Memorandum

To: University Senate

From: Raymond A. Noe, Chair
       Council on Academic Affairs

Date: September 19, 2005

A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO THE SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WHEREAS the School of Natural Resources addresses natural resource and environmental issues for the benefit of human society and the biosphere; and

WHEREAS the proposed name change does not mean a new academic orientation for the School, but a better reflection of ongoing activity and the School’s role in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, and has been endorsed by the faculty of the School, the faculty in the College, and by the Dean; and

WHEREAS other academic units that use the term “environment” - the College of Biological Sciences, the College of Engineering, the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences (Department of Geological Sciences), the Moritz College of Law, and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Department of Geography) were consulted, reviewed the proposal, and provided support; and

WHEREAS by prior University Senate and Board of Trustees’ action, use of the term environment by one academic unit does not preclude its use now or in the future by any other academic unit; and

WHEREAS the proposal was reviewed and approved by the full Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on August 24, 2005;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate approve the proposal to change the name of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources and respectfully request concurrence from the Board of Trustees.
Name Change

Jerry and Jill:

I am pleased to inform you that the proposal to change the name of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources was approved by the Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on August 24, 2005. Thank you for attending the meeting to respond to questions/comments.

This proposal will now be sent to the University Senate for action at a forthcoming meeting. Once I have been given that date, I will contact you. If approved by the University Senate, the proposal will then go to the Board of Trustees for action as the final step in the review/approval process.

Please note that this message represents my formal communication with you about this proposal. You will not get a separate letter from me. In that regard, please keep a copy of this message for your file(s) on the proposal and I will do the same for the file in the Office of Academic Affairs.

If you have any questions/comments about this action, please contact the Chair of the Council, Professor Ray Noe (noe.22@osu.edu) or me.

Randy

W. Randy Smith
Vice Provost
Jerry:

The Council on Academic Affairs is scheduled to act on your name change proposal at its meeting on August 24.

I now have letters/e-mail messages of support/no objection from:

Mathematical and Physical Sciences
Geological Sciences
Geography
Biological Sciences
Law
Engineering

In some of this correspondence, it is noted that the term environment is broad, and therefore that approval/concurrence/support presumes that other units within the University will also be able to use it - a point that was established at our meeting in the Spring and agreed upon by all in attendance.

If you have any questions/comments prior to the meeting this week, please call (2-5881).

Randy
March 1, 2005

Dr. Randy Smith  
Office of Academic Affairs  
203 Bricker Hall  
190 North Oval Mall  
Campus

Dear Randy:

Attached is a proposal from the School of Natural Resources to change their name from the School of Natural Resources to “School of Environment and Natural Resources”. As you can see, proper process has been followed in bringing this forth from the School.

At the February department chairs meeting in the college, (our executive committee) we discussed this with the leadership of the college. I am pleased to report that there was unanimous support from all the department chairs and members of my administrative cabinet to endorse this change.

In addition, we have shared this proposed change electronically with all faculty in the college requesting if there was objection or concern that they let us know by a given date. I am pleased to report that we only have one concern raised and it was because of a misspelling in the transmittal note and some minor concern about where they would place environment in the title. Otherwise, faculty in this college clearly are supportive of the School seeking a name that more accurately reflects the content of their instructional program and research endeavors.

In 1994, the University approved the new name of our college: College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. The University agreed with our rationale that this name accurately describes the core of our academic enterprise. We are the only college at Ohio State University with “Environmental Sciences” as a part of our name.

