Proposition: 14-06/07
Sponsors: Debra Knapp (COE)

Proposed Committee Assignment:
Actual Committee Assignment: Scholastic Affairs

Title: Change the Name of The Department of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance.

Proposal: To change the name of The Department of Physical Education, Recreation and Dance to The Department of Human Performance, Dance and Recreation.

Rationale
The requested name change will increase the visibility of the Kinesiology and Athletic Training programs, enabling us to be more effective in recruiting students into the department. There are several reasons for this suggested change including the following:

- The change of name request follows a current national trend and will help the department and its students be better recognized both within the state and the nation.
- The name “Human Performance” encompasses physical education, kinesiology and athletic training education and is being used in university programs nationally and internationally.
- Physical Education does not imply the exercise science degrees that are offered in the department.
- The kinesiology program is the largest of the four-degree programs that comprise departmental offerings and neither it, nor the athletic training education degree, are included in the current department name.
- The kinesiology program, particularly in the exercise science concentration area is receiving growing recognition across campus as evidenced by the number of non-majors taking the sport science courses, and the number of students transferring into the program from other departments. Many of our kinesiology and exercise science track students are intending to further their education at the graduate level in physical therapy, occupational therapy, and other medically oriented disciples. We currently have one pre-med student and two pre-chiropractic medicine students. Other students are wishing to go on to do graduate work in the exercise science area. The name change would reflect the course work needed for acceptance into graduate programs.
- The athletic training education program is about to be expanded with the addition of a new program director, which means that we will be able to increase the number of students that we can accept into the program.
- This growth in Kinesiology and Athletic Training will continue, but in order to attract students from outside of the immediate area, these areas needs to be recognized as a separate entity from the physical education degree.
**Requested departmental name change** - In order to keep the name of the department representative of actual programs and activities, the Department of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance requests approval of this proposal to change its name to the Department of Human Performance, Dance and Recreation.