

IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Documents Reviewed: MS in Translational Science; Certificate and Minor in Translational Science

Summary of Proposal: These are sound proposals with a broad name and a narrow focus, which I find misleading. Translational Science is not restricted to Medicine and Engineering, and even though the claim of multi- and inter-disciplinarity is made explicitly and implicitly, it is not clear why the MS should be confined to Medicine? Why in Pediatrics? And Why in Molecular Medicine? I would like to see the MS more clearly defined in a way that does not preclude similar degrees, with the same general name, but with foci on the sciences and with inclusion of the arts and humanities (and what about informatics?). Keeping such additional, cross-campus and cross-institutional possibilities in mind does not detract from the value of the proposed programs; and it can be easily achieved by going over the current text carefully distinguishing between this particular approach to translational science and the more general framework for translational sciences

1. Are the goals clear and achievable? **yes**

2. Are the programs academically sound? **yes**

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit? The proposals seem to indicate that students are expected to pay their own way while holding an MD. It is not clear to me whether those prospective students would be working as post-docs or clinically, too, as one way of paying for the cost of the additional credential. This needs to be made clear.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program? As I indicated above, the parameters of this iteration of translational grad studies should be made clear and leave opportunity for other, related tracks to be developed.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal...

I recommend that it be clear in the proposal that this is one iteration of translational science grad education; that there others that are likely to merit development in the future; and that the School of Medicine have conversations with the Schools of Engineering and Sciences (also the School of Liberal Arts) to make sure that the MS in Translational Science is a general framework with very

specific tracks and that the proposed programs are in effect specific tracks under the more general umbrella.