## NOTICE OF INTENT TO RENAME A PROGRAM, DEPARTMENT, SCHOOL, OR COLLEGE

## Proposals will only be accepted electronically as a Word document to the Office of the Provost when submitted to provost.deg.changes@wsu.edu

Current Name:	College of Education
Proposed Name:	College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences
Campus(es):	Pullman, Vancouver, Spokane, Tri-Cities & Everett
College(s):	College of Education

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Date of filing this NOI:		Proposed effective date:		05/01/2025

## The rationale for the proposed name change.

The current name of the college does not reflect all of its departments and the programs it offers. The college consists of three departments: Teaching & Learning (T&L), Kinesiology & Educational Psychology (KEP), and Educational Leadership and Sport Management (ELSM). These departments offer various programs such as Athletic Training (KEP), Cultural Studies and Social Thought in Education (T&L), and Curriculum & Instruction (T&L), among others. A survey conducted by the WSU SESRC team in the spring of 2022 revealed that 50% of respondents were not aware of the college offering a program in Sport Management (see page 13 of the attached survey report). Similar trends were observed for other programs such as Athletic Training, Cultural Studies, and Educational Leadership (refer to pages 17 to 27 of the survey report). This lack of awareness represents a missed opportunity for recruitment, publicity, fundraising, and community engagement.

Students and faculty who pursue sports, including athletic training, Human Sciences, and Kinesiology, experience a lack of belonging in the College. This is particularly acute for students and faculty whose home base is the Smith Gym building.

As the College embarks on a rebranding to be more inclusive and ramp up efforts to become selfsustaining, it is imperative that this process begins with a name change that authentically represents what we do, who we are, and what we want to be known for now and in the future

Explain how <u>all</u> faculty and staff were notified of the potential change, engaged in the discussion, and given the opportunity to provide feedback. Please summarize their responses.

Two survey activities were conducted prior to the main survey effort performed by the SESRC in March 2022. First, in the spring of 2021, the WSU College of Education conducted an exploratory online survey of college faculty which resulted in generating nearly 60 alternative names for the college. Next, the University Marketing and Communications department at WSU used the names generated in the 2021 survey to develop a focus group script. In the fall of 2021, University Marketing and Communications and SESRC staff conducted focus groups with WSU College of Education staff/faculty, students and stakeholders to narrow the list of possible names as well as to gather additional feedback concerning the name change process.

Feedback from the focus group was used to construct the online survey of WSU College of Education staff, faculty, students, alumni, and stakeholders asking about a possible name change for the college, which was conducted in March 2022 by SESRC. The development of the survey questions was informed by a previous survey of faculty from the college conducted in 2021 and a series of focus

groups with staff, faculty, students, and members of the college advisory board conducted later that same year. An online survey of 53 questions displayed on 11 screens was administered to a list of 4,443 staff, faculty, students, alumni and stakeholders in/from the WSU College of Education. An invitation was sent via email on March 3, 2022 and 2 follow-up reminder emails to non-respondents were sent in the weeks to follow. A total of 1,024 respondents completed or partially completed the survey, achieving a response rate of 23%.

Describe the process by which other departments, colleges, or campuses were consulted about this change and summarize the response. Letters of support may be appended.

To gather feedback regarding a new name for the WSU College of Education, responses were sought from individuals with varying degrees of involvement with the College. Fiver target populations were identified: WSU CoE faculty and staff, students (graduate/professional and undergraduate students), alumni from the college and outside stakeholders with recent experience working with the college. These groups formed the study population and were utilized strategically for each of the three separate survey efforts in the study.

A small group of CoE staff and faculty were asked to participate in the preliminary online survey conducted by the college in 2021. The survey was conducted in April 2021 and collected responses from 30 individuals.

In the fall of 2021, three focus groups were administered to six CoE faculty and staff, nine college stakeholders and seven current students enrolled in the college.

