

Adopted: June 5, 2001

**ACADEMIC SENATE
Of
CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY
San Luis Obispo, CA**

**AS-567-01/PE&K
RESOLUTION ON
DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE FOR THE
PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND KINESIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

- 1 WHEREAS, The Physical Education and Kinesiology Department has requested the name of
2 its department be changed to the **Kinesiology Department** to better reflect the
3 program the department is currently offering; and
4
5 WHEREAS, The request for this name change has been approved by the Dean for the College
6 of Science and Mathematics (COSAM)., the Academic Deans' Council, and the
7 COSAM Department Chairs' Council; and
8
9 RESOLVED: That the name of the Physical Education and Kinesiology Department be changed
10 to the **Kinesiology Department**.

Proposed by: Physical Education and
Kinesiology Department
Date: May 22,2001
Revised: May 29,2001
Revised: June 4, 2001
Revised: June 5, 2001

Memorandum

APR 17 2001

To: Paul Zingg
Provost & VP Academic Affairs ;Date: 4/19/01

From: Jerry DeMers, Chair 
Physical Education and Kinesiology Copies: Phil Bailey

Subject: Department Name Change

In 1992, the department discussed the rationale for changing our name from Physical Education to Kinesiology. The faculty voted for the change to Kinesiology but thought Physical Education should be included in the name for identification purposes. The faculty felt that the campus population would be better able to identify our department in time schedules and catalogs if we retained Physical Education in our name for a period of time.

We believe that now is the time to drop Physical Education from our name since the term physical education has now been associated with Kinesiology for the past eight years. Physical Education is most commonly associated with preparing people to teach in the K-12 schools. At the present time, our department prepares students for work in fitness and health promotion, cardiac rehabilitation, physical therapy, teacher preparation, and a variety of health-care professions. Sixty-five percent of our students are in non-teaching career tracks.

There has been a trend over the years for physical Education departments at institutions of higher learning to change to Kinesiology. This trend is due to the change in complexion of physical education curricula throughout the United States. We no longer exclusively train individuals for the teaching profession.

This name change trend has also taken place within the CSU. For example, CSU Sonoma, CSU San Bernardino, CSU Northridge, CSU Fresno, and San Francisco State University have changed their names to the Department of Kinesiology. I can provide a long list of universities that currently have the name Kinesiology who formerly were Physical Education departments if you wish.

Attached please find a rationale for changing the department name. If you need any further information from me or would like to discuss the proposed change, please feel free to contact me.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGING THE DEPARTMENT NAME FROM PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND KINESIOLOGY TO "KINESIOLOGY"

Over the years, Cal Poly's Physical Education and Kinesiology program has evolved to reflect developments within the discipline. In its early history, the focus centered on teacher education as the sole professional application of its body of knowledge. The intended career of a major in Physical Education was to teach sports, exercise and dance in a K-12 environment. Current programs, however, reflect a scholarly discipline, which encompasses a unique body of knowledge. Graduates are prepared in a broad continuum, including pedagogy, physiology, biomechanics, psychology, sociology, rehabilitation, health care, and aesthetics.

The curricular trend in university programs currently is to offer various areas of specialization designed to prepare students for specific careers. Cal Poly offers courses of study in Teacher Education, Clinical and Worksite Health Promotion, Pre-Physical Therapy/Health-Care Professions, Health, or in an individualized program based upon a student's specific interest. Since the term "Physical Education" has long been used to designate movement programs in the public school setting, that term should be retained to identify those programs in public schools. However, that title does not accurately describe the multi-faceted curriculum offered at Cal Poly. For that reason, a name change is in order; a name that more precisely describes the discipline, and at the same time, conveys to the university community and to the general public, the diverse nature of the field.

The name that has gained recognition and acceptance in the field of Physical Education, and which best reflects the nature of the department at Cal Poly is Kinesiology. Kinesiology, operationally defined, is the branch of learning which relates to the art and science of human movement in work, play, health, creative activity, and the responses to physical exertion. The term emphasizes the field's central focus, human movement, and it includes all relevant domains of human movement knowledge. Physical Education is one of our functions but the term, Kinesiology, is all-encompassing and is more representative of what we do as a department.

The trend to change the title of Physical Education started in 1971 when Simon Fraser University changed its name to the Department of Kinesiology. In 1972, the University of California at Los Angeles adopted the same title. Many other universities across the country and within the State have also changed the title of their programs to Kinesiology. The degree CSU students receive is a Kinesiology degree. Since this is the direction in which the discipline has moved, the time has come for the Physical Education and Kinesiology Department at Cal Poly to change its name to Kinesiology. Kinesiology more accurately describes the diverse nature of the program. It also reflects the progressive image that Cal Poly holds among other institutions in the field of Physical Education.

RATIONALE FOR DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE

Change from Physical Education and Kinesiology Department to Kinesiology Department

Kinesiology: the study of the art and science of human movement.

Physical Education: preparing people to teach physical activities in the K-12 schools.

In the past, Physical Education was the appropriate name for the discipline. Most universities were training teachers in K-12 credential programs. Physical Education has evolved over the years and now encompasses a variety of emphases that fall within the definition of Kinesiology.

At Cal Poly, the Physical Education and Kinesiology Department curriculum consists of four concentrations. These include: Teaching; Clinical and Worksite Health Promotion; Pre-Physical Therapy/Healthcare Professions; Health Education. The curriculum is a science-based program. PEK majors at Cal Poly are required to take more science-based courses than at any other CSU program similar to ours. The following is a breakdown of the number of science-based units Kinesiology majors take at Cal Poly:

	<u>Science-Based Units</u>	<u>% of Students/Concentration</u> (380 undergraduate majors)
Teaching	36	20%
Pre-PT/Health Care Professions	72	48%
Clinical and Worksite Health Promotion	70	24%
Health Education	54	8%

Kinesiology is an umbrella term that describes all of the concentrations within the major. Physical Education is a part of Kinesiology and is descriptive of the Teaching Concentration.

In 1992, the department changed its name from Physical Education and Recreation Administration to Physical Education and Kinesiology. The faculty wanted to maintain Physical Education in the name so the campus community would be able to identify it with the term Kinesiology. This was to be an educational process that would eventually result in individuals understanding the relationship of Kinesiology and Physical Education.

The campus community has had eight years to associate the name kinesiology with physical education. The department now desires to eliminate Physical Education from our name. This would result in a name that more closely defines what we do as a discipline. Kinesiology describes our discipline and encompasses all of our concentrations. It is representative of the direction Physical Education programs throughout the CSU and United States have taken over the past two decades.

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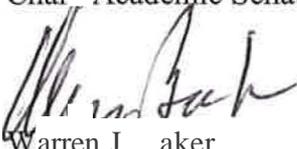
Memorandum

ACADEMIC SENATE

SAN LUIS OBISPO
CA 93407

To: Unny Menon
Chair, Academic Senate

Date: August 27, 2001

From: 
Warren J. Baker
President

Copies: Paul Zingg
David Conn
Phil Bailey
Jerry DeMers

Subject: Response to Senate Resolution AS-567-01/PE&K
Department Name Change for the Physical Education and Kinesiology Department

This will formally acknowledge receipt and approval of the above subject Resolution. In addition to the Senate's endorsement of the departmental name change to Kinesiology, the Academic Deans' Council endorsed the proposal at its June 4, 2001, meeting. Notification has been provided to Dean Bailey, as well as to the Department.

Please extend my thanks to the Senate for its prompt attention to this matter.