May 3, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brian Butler  
Dean, College of Information Studies

FROM: Elizabeth Beise  
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to Rename "Master of Library Science" to "Master of Library and Information Science" (PCC log no. 15020)

On January 21, 2016, Chancellor Caret approved your proposal to change the title of the existing master’s program in Library Science to Library and Information Science. On March 28, 2016, the Maryland Higher Education Commission gave final approval. Along with the program title change, the proposal to change the degree award from Master of Library Science to Master of Library and Information Science is also approved. Please work with Linda Yokoi in the Office of the Registrar to facilitate the logistics of the program title and degree change.

A copy of the proposal is attached. The change is effective Fall 2016. Please ensure that the change is fully described in the Graduate Catalog and all relevant descriptive materials.

MDC/  
Enclosure

cc: Andrew Harris, Chair, Senate PCC Committee  
Barbara Gill, Office of Enrollment Management  
Reka Montfort, University Senate  
Chip Denman, Division of Information Technology  
Pam Phillips, Institutional Research, Planning & Assessment  
Anne Turkos, University Archives  
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar  
Alex Chen, Graduate School  
Ann Weeks, College of Information Studies
March 28, 2016

Dr. Mary Ann Rankin
Senior Vice President and Provost
University of Maryland College Park
Main Administration Building
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Dr. Rankin:

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has reviewed a request from the University of Maryland College Park to rename the Master of Science (M.L.S.) in Library and Information Services to a Master of Science (M.L.I.S.) in Library and Information Science. I am pleased to inform you that this request has been approved. The HEGIS and CIP codes will not change. This decision is based on an analysis of the program proposal in conjunction with the law and regulations governing academic program approval, in particular Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 13B.02.03.

For the purposes of providing enrollment and degree data to the Commission, please use the following HEGIS and CIP codes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Program Title</th>
<th>New Program Title</th>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>HEGIS</th>
<th>CIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library and Information</td>
<td>Library and Information</td>
<td>M.L.I.S.</td>
<td>1601-00</td>
<td>25.0101</td>
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<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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Should the University of Maryland College Park desire to make a substantial modification to the program in the future, review by the Commission will be necessary. I wish you continued success.

Sincerely,

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary

JDF:mrw

Cc: Ms. Theresa Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, USM
    Dr. Mike Colson, Senior Coordinator for Academic Programs, UMCP
January 21, 2016

Dr. Wallace Loh
President
University of Maryland, College Park
1101 Main Administration Building
College Park, MD 20742

Dear Wallace,

Thank you for forwarding the request of the University to change the title of the existing Master of Library Science program to the Master of Library and Information Science.

I understand that there will be no substantial modification of the curriculum and that this action is to better describe the activities in the program and the information professions. I am pleased to approve this request.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Caret
Chancellor

cc: Mary Ann Rankin, Senior Vice President and Provost
    Brian Butler, Dean, College of Information Studies
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>December 10, 2015</th>
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<tr>
<td>To:</td>
<td>Wallace D. Loh</td>
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<tr>
<td>From:</td>
<td>Willie Brown</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chair, University Senate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject:</td>
<td>Approval of the PCC Proposal to Rename the “Master of Library Science” to the “Master of Library and Information Science”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senate Document #:</td>
<td>15-16-13</td>
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I am pleased to forward for your consideration the attached legislation entitled, “PCC Proposal to Rename the ‘Master of Library Science’ to the “Master of Library and Information Science” Andrew Harris, Chair of the Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee, presented the proposal. The University Senate approved the proposal at its December 9, 2015 meeting.

We request that you inform the Senate Office of your decision as well as any subsequent action related to your conclusion.

Enclosure: Approval of the PCC Proposal to Rename the “Master of Library Science” to the “Master of Library and Information Science”  
Senate Doc. No. 15-16-13

WB/rm

Cc: Mary Ann Rankin, Senior Vice President and Provost  
Reka Montfort, Executive Secretary and Director, University Senate  
Michael Poterala, Vice President and General Counsel  
Steven Marcus, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs  
Elizabeth Beise, Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs  
Sylvia B. Andrews, Academic Affairs  
Andrew Harris, Chair of the PCC Committee  
Brian Butler, Dean, College of Information Studies  
Ann Weeks, Associate Dean, College of Information Studies  
Tricia Donovan, Program Coordinator, College of Information Studies  
Lindsay Sarin, M.L.S. Program Manager, College of Information Studies

Approved: ___________________________ Date: 12-14-2015  
Wallace D. Loh  
President
The College of Information Studies (Maryland's iSchool) plans to modify the name of the Master of Library Science degree program to Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS), to better reflect the current and future information climate.
OVERVIEW AND RATIONALE

The College of Information Studies (Maryland’s iSchool) has four degrees: a Master of Human Computer Interaction, a Master of Information Management, a PhD in Information Studies, and the degree from which the College was founded the Master of Library Science (MLS). The MLS degree was established in 1965 and since then information field has moved well beyond libraries. We propose that the name be changed to Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) so as to better reflect the current and future information climate.