Not surprisingly, the fact that the School of Natural Resources is a part of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences was a fundamental reason for us proposing the new name in 1994. While every effort relating to environmental sciences in CFAES is not in the School of Natural Resources, certainly the substantive core of our environmental sciences thrust is. Therefore, we feel it is only right and proper that this School be allowed to use environment in its name. It is accurate. It is a better description of their current portfolio than is natural resources alone. It is in alignment with the name of the college of which it is a part. It is congruent with the name of one of its undergraduate majors and it (the School) has adequately made the argument that the requested name is congruent with almost sixty of its courses which have “environment” or “environmental” in the title or course description.
We look forward to working with you as this moves through further processes on the campus. Please be in touch if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Bobby D. Moser  
Vice President for Agricultural Administration and  
Vice President for University Outreach

Enclosure

cc: L.H. Newcomb  
    Jill Pfister  
    Jerry Bigham
Date: February 14, 2005

To: Dr. L.H. Newcomb, Associate Dean, CFAES

From: Jerry M. Bingham, Interim Director, SNR

Re: Proposed unit name change

Enclosed please find the final draft of a rationale statement supporting a name change for the School of Natural Resources. As per your suggestion, I have incorporated a statement that emphasizes our role in a College that already carries the word “Environmental” in its name. Also enclosed are letters of support from our alumni society, graduate students, undergraduates, and various stakeholder groups. I contacted the chairs/directors of all other academic units in the college and received their verbal support for the name change. Only Bob Birkenholz provided written feedback.

I believe our meeting with the OAA committee has been set for March 1. Official College support for the proposed name change could only help our cause at that and subsequent meetings; therefore, I am requesting that we proceed with a vote of the College faculty by whatever means you think is appropriate.

Thank you for your time and effort in support of this activity.

c: file

Encl.
PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE
SCHOOL OF NATURAL RESOURCES
to
SCHOOL OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Rationale

The School of Natural Resources (SNR) is one of eight units in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University. It is an interdisciplinary program addressing natural resource and environmental issues for the benefit of human society and the biosphere. The SNR integrates natural and social sciences with the enduring vision of a productive society sustained by resource management in harmony with the natural environment.

The importance of environmental stewardship is apparent in both our history and our modern academic programs and should be reflected in the name of our organization; hence, we are proposing to change the name of our academic unit from the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources. The objective of the proposed name change is not to promote a new thrust for the SNR or establish exclusive rights to current interest in the environment. Rather, a name change is proposed to better indicate who we are, what we provide our students, and what we have been about since the SNR was established. The proposed name also better defines the School’s central role in a College that has chosen to align its mission and programs in support of the environmental sciences.

Historical Perspective

The academic programs of the SNR can be traced to the end of the nineteenth century when concern over rapid depletion of our forest resources led to passage of the Federal Forest Reserve Act of 1891. In 1905, Congress created the U.S. Forest Service, and personnel were assigned to the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station (now OARDC). Subsequent concern about environmental degradation and depletion of other natural resources led to establishment of the U.S. National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Soil Conservation Service as agencies of the federal government. Universities responded to these and other initiatives by developing education, outreach, and research programs in forestry, wildlife, fisheries, soil and water management, and conservation education.

In 1945, an Interdepartmental Conservation Curriculum (ICC) was initiated by the College of Agriculture at OSU with undergraduate specializations in soil, water, and wildlife conservation. A Natural Resources Institute was created by action of the OSU Board of Trustees in 1955 to direct the ICC and “to stimulate and coordinate teaching and
research in the conservation, development and wise use of natural resources.” Over 100 faculty members from 19 departments and more than 50 persons from federal, state, and local agencies participated in the Institute’s programs. Student demand grew significantly through the Institute, and faculty began to lobby for a more complete program in natural resources.

In an effort to strengthen all OSU programs related to natural resources, the Board of Trustees created the School of Natural Resources on July 1, 1968. According to a history of the SNR prepared for the Centennial Celebration of OSU in 1970, “the programs of the School are designed to focus on the interaction of man’s natural environment wherein social factors, science, and political practices are recognized as co-determinants. The goal is a holistic view of man in relation to his natural resources base.” This shift away from single commodity science (forestry, fisheries, etc.) paved the way for a new paradigm of ecosystem function and management within the framework of the SNR. Among the core courses established in 1969, Natural Resources 201, originally titled Environmental Management and Man, was designed to meet the needs for a background course in conservation for prospective teachers, serve as a survey course for a variety of resource management fields, and provide an introduction to the environment for liberal arts majors. Interest in the environment continued to grow throughout the decades of the 1970’s, 80’s and 90’s. In response, the SNR developed a formal undergraduate program in Environmental Education and Interpretation in 1971, and a separate Environmental Science major was approved in 1993.

