

College of Pharmacy
Department of Pharmacy Practice

William H. Riffee, Ph.D. Dean, College of Pharmacy University of Florida Box 100484; HSC Gainesville, FL 32610-0484

Dear Dr. Riffee,



The purpose of this letter is to seek your support and subsequent approval to change the name of the Department of Pharmacy Practice to the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Translational Research.

There are several reasons we are seeking to change our department name. First, the present name of Pharmacy Practice suggests that we are the only department that is responsible for teaching principles of Pharmacy Practice in our curriculum. This implication is far from realistic given that all departments in the College, especially Pharmaceutical Outcomes and Policy, contribute in varying degrees to teaching these principles. Second, the present name fails to recognize the very substantial research effort currently on-going in our department. As such, this name is misleading. Lastly, you are, I suspect, well aware of our growing graduate program in Clinical Pharmaceutical Science presently officially based in the department of Pharmaceutics. We hope to move this graduate program into our department within the next couple of years. As such, we feel that the name Pharmacy Practice would simply be inappropriate to oversee such a graduate program.

The process by which this new name was chosen was, I believe, most democratic. First, the idea was presented by one of our faculty for discussion both electronically via many e-mails and during at least two regularly scheduled department meetings. Second, suggestions for new names were gathered and a slate of these possible candidate names emerged. They were: 1) Department of Pharmacotherapy and Translational Research; 2) Department of Pharmacotherapy and Translational Therapeutics, and; 3) Department of Pharmacotherapy and Experimental Therapeutics. Lastly, an election was held and selection #1 above was chosen by a majority of faculty on the first ballot.

Since then, we have obtained unofficial support of the new department name from Dr. Peter Stacpoole, Director of the new Clinical and Translational Science Institute which is presently seeking NIH support of a Clinical and Translational Science Award. We have also received similar from Dr. Stephen Baker, Chair of the Department of Pharmacology in the College of Medicine and all of the Deans in the Health Science Center. Finally, we obtained approval just yesterday from our own Faculty Governance Council.

It is my understanding now that, pending your approval and support, the application must be sent first to Dr. Douglas Barrett, Vice President for Health Affairs, and then to the University of Florida Provost, Dr. Joseph Glover, for approval. The application is the returned for us to subsequently submit to the University of Florida Curriculum Committee which forwards it to the University of Florida Faculty Senate for final approval.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this request. I am hopeful that it meets with your approval. I am free to meet with you as needed to discuss this request in greater detail.

With warm regards,

Larry M. Lopez, Pharm.D., FCCP, BCPS Professor of Pharmacy and Medicine Associate Chair of Pharmacy Practice

Julie A. Johnson Pharm.D.

Professor and Chair

Department of Pharmacy Practice