College of Arts and Sciences

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April 18, 2018

Professor Meg Daly

Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval to Change the Master of Arts to a Master of Science Degree in Psychology

Dear Meg,

The Department of Psychology proposed to change their current Master of Arts (MA) to a Master of Science (MS) degree. Currently, Psychology offers the PhD as its only graduate degree program. Many students earn a Master’s degree in route to the PhD. As a matter of tradition, the Master’s degree awarded by the Department of Psychology has been the MA. The Department of Psychology proposed to change the MA to the MS degree to better reflect the clear scientific bases of the research students engage in (typically brain-behavior relations), the scientific and quantitative methods utilized in their research, and the large number of science-based courses that are required as part of their graduate training. In addition, the Ohio Department of Higher Education recognizes the Department of Psychology at Ohio State University as a STEM discipline, further supporting the proposed degree change.

The SBS Panel of the ASCC agreed that the proposed degree change is appropriate and warranted. The Panel did wonder how many students would be impacted by this change. Regardless, the proposal was unanimously approved with no contingencies on April 10, 2018. We now advance the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve.

Sincerely,



Christina M. Roup

Chair, ASCC SBS Panel