

December 1, 2016

To: David Eaton, Vice Provost and Dean, The Graduate School

From: Joel Berg, Dean, School of Dentistry
Proxy Dean for Review

RE: Review of the Interdisciplinary Program in Pathobiology (IDPP)

This memorandum outlines the Graduate School's recommendations on the Interdisciplinary Program in Pathobiology (IDPP) program review. Detailed comments on the review can be found in the documents that were part of the following formal review proceedings:

- Charge meeting between review committee and administrators (January 19, 2016)
- Self-Study (February 5, 2016)
- Site visit (March 7 – 8, 2016)
- Review committee report (April 4, 2016)
- Interdisciplinary Program in Pathobiology (IDPP) response to the report (May 26, 2016)
- Graduate School Council consideration of review (December 1, 2016)

The review committee consisted of:

John Clark, Professor & Chair, UW Department of Biological Structure (Committee Chair)
Caroline (Carrie) Harwood, Professor, UW Department of Microbiology
Scott Landfear, Professor, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Oregon
Health and Science University

The program offers the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

Members of the Graduate School Council presented findings and recommendations to the full Council at its meeting on December 1, 2016. A summary of this report, composed by Graduate School Council Members, is attached to this document.

Graduate School Council Recommendations

The Graduate School Council commends the Interdisciplinary Program in Pathobiology on the strength of its programs, faculty, and students. After discussion regarding general recommendations found on page five, the Council recommended the following action items:

- Review in 10 years
(continued on next page)

- In addition, during the 2018-2019 academic year, the program should send a letter to the Dean of the Graduate School addressing the following:
 - Provide an update on the planned move to the Department of Global Health.
 - If this has not happened, address current plans for the Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination Procedure (RCEP) process or outline if this RCEP is no longer planned to move the program to the Department of Global Health.
 - Provide a succession planning update for the leadership of IDPP.

We concur with the Council's recommendations.

cc: Gerald Baldasty, Provost and Executive Vice President
 Patricia Moy, Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Student Affairs, Office of the Provost
 Lee Ann Campbell, *Director & Professor*, Interdisciplinary Pathobiology Program
 John Slattery, *Vice Dean for Research and Graduate Education*, School of Medicine
 Shirley A.A. Beresford, *Senior Associate Dean*, School of Public Health
 Judy Wasserheit, *Chair*, Department of Global Health
 John Clark, Professor & Chair, UW Department of Biological Structure (Committee Chair)
 Caroline (Carrie) Harwood, Professor, UW Department of Microbiology
 Scott Landfear, Professor, Department of Molecular Microbiology and Immunology, Oregon Health and Science University
 Members of the Graduate School Council
 Wesley Henry, Academic Program Specialist, The Graduate School
 GPSS President



Joel H. Berg, DDS, MS
 Dean

Attachment:
Graduate School Council Review Summary

To: The Graduate School Council

From: Gunnar Almgren, Associate Professor
The School of Social Work

Michael Brown, Professor
Department of Earth and Space Sciences

Re: Summary of Program Review: Interdisciplinary Program in Pathobiology (IDPP)

November 15th, 2016

Program Strengths

The following list of each program strength is presented in accordance with the order or strengths cited in the full Committee report:

- The IDPP is considered to be “unique in the world” for its combined emphasis on a strong academic education in both basic science and global health, and it serves as a model for the future education of effective professionals serving in public and international health care.
- The Committee found the effective leadership of Professor Lee Ann Campbell and her dedication to academic excellence to be a major strength of the IDPP.
- The IDPP students were found by the Committee to be enthused about the program, clear and concise on the significance their individual scientific interests, were uniform of the praise for the faculty and of the administration of the program, and all students interviewed were engaged in the writing of manuscripts for publication and several had already published their scientific work. In addition, students were found to be engaged in a wide range of networking activities that has inspired their special sense of community that began with their IDPP orientation.
- The Committee found that the administrative organization (comprised of three major committees: Admissions, Curriculum and Student Affairs) is coherent, inclusive of faculty and student governance, and effective in its advancement of the IDPP’s program goals.

- The Committee cites as a strength the IDPP's resource of a large core of outstanding and committed faculty anchoring the curriculum, engaging and challenging the students in courses, in their laboratories, and in symposia. The Committee also notes the advantage of an IDPP faculty comprised of members of affiliated and partner institutions.

Challenges & Risks

- First on the list of IDPP's challenges, noted to be typical to most academic units, are the financial challenges pertaining to student support and adequate remuneration for faculty teaching. In particular, the identified problems are:
 - finding placements for new students in funded laboratories and having a cushion of support for students when PI's lose funding support. There is a related challenge in developing adequate financial support for international students.
 - Dealing with ABB allocations that do not adequately support graduate education in small courses.
- The IDPP has students located in different training sites, and students with different course and lab schedules, thus posing significant challenges in scheduling seminars and coordinating all student events.
- While there is a robust core faculty, there are also faculty with low levels of participation, suggesting there is a need to evaluate their continued involvement.
- Among particular concerns noted by the Committee is the need for additional planning associated with the IDPP program merger with the Department of Global Health (DGH). In particular, planning needs to address financial stability and sustaining the high level of core faculty involvement.

Areas of Concurrence

- There is concurrence on the need for planning in the merger of IDPP with DGH that ensures financial stability and integration into the DGH, and within that transition the important need to clarify the salary commitment to faculty from different partner institutions.
- There is concurrence on the potential of combining an MPH degree with the PhD (which would entail on the addition of 1 year to the current 5-year program), the potential of an undergraduate degree in pathobiology, and tuition paying for MS and MPH degree programs that might expand the academic background of students in the IDPP.

- There is concurrence on all of the aforementioned strengths of the program, and also that there are mechanisms in place for self-evaluation and improvement of the IDPP program.

Graduate School Council Recommendations

The Council supports the finding that IDPP provides outstanding graduate education that has large and positive societal impact. The Program is highly selective and has maintained momentum despite prior reorganizations. The leadership has proven to be responsive and has successfully adjusted to past administrative changes. Students, faculty, and staff are enthusiastic supporters of the program. Under the current administrative organization, a review in a decade is recommended.

However, a full merger of IDPP with the Department of Global Health is under discussion. As a result, several additional recommendations are made.

1. The experience provided by the current leadership during the transition is considered beneficial.
2. How IDPP will function within the Department of Global Health as well as the benefits provided to DGH need to be articulated. Synergies between a graduate and undergraduate educational programs appear to be a great opportunity. Another is the synergies between the two graduate programs in global health. The contribution(s) to the greater community of public and global health could be very great.
3. Financial sustainability of IDPP needs further consideration. Their greater participation in undergraduate education has been suggested and should be considered
4. Succession planning for the leadership of IDPP should begin. Professor Campbell is a critical and historic part of the leadership of the IDPP and her experience and knowledge could be important during the transfer of IDPP to Global Health. One possibility is the appointment of an assistant Director who could continue the achievements and success of the IDPP and assist in the transfer.