

MEMORANDUM

To: University Senate

From: Valarie Williams, Chair, Council on Academic Affairs

Subject: Proposal to Establish a Ph. D. program in Medical Physics,
College of Medicine

Date: September 11, 2026

A PROPOSAL FROM THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS TO ESTABLISH A Ph.D. PROGRAM IN MEDICAL PHYSICS, COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Whereas a Ph.D. in Medical Physics combines the knowledge, concepts, and principles of physics to the diagnosis and treatment of human disease, to aid in radiation oncology, diagnostic imaging, nuclear medicine and health physics, and

Whereas Medical Physicists are in high demand – there currently are not enough qualified medical physicists to meet the demand in healthcare today in urban, rural and underserved areas; and there are currently only 3 accredited medical physics programs in Ohio – Case Western Reserve University, University of Cincinnati, and University of Toledo; and

Whereas the curriculum is designed to integrate scientific knowledge, technical skills and clinical experience and is an 11 semester (90 credit hour) program that includes a 5-semester course sequence with foundational courses and clinical practicum; and research with candidacy occurs in the 6th semester followed by 5 semesters of research hours and the dissertation; and

Whereas once approved, the program will seek accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Education Programs, and the core medical physics courses will qualify students for eligibility for the American Board of Radiology; and

Whereas infrastructure, budget, and program assessment for the program were clearly outlined in the proposal; and

Whereas the proposal was reviewed and approved by the combined Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs subcommittee and then approved by the full Council on Academic Affairs at its meeting on April 22, 2026.

Now therefore be it resolved that the University Senate approve the proposal to establish a Ph.D. program in Medical Physics, College of Medicine, and respectfully submit the proposal to the Board of Trustees for action.