The MLS Program’s mission statement goes a long way in describing the variety and breath of the field:

The Master of Library Science Program educates students in the knowledge, skills, habits of thought and inquiry, and ethics of the library and information professions to enable them to be leaders in the state, national, and global information society.

The MLS degree and its graduates focus on and hold positions many kinds of institutions including libraries, archives, museums, historical societies, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, research institutions, and many more. Potential careers following the MLS degree are numerous and varied, with librarianship being just one of many diverse possibilities. Non-librarian careers include, but are certainly not limited to competitive intelligence, data science, digital preservation, database management, user experience specialists, curators, etc. With the continued changes to the information professions it has become essential that the MLS degree name be updated to reflect the new face of librarians and information. Failing to include the word “information” in the title of the MLS degree can be limiting for students who wish to pursue one of the many non-librarian careers for which the degree prepares them. Potential employers, not familiar with the degree or the curriculum, may pass over those applicants who lack the “I” (information) in their degree acronym.

In addition to improving employability of graduates the degree name update will also bring the College of Information Studies in line with our ALA Accredited Program peers. Out of the 61 accredited programs, only 6 still use MLS as their degree designation. Meanwhile 45 of 61 include “I” (information) in their degree designation. Of the top ten ranked programs from U.S. News and World Report (Maryland is 10th) only 3 (including Maryland) are MLS degrees. Updating our name to better reflect the program’s curriculum, the types of careers our graduates are prepared for, and to better reflect the national standards is an essential part of ensuring the future of the MLS Program.

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1 http://www.ala.org/CFApps/lisdir/directory_pdf.cfm
IMPACT

As an ALA accredited program the iSchool will have to notify the ALA of the change of program name as part of its biennial narrative (next due in Fall 2015) or in a letter of justification of name change and subsequent letter confirming the official change of name are all that are required.

Within the College the administrative impacts on the name change are relatively minimal. The College will need to update the website, promotional and recruitment materials, job titles (such as the MLS Program Manager), stationery, and signage. As updates to these materials are already annual duties, the impact is minimal. We will also need to provide press releases and information regarding the change to our current students and alumni to alert them to the changes and inform them of any potential impacts on them.

Curriculum, learning outcomes, and other curricular activities will not be impacted by this change because the diversity of opportunities, skills, and institutions impacted by the information professions are already present.
Hi Mike:

We want to change both the name of the degree and the name of the program.

Ann Carlson Weeks, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Academic Programs
College of Information Studies
University of Maryland
4105 Hornbake Building, South Wing
College Park, MD 20742
301-405-2060
acweeks@umd.edu

Dear Tricia and Ann,

The proposal that you will be presenting on Wednesday will be the renaming of the MLS. This is more time-sensitive because it will have to be approved by the University System and MHEC. We need a clarification on this proposal, however. The technical name of the program is “Library & Information Services” (see http://www.mhec.state.md.us/utilities/results_school.asp?D1=College+Park&D2=Master&submit=+++Search++). The degree award that is bestowed is the Master of Library Service. So if we think about this in traditional Master program terms (e.g., a Master of Arts in History), then students have been receiving a Master of Library Science (degree award) in Library and Information Services (program).
So my question is this, are you asking to change both the program title and the degree award? This will help us to know what has to be changed and who to contact. Thanks.

-Mike
January 8, 2016

James D. Fielder, Jr.
Secretary of Higher Education
Maryland Higher Education Commission
6 N. Liberty Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Secretary Fielder:

I am writing to request approval for a proposal by our College of Information Studies to change the name of its master-level program in Library and Information Services (HEGIS: 160100; CIP: 250101) to Library and Information Science. The new name, Library and Information Science, better describes the intellectual activities that take place in the program as well as in the information professions. The current degree credential for the program, Master of Library Science (M.L.S.), will change to the Master of Library and Information Science (M.L.I.S.).

This proposal has been endorsed by the appropriate faculty and administrative committees. I have accepted this recommendation and request approval. This request is also being sent concurrently to the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Wallace D. Loh
President

MDC
cc: Theresa Hollander, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Mary Ann Rankin, Senior Vice President and Provost
Brian Butler, Dean, College of Information Studies