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## Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, January 6, 2012 - Master of Food Safety and Quality

Utah State University

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Utah State University, "Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, January 6, 2012 - Master of Food Safety and Quality" (2012). *Educational Policies Committee*. Paper 409.

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## **Master of Food Microbiology and Safety Name Change Utah State University**

### **Section I: Request**

The current Master of Food Microbiology and Safety degree offered through the Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences Department at Utah State University is a graduate degree that covers food science and other technology areas related to the manufacture of safe and wholesome foods. It is requested that the name of the degree be changed to Master of Food Safety and Quality (MFSQ).

### **Section II: Need**

In provision of foods to the American population, there is an increased emphasis on the strategies that can be adopted to ensure that both safety and quality become an integral part of the overall food manufacturing and distribution process. These two terms “quality” and “safety” include microbial and non-microbial aspects of food manufacture and better represent the interdisciplinary nature of the food science program, as well as career pathways which become open to graduates with this masters level degree. The MFSQ degree utilizes existing graduate-level courses that are offered by the Nutrition, Dietetics and Food Sciences department as well as courses offered by other departments at Utah State University.

### **Section III: Institutional Impact**

The number of credits will change from 32 total credits to 33 total credits. It is anticipated that enrollment in the master of Food Safety and Quality degree will increase since the new name better reflects the degree curriculum and is aligned with student career interests.

### **Section IV: Finances**

This change in the program name and degree will not cause any change in finances.