The SNR undergraduate major in Environmental Science was preceded by the establishment of an interdisciplinary Environmental Science Graduate Program (ESGP) in April, 1989 to address the increasingly complex nature of modern research related to environmental problems. The chair of the ad-hoc committee that organized the ESGP was a SNR faculty member appointed by the Graduate School, and the SNR has remained a steadfast supporter of the program. The ESGP has been physically housed in the School for 9 of the past 15 years, and 3 of the 5 Directors have been members of the SNR faculty. As of Summer Quarter, 2004 a total of 197 theses and dissertations had been completed by ESGP students, and 37% were supervised by SNR faculty.

Current Status

Environmental subject matter remains a central thrust of academic programs in the School of Natural Resources where applied ecology, natural resource conservation, outdoor recreation and tourism, and environmental policy and education are emphasized by 36 faculty. These faculty include nationally and internationally recognized environmental scientists working in such areas as ecosystem restoration, global climate change, and ecological engineering. The School is home to the Olentangy River Wetland Research Park, a Carbon Management and Sequestration Center that is the core of an OSU Climate Change and Environmental Research Initiative, and an Ohio Eminent Scholar program in soil microbial ecology. For over a decade, the School’s Lecture and Seminar Series has showcased outstanding scientists from all over the world with lectures and discussions on contemporary environmental issues.
The School currently supports 370 undergraduate majors, and the Environmental Science curriculum represents 20% of the total. SNR faculty also advise 100 graduate students, and 17% are enrolled in ESGP. Although faculty from 22 Departments hold appointments in ESGP, 25% of the total are from SNR. Undergraduate and Graduate courses currently offered by SNR faculty (2004/05 OSU Course Offerings Bulletin under Natural Resources and Soil Science codes) include at least 58 listings with environmental-ecological relevance. Of these courses, 34 have “environment” or “environmental” in the title or description, and NR 201, *Introduction to Environmental Science*, is an approved General Education Course (GEC) for both the BA and BS degrees in the Arts and Sciences. In 2005, the School plans to initiate a new *Environment and Natural Resources Scholars Program* pending approval at the CFAES and University levels.

**The Proposed Name**

Surveys of other institutions have shown that “environmental science” is commonly associated with B.S. programs emphasizing the biological, chemical, and physical sciences. By contrast, “environmental studies” usually describe BA programs developed within the context of social sciences. Collectively, our academic programs in the School place equal emphasis on environmental science, environmental studies, and natural resource management. Given this fact, the name *School of Environment and Natural Resources* is proposed as a logical title. Examples of other universities with units having the same or similar names include the Universities of Michigan and Florida, each with a School of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Universities of Vermont and Wyoming, each with a School of Environment and Natural Resources.

This proposed name was discussed at length and received unanimous faculty support at a School-wide retreat held early in Autumn, 2004. The name change and rationale were also presented to the SNR Alumni Society, active Undergraduate and Graduate Student Organizations, and key stakeholder groups. Response letters are enclosed.

If the name change is approved, listings in the OSU Course Offerings Bulletin will be altered from Natural Resources to *Environment and Natural Resources*, but no name changes will be requested at this time for the undergraduate degree, undergraduate majors, or graduate programs offered by the School.


3. *Biennial Report of the Natural Resources Institute* (Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio State University), July 1, 1965 to June 30, 1967, p. 7.

