

March 30, 2017

To: Riverside Division of the UC Academic Senate
Through: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
From: Cynthia Larive, Provost and EVC *Cynthia Larive*

Request for name changes to three CNAS departments

Dear Dylan,

I am forwarding three proposals from CNAS departments to change their names, as summarized below.

- The Department of Biology requests a name change to the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology.
- The Department of Cell Biology and Neuroscience requests a name change to the Department of Molecular, Cell and Systems Biology.
- The Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology requests a name change to the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology.

These proposals have been developed and approved by the faculty of each department, endorsed by CNAS Dean Kathryn Uhrich, and are unanimously supported by the CNAS executive committee. I am pleased to add my support for these changes, as I believe that the new names are a better reflection of the current organization and future directions of life science teaching and research at UCR.

TO: Cindy Larive, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor
FROM: Kathryn Uhrich, Dean, CNAS
DATE: March 11, 2017
RE: Name change for the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology (PPM)
to the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology (MPP)

I am pleased to submit the attached letter from the Chair, on behalf of the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology (PPM), with the request to change its name to the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology (MPP).

After discussions within the Department and with CNAS, the proposed name change was approved by the majority of the Department. As outlined in the Department's letter, the name change better reflects the current programs of the Department and their vision for the future. I am fully supportive of the name change, which emphasizes the broader nature and current focus by listing "Microbiology" first.

Thus, I request that the campus approve the formal name change from the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology to the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
UC RIVERSIDE | College of Natural and
Agricultural Sciences
Executive Committee

February 27, 2016

To: Cynthia Larive, Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

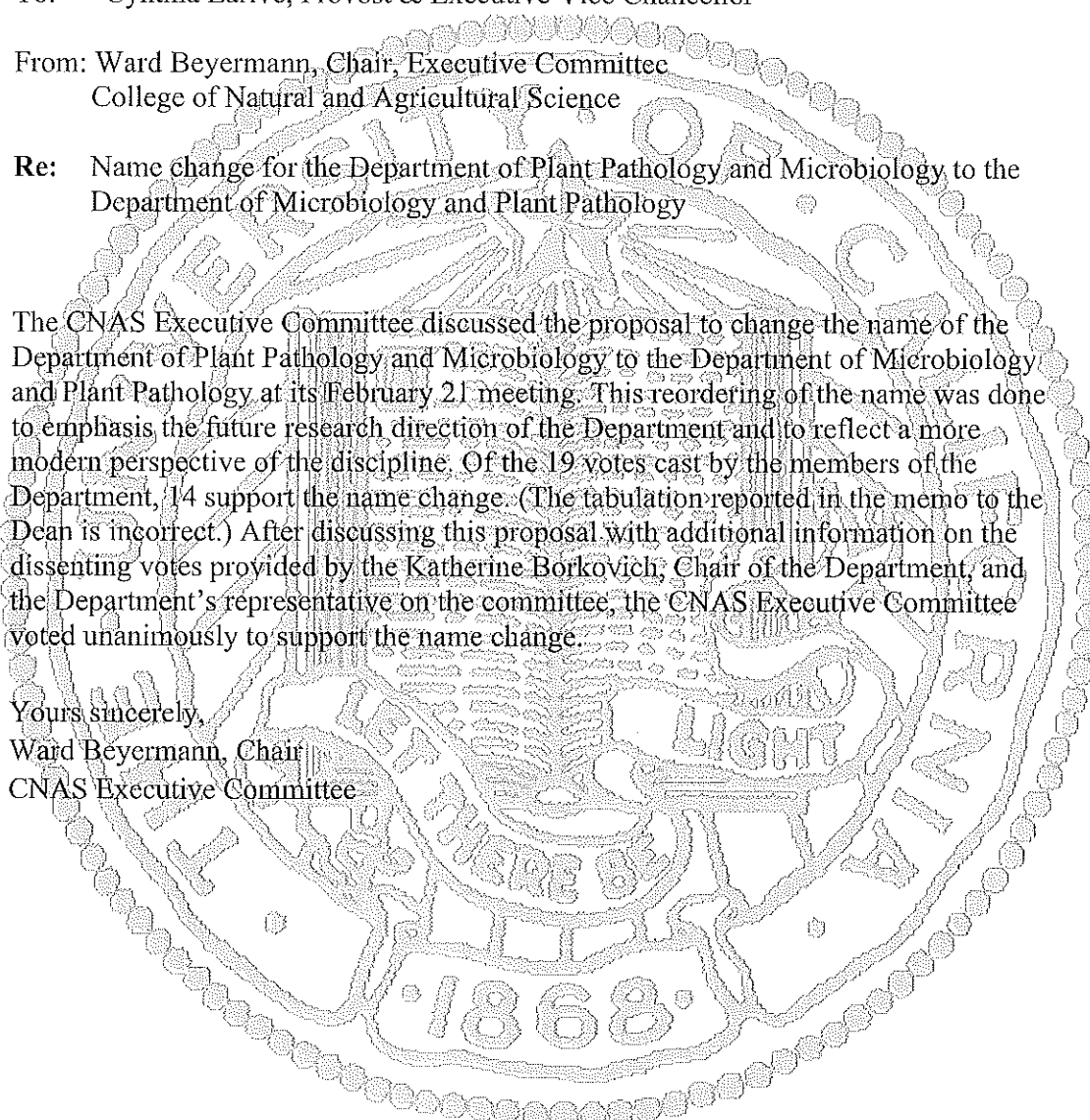
From: Ward Beyermann, Chair, Executive Committee
College of Natural and Agricultural Science

Re: Name change for the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology to the
Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology

The CNAS Executive Committee discussed the proposal to change the name of the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology to the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology at its February 21 meeting. This reordering of the name was done to emphasize the future research direction of the Department and to reflect a more modern perspective of the discipline. Of the 19 votes cast by the members of the Department, 14 support the name change. (The tabulation reported in the memo to the Dean is incorrect.) After discussing this proposal with additional information on the dissenting votes provided by the Katherine Borkovich, Chair of the Department, and the Department's representative on the committee, the CNAS Executive Committee voted unanimously to support the name change.