The college-wide online survey conducted by SESRC in Spring 2022 was administered to all 5 populations of faculty/staff and students who were either working with the college or enrolled at the college during 2022 spring semester. A convenience sample of stakeholders and a random sample of college of alumni were also used in this survey effort.

SESRC obtained a list of all 358 currently employed WSU staff and faculty within CoE across all campuses. The list was produced by WSU Office of Research staff and generated from WSU Data warehouse. In addition, a list of 1,692 undergraduate and 368 graduate students enrolled in the college during the spring 2022 semester were obtained from WSU -IT staff. Request to obtain these lists were submitted to WSU Office of Registrar and WSU Graduate School in Jan 2022 and permission was granted later that same month. These lists were made available to SESRC on March 1, 2022. On March 3, 2022, invitation email letters were mailed to all 4,442 names in the study list.

In result, the survey revealed a strong support for a college name change that was visionary, representing the college programs into the future. Two-thirds of respondents (67.3%) said they agreed with this view. A little more than half of the respondents (55.8%) felt that the current name may cause difficulties for recruiting new students into all its programs. Nearly all respondents (84.9%) felt it was important that the college name represent all the programs it offers but not as many (62.5%) felt the current name adequately did so.

If applicable, describe the process by which other stakeholders (e.g., advisory or alumni groups) were consulted about this change and summarize the response:

WSU CoE curated a list of 30 stakeholders associated with the college. These names include advisory board members, government employees and faculty from other academic institutions. This list was not a complete list of stakeholders and should be treated as a sample of convenience. The results of this sub-group of survey respondents only represent the opinions of those who completed the survey.

A random sample of 2,000 WSU CoE Alumni was drawn by database administrators at WSU's Foundation/Alumni Association. The random list was drawn from the list of all 20,780 known alumni

maintained by WSU Foundation. The list was constrained to only those with known email addresses. The stakeholders had a 73.3% rate, and the alumni group achieved a 15.8% response rate.

These 2 sub-groups revealed fair support for a college name change, but they are not sure what should constitute the new name besides Education.

Please provide a list of any and all objections raised during the consultations and provide a response to each objection. If none, enter "None."

Starting in the summer of 2024, under Dean Thomas Brown, a new committee with 9 members (including Dean Thomas Brown) was regrouped to review the survey and the name change project action. After several meetings, a letter of support was issued to collect the votes on the new name "College of Education, Sport, and Human Sciences." One member voted "No" to the name change due to disagreement with adding "Sports" to the name" All others voted "Yes" to the new name, with one member wanting the "s" removed from "Sports". Based on that and other feedback, the dean elected to drop the "s" in favor of "Sport".

## SIGNATURES: The names typed below certify that the relevant academic and campus officials have reviewed and approved this proposal:

Chair or Director		Date:					
Signature:							
Dean Signature:	1 Howas Bron	Date:	9/30/2024				
Signatures are required from all Chancellors (or delegates). A signature denotes endorsement if the degree will be offered and/or impact the respective campus. A signature will also denote receipt of notification if the degree is not being offered and/or will impact the respective campus. If needed, a signature abstention box is provided immediately below.							
Everett Chancellor Signature:	J-la Ph	Date:	10-01-2024				
Global Chancellor Signature:	Dave Cillay	Date:	10/1/2024				
Pullman Chancellor Signature:	Dave Cillay	Date:	10/1/2024				
Spokane Chancellor Signature:		Date:					
Tri-Cities Chancellor Signature:	Sanda Haynes	Date:	10/21/24				
Vancouver Chancellor Signature:	Cu cryl 4	Date	10/21/2024				
Comments regarding abstention of signature(s)  Per Margaret Holt: Chancellor DeWald has ran this through the deans on the campus and he is not comfortable with the name change to COE, Sports and Human Sciences.  He will not be signing this NOI.							
Submit completed form as a Word document to the Provost's Office at provost.deg.changes@wsu.edu							
Provost's Office Signature:		Date:					

For Registrar's Office Use Only:

Current CIP Code:	New CIP Code:	Date:	