4. *History of the School of Natural Resources*, *The Ohio State University Centennial Celebration* (Columbus, Ohio: The Ohio State University), 1970, p. 1 (emphasis added).
January 26, 2005

Dr. Jerry M. Bigham
Interim Director
School of Natural Resources
2021 Coffey Road
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed name change for the School of Natural Resources at The Ohio State University. After reviewing the rationale you provided, I believe the proposed change to “School of Environment and Natural Resources” is entirely consistent with the teaching, research and outreach activities of your unit. The new name will acknowledge the focus on environmental issues that have been a part of the School’s academic programs for many years.

Graduates from your programs in environmental sciences and environmental policy will clearly benefit from the recognition provided by the new name. The name change will also help potential employers, such as the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, to identify qualified individuals seeking employment in professions related to the environment. Finally, the proposed name will highlight the philosophical linkages between our organizations and will serve to promote collaboration on issues of mutual concern.

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Koncelik, Director
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

JPK/cmf
January 12, 2005

Dr. Jerry Bigham
Director
School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham:

As you recall, several years ago NRCS noted to OSU, School of Natural Resources (SNR), that in future years we expected to significantly increase the number of new employees we would need to hire. We also observed that we were receiving few applications for current vacancies from SNR graduates that had the educational background required for our positions.

I am pleased with the efforts the school has made in the last several years to respond to concerns voiced by NRCS and others. It appears to me that we are already beginning to see some change in the availability of job candidates due to your efforts.

I view the current proposal to change the name of the school as another action that could have a positive impact on student recruitment, which in turn could increase the number of SNR graduates that might be interested in pursuing a career with NRCS.

NRCS supports the proposal to change the name of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

JOHN WILSON
Acting State Conservationist

cc:
J. C. Gerken, State Soil Scientist, NRCS, Columbus, OH
January 10, 2005

Dr. Jerry M. Bigham, Interim Director
The Ohio State University
School of Natural Resources
420A Kottman
2021 Coffey Rd.
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham,

Thank you for the chance to comment on the proposed name change of the OSU, School of Natural Resources (SNR). I appreciate your considering the ODNR, Division of Forestry as a close working partner with the SNR.

After careful consideration and review of your rationale, I believe your proposed name change is appropriate. I certainly believe it expresses a broader and more comprehensive view of resource management and reflects a vision for the future.

Curricula involving Urban Forestry and a new combined Wildlife-Forestry degree are indicative of the changes the school has made in recent years that reflect an interest in and response to modern environmental needs and concerns. They support your position.

Interestingly, as my staff reviewed your proposal, two of them made the same suggestion for a modest change to your proposal. They suggested using the title School of Environmental and Natural Resources. I found the suggestion interesting and worth passing along. I will let you decide how much consideration it should get.

I wish you the best of luck with these efforts.

Sincerely,

John E. Dorka, Chief
Division of Forestry

JED: ejm
January 11, 2005

Dr. Jerry M. Bigham
Interim Director
School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Jerry:

Thank you for providing us with background information and an opportunity to comment on the proposed name change for the School of Natural Resources. We have enjoyed a productive relationship with the School of Natural Resources over the years and many of our staff have been educated through your curriculum or graduated from your programs. Our recent partnership that resulted in the Terrestrial Wildlife Ecology Laboratory is one great example of how your programs have benefited wildlife management and conservation in Ohio.

While we feel the current name represents what you do well and continue to prefer it, we understand your reasons for changing your name to School of Environment and Natural Resources. We will support your efforts to make this name change based on our long-standing relationship and your desire to better define all that the School is doing.

We look forward to partnering with the School and your faculty for years to come as we both strive to meet our conservation and environmental stewardship missions.

Sincerely,

STEVEN A. GRAY
Chief

SAG/DS/mm
0103ds01
Dear Dr. Moser:

I want to express support for changing the name of the College’s School of Natural resources, to “School of Environment and Natural Resources.” I believe the new name would better reflect the mission, courses, research and outreach in the School. It is critical for the School to include an environmental focus in much of what it does, and it is equally important for the name of the School to reflect that to students, faculty and all of Ohio.

