

M e m o r a n d u m

To: University Senate
From: Maria Coyle, Chair, Council on Academic Affairs
Subject: Proposal to Establish a Ph.D. Degree Program in Immunology and Immunotherapeutics
Date: February 8, 2022

A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A Ph.D. PROGRAM IN IMMUNOLOGY AND IMMUNOTHERAPEUTICS, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Whereas the goal of the program is to train future generations of immunological researchers – needed for advancing this critical and rapidly growing field; and the University has recruited more than 30 faculty members in immunology over the past three years and established the Pelotonia Institute for Immuno-Oncology in 2019; and

Whereas the focus of the program will be to educate and train students in both fundamental and cutting-edge principles of immunology as well as performing primary research in the field; and emphasis areas include but are not limited to: cellular and molecular immunology; immunology and infectious diseases; translational immunology; and systems immunology; and a market analysis has been provided; and

Whereas the program will be a minimum of 80 semester credit hours over 15-18 semesters, is full-time in-person, and is expected to admit 6 students each Autumn starting Autumn 2023; and

Whereas the program will be administered through the Department of Microbial Infection and Immunity, have a Program Director and a Graduate Studies Committee (with appropriate subcommittees); and a five -year budget projection has been provided, and an appropriate infrastructure is in place that includes many related centers, laboratories, and facilities; and

Whereas the proposal has the support of the College of Medicine leadership and letters of support from academic units within the College, and from the College of Arts and Sciences and Veterinary Medicine; and

Whereas the proposal was reviewed and approved by the Graduate School and then by the full Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on January 12, 2022; and

Therefore be it resolved that the University Senate approve the proposal to establish a Ph.D. program in Immunology and Immunotherapeutics, College of Medicine, and respectfully requests approval by the Board of Trustees