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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION Senate **DATE** October 8, 2010
FROM Jon Driver, Vice-President, Academic and Provost, and Chair, SCUP **PAGES** 1/1
RE: Proposal for Name Change of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health to Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy (SCUP 10-74)

At its October 8, 2010 meeting SCUP reviewed and approved the name change of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health to the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy.

Motion

That Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the name change of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health to the Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy.

encl.

c: O. Hankivsky



OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH

Norbert H. Haunerland, Ph.D.

Associate Vice-President, Research
Professor of Biological Sciences

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**ATTENTION Sarah Dench, Secretary
Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP)**

FROM Norbert Haunerland, Associate Vice President, Research

RE Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health

DATE September 14, 2010

Attached is a letter from Dr. O. Hankivsky, requesting that the name of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health be changed to the **Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy**. The name change reflects the shift in emphasis from gender and health to an intersectionally perspective.

I recommend that the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health be granted approval by SCUP. Once approved by SCUP the request should be sent to Senate and the Board of Governors for information.

Motion:

That SCUP approve the name of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health be changed to the **Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy**.

Dr. Norbert Haunerland
Associate Vice-President, Research

Attachment

C: Dr. O. Hankivsky, Public Policy

Norbert Haunerland
Associate V.P., Research
Simon Fraser University

September 13, 2010

Dear Dr. Haunerland:

I am writing to you to request and rationalize a change in the name of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health, based in Public Policy at Simon Fraser University, to the *Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy*.

The change in the name of the Institute is necessary for the following reasons:

1. Within the fields of women's health and gender and health, there has been increased awareness of the role played by other factors such as race, class, income, education, age, ability, immigration status, geography, sexual orientation (and others) as well as the role of structural barriers such as racialization and discrimination when trying to study, understand, and respond to inequities in health needs and outcomes. Intersectionality is a research and policy paradigm increasingly being applied to study and respond to the complexity of people's lives and how their multiple social locations affect health and access to care. Simon Fraser University scholars (including myself) are at the forefront of this movement and thus are positioned to move intersectionality scholarship forward.
2. The shift in emphasis from gender and health to an intersectionality perspective as reflected in the proposed name change for the Institute mirrors the shift in my program of research at Simon Fraser University. For example, in the last 2 years: a) I was lead author on a primer entitled *Intersectionality: Moving Women's Health Research and Policy Forward*, detailing how to apply an intersectionality framework to research and policy; b) I have published 5 papers on intersectionality in peer reviewed journals, (including prestigious ones such as *Social Science and Medicine*, and *PRQ*); c) I was co-editor of and author of 5 chapters in a book calling for critical perspectives in the field of women's health in Canada; and, d) I was co-editor of a book, *Health Inequities in Canada: Intersectionality Frameworks* which explores the full potential of an intersectionality framework in health research and policy. This work has led to the recognition of SFU as an international leader in intersectionality research and policy work.
3. The Institute is increasingly moving into a position to provide opportunities to collaborate with other organizations, Centres, and Institutes within the SFU community and beyond who are becoming increasingly interested in intersectionality as a framework for health research and policy. The Institute proposes to provide opportunities for training for

students, faculty, researchers, practitioners, policy makers, and others who are interested in applying intersectionality in their work. For example, the Institute currently collaborates with the newly funded Centre for the Study of Gender, Social Inequities and Mental Health (Director, Dr. Marina Morrow from the Faculty of Health Sciences) to provide training opportunities for affiliated investigators and students. The Institute is also collaborating with Status of Women Canada to develop guidelines for incorporating an intersectionality analysis within the policy making process.

I feel strongly that the *Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy* reflects the current debates, methods, and perspectives within the field of health research and policy; is more in line with my current program of research; and provides more opportunities for collaboration with other organizations and institutes within BC, across Canada, and internationally. Please contact me if you have any questions or need clarification. I look forward to moving the newly-named Institute forward at the forefront of health research and policy in Canada and internationally.

Sincerely,

Olena Hankivsky
Director, Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy
Public Policy
Simon Fraser University

Date: Tue, 12 Oct 2010 11:19:16 -0700 (PDT)
From: Olena Hankivsky <oah@sfu.ca>
To: Sarah Dench <sjdench@sfu.ca>
Subject: Re: Institute name change
X-Originating-IP: [154.20.202.5]

Dear Sarah:

As requested by the SCUP committee, I have, via email solicitation, confirmed majority support of associates and affiliates of the Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health for a name change to Institute for Intersectionality Research and Policy.

Thank you again for your assistance in the matter.

Sincerely,

Olena Hankivsky, PhD
Associate Professor, Public Policy Program
Co-Director, Institute for Critical Studies in Gender and Health
Simon Fraser University;
Canadian Institutes of Health Research Gender and Health Chair;
Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Senior Scholar
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