I also believe the new name will assist in recruiting students to the School in today’s competitive environment for enrollment. Many young people seek education and careers in “the environment.”

I also want to note that I discussed the proposed name change with the leadership of our Department of Natural Resources, and they are supportive of the new name.

Regardless of the name, I we look forward to continued productive collaboration on many important matters with the College and the School. Best wishes for a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

David Hanselmann, Chief
Division of Soil and Water Conservation

cc: Jerry Bigham
February 2, 2005

Jerry Bigham, Ph.D.
Professor and Interim Director, School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1085

Dear Dr. Bigham:

Thank you for your consulting the School of Natural Resources Alumni Society (SNRAS) regarding the proposed name change for the School. The issue has been discussed among our Executive Council members, and there has been unanimous support for a change to **School of Environment and Natural Resources**. To our group, this seems a logical (and for many, long-overdue) change. The addition of “environment” to the School’s name better reflects the holistic focus on the environment that the School has always promoted through its programs and activities. We are pleased that the name will continue to reflect natural resource management, in its many forms, but will now be broadened to visibly promote the environmental ethics of conservation and sustainability that are at the core of all we do as environmental professionals.

Although you have indicated that it will not be required of us, this name change compels us to change our Society’s name, too. This will require some additional planning and coordination for S(E!)NRAS, but we feel strongly enough about the sensibility and importance of this change that our group is willing to shoulder the additional burden to make a corresponding step forward.

Thank you, again, for soliciting our input. If you have any questions or comments about this recommendation, feel free to call me at (614) 818-9156 or send an e-mail to madilley@earthlink.net.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Dilley
President, SNRAS
January 13, 2005

Dr. Jerry Bigham, Interim Director
The School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham,

GradRoots, the graduate student organization within the School of Natural Resources, is pleased to support the proposed name change to School of Environment and Natural Resources. The School is an interdisciplinary program exploring social and natural elements of natural resource management, and the environment and environmental science are key components of this goal. We feel that the new name would better represent the work of faculty members and students within the School.

Sincerely,

Sarah Beck, GradRoots Chair
Dr. Jerry Bigham  
School of Natural Resources  
2021 Coffey Rd  
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham,

On the behalf of The Ohio State University, Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society, I am writing this lettering in regards to the proposed School of Natural Resources name alteration. Our organization has had a strong, long standing presence in the School of Natural Resources, and we are grateful for your interest in our organization’s opinion.

We have discussed this issue in many formats including as an officer’s committee and as an entire organization. Many concerns and approvals emerged in each of these instances. The concerns that were raised included the possibility that traditional natural resources programs such as Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife would inadvertently take a submissive role to the Environmental programs. Since the Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife curriculum is such an imperative part of the school demographics, a loss in that focus would be disheartening. Additionally, concerns over the title sequence and the resulting inelegance of the proposed name were debated. The majority of the organization felt that “The School of Environment and Natural Resources” was awkward and impracticable in frequent articulation. Many members suggested that “The School of Natural Resources and the Environment” would be a better rendition.

On the other hand, our organization did acknowledge the need to recognize the importance of environmental stewardship as a significant part of the school’s academic programs and history. As one of the eight units in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences we understand the significance of following the college’s lead in making the its name more diverse and inclusive. Currently, students may not recognize the “School of Natural Resources” as an environmentally based curriculum and may choose another college within the university or a separate institution to fill their needs. The school may be able obtain an increase in enrollment in the Environmental curriculum by making the Environmental programs more evident in the school’s title.

The Ohio State University Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society feels that there are many positive and possible negative consequences to the purposed name change. The majority of our organization would be in support of a name change that recognizes traditional Natural Resource programs while incorporating the Environmental programs. However, our organization feels that the sequence of the proposed name is not ideal. A format such as “The School of Natural Resources and the Environment” would be more appealing and natural. Again, the Ohio State University, Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society would like to thank you for your interest in our thought on this topic.

