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Office of the President December 9, 2014

Members, Board of Trustees:

CHANGE IN NAME AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE GRADUATE CENTER FOR TOXICOLOGY

<u>Recommendation</u>: that the Board of Trustees approve the change in the name and organizational structure of the Graduate Center for Toxicology to the Department of Toxicology and Cancer Biology, in the College of Medicine, effective January 1, 2015.

<u>Background</u>: The proposal to broaden the current Graduate Center for Toxicology into a new Department of Toxicology and Cancer Biology is based on the desire and need to take advantage of the unique education and research strengths of the faculty in the Center that has recently expanded into two areas: (1) cancer research, together with the remarkable increased research and educational strengths of the Markey Cancer Center that has occurred over the last three years; and (2) mechanisms underlying disease caused by environmental toxicants that is the focus of a recently created Center for Research on Environmental Disease.

Discussion of such an academically broadened department began about three years ago with an overarching goal of synergizing the research, education and training opportunities of all three units. A key academic goal is to provide a single department with a strong research environment for homing new faculty recruitments with research foci in cancer and environmental disease. A second key goal is the development of an integrated and strong educational program in toxicology and cancer biology that can serve as a platform for education of undergraduate, professional, and graduate students, together with training of postdoctoral fellows/scholars and clinicians.

The proposal has been reviewed and recommended for endorsement by the Senate Committee on Academic Organization and Structure and the Senate Council. The University Senate endorsed the name and organizational structure change of the Center. The Provost of the University supports this recommendation.