher Education in Idaho: (1) it encourages

expanded curricular response to the technologies; (2) it maintains strong graduate education; and (3) it continues to avoid unnecessary duplication. As an improvement over the current situation, it further promotes cooperative, interdisciplinary teaching and research, and encourages maximum use of technology. It promotes Idaho's economic revitalization by supporting basic and applied research that results in the timely application of new knowledge.

As stated in the July 1998 UI Strategic Plan, the vision of the University of Idaho is to: Be a university of choice in the West for high-quality and innovative undergraduate and graduate degree programs, interdisciplinary learning, and residential campus experience; be globally competitive in selected graduate, professional, and research programs, including those that respond to economic, environmental, and social challenges; and, deliver creative outreach programs that provide knowledge and leadership to meet the lifelong educational needs of our citizens. The administrative and curricular changes associated with the name change to College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies (COGIS) advance the goals of the strategic plan.

The UI goal for undergraduate and graduate education and research at the University of Idaho is to be modern in our approach to education, and to be both nationally and globally competitive. Having university-wide, interdisciplinary programs housed within COGIS is one step towards insuring our success in this goal.

The UI Research Office's Action Plan encourages "faculties that cross disciplinary boundaries to enhance scholarly activity." Changes associated with the name change to COGIS do just that. Finally, another UI strategic plan goal is to expand the capacity and delivery of outreach programs and services in keeping with the University of Idaho's land-grant mission. The increased efficiency associated with consolidating specific university-wide interdisciplinary programs into one neutral college will further this goal.

6. Resources--Faculty/Staff/Space Needs/Capital Outlay. (Use additional sheets if necessary.):

The change in name of the College of Graduate Studies (COGS) to the College of Graduate and Interdisciplinary Studies (COGIS) involves no new resources or reallocation of resources, since the budgets of all of the programs are currently administered through COGS. Thus, this change will have no fiscal impact on faculty, staff, space, or capital outlay.

Estimated Fiscal Impact:	FY _____	FY _____	FY _____
<b>A. <u>Source of Funds</u></b>			
1. Appropriated-reallocation	_____	_____	_____
2. Appropriated-new	_____	_____	_____
3. Federal	_____	_____	_____
4. Other: _____	_____	_____	_____
<b>B. <u>Nature of Funds</u></b>			
1. Recurring *	_____	_____	_____
2. Non-recurring**	_____	_____	_____
Grand Total	_____	_____	_____

\* Recurring is defined as ongoing operating budget for the program, which will become of the base.

\*\* Non-recurring is defined as one-time funding in a fiscal year and not part of the base.