Sincerely,

David E. Brabham

President of the  
Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society,  
The Ohio State University
January 31, 2005

Dr. Jerry Bigham, Interim Director
The School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Dr. Bigham,

TerrAqua, an undergraduate student organization within the School of Natural Resources, supports the proposed name change to School of Environment and Natural Resources. The environment and environmental science are key aspects of the interdisciplinary approach the School takes towards natural resource management. We feel that the new name would better reflect the work of faculty members and students within the School.

Sincerely,

Sarah Boone, TerrAqua President
January 21, 2005

Dr. Jerry Bigham
Director, School of Natural Resources
The Ohio State University
2021 Coffey Road
Columbus, OH 43210-1085

Dear Dr. Bingham:

The Forestry Forum at The Ohio State University met on January 12, 2005 and discussed the proposal for a name change for the School of Natural Resources. The rationale for the name change was given. The club was supportive of the name change to the School of the Environment and Natural Resources.

One suggestion that was offered by several students was to change the name to the School of Environmental and Natural Resources such that both Environmental and Natural are adjectives. The concern was just that and you may wish to consider this suggestion. In any event this student organization is supportive of the change. Thanks for the opportunity to be involved in this decision.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mr. Mark Yoders
President
The Forestry Forum at The Ohio State University
To Whom It May Concern:

Allow me to express our shared interest in the proposed name change to the School of Natural Resources. As President of the Environmental Education and Parks Society I offer our student organization’s thoughts on the proposed addition of the term environment to the name of the School of Natural Resources.

We the Environmental Education and Parks Society put forth the following resolution on the proposed name change to our School.

Where as, the Environmental Education and Parks Society is an undergraduate student organization drawing membership mainly from students within the School of Natural Resources.

Where as, the focus of our student organization is environmental science education and the title of our organization utilizes the term environmental to best describe our member’s curiosities and purposes for membership.

Where as, the academic programs of the School of Natural Resources orient themselves around environmental science, environmental studies, and natural resource management.

Where as, the name of a School should best represent the academic involvement, interests, and offerings of that School.

Where as, the name School of Environment and Natural Resources is more representative of the current academic involvement, interests, and offerings of our School.

Therefore be it, recognized that the members of the Environmental Education and Park Society concur with the proposed name change of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources as means to better represent the current academic involvement, interests, and offerings of our School.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Mole
President
January 11, 2005

Dr. Jerry Bigham  
Interim Director  
School of Natural Resources  
2021 Coffey Road, Room 420A  
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear Jerry:

This letter is offered in support of your request for feedback from our department regarding the proposed name change from the “School of Natural Resources” to the “School of Environment and Natural Resources.”

As you may know we have a course in our Rural Sociology Program RUR SOC 766 - Environmental Sociology that includes the word “environmental” in the title. In addition, we anticipate increasing the emphasis on environmental topics in other Rural Sociology courses in the future.

Therefore, our department is supportive of the proposed name change with the caveat that we retain the right to use the term “environment” (or any variant of the term) in future course titles, descriptions, etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed name change. Please contact me if you have any additional information or clarification.

Respectfully,

Robert J. Birkenholz  
Professor and Chair  

RJB/tao

Enclosures

cc HCRD Cabinet
April 4, 2005

Randy Smith
Vice Provost
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
CAMPUS

Re: Changing the name of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Randy,

The College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences has no objection to changing the name of the School of Natural Resources to the School of Environment and Natural Resources. We make this endorsement with the full understanding that the documentation that was approved when FAES was formally constituted assured everyone in the university that other units could use the words environment and environmental in the names of units outside of FAES. We encourage the continued application of these words (as nouns, or adjectives) to other unit names, as appropriate. In fact, we anticipate proposing a name change in the near future to one of our departments that will include the word environmental.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Freeman
Dean and Distinguished Professor
of Mathematical and Physical Sciences