Yours sincerely,

Ward Beyermann, Chair
CNAS Executive Committee



Updated from January 29, 2016 Letter with Voting Information

April 22, 2016

Kathryn Uhrich, Ph.D., Dean

College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

UC Riverside

RE: Change name of “Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology” to “Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology”

Dear Dean Uhrich:

This letter is a request by the faculty in the UC Riverside Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology to change the department name to “Microbiology and Plant Pathology” (MPP). This issue was discussed at a faculty meeting on December 7, 2015, followed by an email vote using a secret ballot. The majority of faculty approved the name change, with 12 in favor, 5 opposed and 2 that did not respond.

The origins of our department go back to 1905, as part of an agricultural experiment station in Riverside. The department, which was originally named “Plant Pathology”, joined UC Riverside after the campus was established in 1954. In 2007, the department changed its name to “Plant Pathology and Microbiology”, to reflect the broadening mission of the faculty in teaching and research in both Plant Pathology and other sub-disciplines of Microbiology. This change strongly supported reinstatement of the Microbiology graduate program and establishment of the Microbiology undergraduate major in 2011.

Today, our department is further diversified, with a strong and growing contingent of (mostly junior) faculty who study animal microbial diseases, microbial ecology, microbial genomics and other sub-disciplines of Microbiology, in addition to our historic strengths in plant microbial disease. Furthermore, both the undergraduate Microbiology major and the reinstated Microbiology graduate program are growing and attracting a new contingent of students to our campus. Changing our name to “Microbiology and Plant Pathology” emphasizes the broader nature of our endeavors by listing “Microbiology” first. We believe that this name will also help us stay competitive on the national level in the field of mammalian pathogenesis, as we compete with medical school Microbiology departments across the nation to recruit faculty and students who study animal diseases. Maintenance of the sub-discipline “Plant Pathology” in our name recognizes our ongoing and numerous important contributions in this area of research.

I am sending this proposal to you in accordance with the instructions under “Campus Procedure for Name Change for an Academic Department” at the Academic Senate website (http://senate.ucr.edu/about/policies/campus_procedure_for_name_change_for_an_academic_department.html). The instructions state that the next step is for you to forward this proposal to the CNAS Executive Committee for review and recommendation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I have addressed the specific points raised in your email of April 22, 2016 on the next page.

Sincerely,



Katherine A. Borkovich, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair

- **Why is this change advantageous to the faculty, students and the campus?**

As mentioned above, we have broadened our mission to include more general areas of Microbiology. Microbiology is a more general term than Plant Pathology, so it makes sense for it precede "Plant Pathology" in our name. We are already the administrative home for the interdepartmental undergraduate Microbiology major and the graduate program in Microbiology. Having "Microbiology" first will clearly signal that our department is the unit to contact first for questions from students, faculty and staff regarding Microbiology programs on the UCR campus. Importantly, it will also make our department (and UCR) more recognizable to prospective students, postdocs and faculty, as well as potential donors, who are searching for Microbiology programs/departments.

- **Are there any budgetary implications? If so, how will they be addressed?**

We are not aware of any budgetary implications.

- **Are there any effects on graduate and/or undergraduate programs? If so, what will the impact on the students and, if potentially negative, how this will be addressed?**

We anticipate only positive effects on the Microbiology graduate program and the Microbiology major. Any possible negative impact on prospective Plant Pathology students locating our graduate program during web searches should be counteracted by our existing separate website for the Plant Pathology graduate program, as well as our long history and strong reputation in Plant Pathology.

- **Are any other departments affected? If so, what are their comments?**

There are Microbiologists in several other departments and schools on campus. Since both the undergraduate major and graduate program in Microbiology are interdepartmental, and our department name already includes the word "Microbiology", we don't anticipate any major effects due to our name change. Although we would welcome faculty who wanted to transfer or split their appointment with our department, we are not aware of such individuals at this time. Conversely, no faculty member in our department has expressed a desire to change departments. Finally, we are very open to granting Cooperating Faculty Member (CFM) status to faculty from other departments, with three new CFMs in the past year (Isgouhi Kaloshian-Nematology, Phil Roberts-Nematology and Xuemei Chen-Botany and Plant Sciences).

- **Are there any space implications? If so, how will this be managed?**

There are no known space limitations.

- **Are there any effects on existing staff? e.g. if workload increases, how will this be addressed?**

The BNPPS cluster already handles the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, the Microbiology and Plant Pathology graduate programs and teaching expenses for certain undergraduate Microbiology courses. Therefore, there should be no effects on existing staff.

- **Does the dean support the action?**

Will be reviewed shortly.