

Item: <u>AS: I-2</u>

COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REASSIGNMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EXERCISE SCIENCE

AND HEALTH PROMOTION TO THE CHARLES E. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF

SCIENCE

PROPOSED COMMITTEE ACTION

No action is necessary. This item is only informational.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

FAU's Department of Exercise Science and Health Promotion (ESHP), currently located in the College of Education, has proposed to move to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. The attached memorandum of understanding describes this reassignment. The ESHP department has over 1,000 undergraduate majors, ranking as one of the largest undergraduate degree programs at the university. Graduates pursue careers in diverse fields, such as physical therapy, sports medicine, cardiac/pulmonary rehabilitation, corporate fitness, medical school, allied health, coaching (strength and conditioning), country club fitness, and other industry positions. ESHP also offers a Master of Science (M.S.), in which students select from different tracks of study (strength & conditioning, exercise physiology, and health promotion). In addition to academic programs, ESHP faculty members also conduct research using the department's high-tech scientific laboratories for biochemistry, human performance, and muscle physiology. Reassigning the department to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science is consistent with a growing national trend of aligning ESHP-type programs with other applied sciences.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN/DATE

N/A

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

Supporting Documentation: Memorandum of Understanding

Presented by: Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs **Phone:** 561-297-3062



To: Ata Sarajedini, PhD

Dean, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science

Florida Atlantic University

Bret Danilowicz, PhD

Provost, Florida Atlantic University

From: Michael Whitehurst, EdD, FACSM

Chair, Dept. of Exercise Science & Health Promotion (ESHP)

ESHP Faculty: Robert Zoeller, PhD, Sue Graves, EdD, Tina Penhollow, PhD, Chun-Jung Huang, PhD, Michael Zourdos, PhD, Michael Hall, PhD, Andy Khamoui, PhD, Ian Pyka, MS, Chris Boerum, MS, MBA, Laura Canteri, MS, Michael Papania, MS

Date: March 4, 2019

Subj: Memorandum of Understanding - Reassignment of ESHP to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science (COS)

Reassigning ESHP to the COS is consistent with a growing national trend wherein higher education views exercise science/health promotion programs as an applied science. As evidence, consider our basic and translational research that seeks to understand mechanisms of inactivity-related diseases, and key molecular signals that transduce the health benefits of physical activity. Importantly, ESHP is at the center of a global interest in attempting to identify cost effective interventions to reduce chronic disease and ballooning health care costs associated with lifestyle choices.

Below is a list of conditions associated with ESHP's move into the COS. I ask that you and Provost Danilowicz acknowledge acceptance of these conditions with your signatures.

- 1. The effective date of the reassignment of ESHP to the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science is April 1, 2019.
- 2. Status quo Retain current space, all funding and positions associated with the delivery of the ESHP curriculum including faculty overloads essential to meet student enrollment, direction of our laboratories as well as hiring/managing 20+ GA's and coordination of our graduate and undergraduate degree programs.
- 3. Assign the BA in Health Science degree program to ESHP.
- 4. Provide two academic advisors to support our combined student enrollment of nearly 2000 (i.e. 737 BA, 1200 BS, 60 MS candidates). Whether reassigning existing COE advisors or hiring new staff, we wish to be part of the process. The Provost has agreed to find the resources to make this happen.

5. Promotion & Tenure – although we will generate department P&T guidelines upon entry into the COS, we expect ESHP faculty going up for third year review and promotion to either associate or full from now through the Fall of 2021 to be evaluated using the P&T criteria from their current college, namely, the College of Education.

Ata

Digitally signed by Ata Sarajedini DN: cn=Ata Sarajedini, o=Florida Atlantic University, ou=Charles E. Schmidt College of Science Dean's Office,

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Próvost, Florida Atlantic University

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