



27 January 2026

DELIVERED ELECTRONICALLY

Dear Dr. Marcus,

The College of Arts and Sciences supports the proposal by the Department of Psychology to change the name of the academic plan within the PhD in Psychology from “Experimental Psychology” to “Psychological Science”. The new name is a more accurate description of the wide range of concepts and approaches used by faculty and graduate students in their research. It is also more inclusive since some members of this program do not solely utilize experimental methods. Furthermore, the name change is likely to be more appealing, because of its clarity, to undergraduate students and to prospective graduate students. My understanding is that faculty in the Department of Psychology are strongly in favor of this change.

The College of Arts and Sciences also supports the change in the CIP code to “Research and Experimental Psychology, Other” which would identify this program as a STEM field. This would have positive implications for incoming students, including international students, as it allows extension of visa eligibility, which should thereby improve retention and success of the program.

Thank you very much, and please let me know if you have any questions.

*Patrick A. Carter*

Patrick A. Carter, Associate Dean,  
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