



The University of Georgia®

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 17, 2017

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Ms. Gabrielle Roth

Graduate Student Representative – Ms. Ashley E. Fallaize

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the College of Public Health to offer the existing Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) on the Gwinnett campus will be an agenda item for the March 24, 2017, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Alison F. Alexander, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

Committee on Facilities, Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, Committee on Statutes, Bylaws, and Committees, Committee on Student Life, Curriculum Committee, Educational Affairs Committee, Executive Committee, Faculty Admissions Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Post-Tenure Review Appeals Committee, Faculty/Staff Parking Appeals Committee, Human Resources Committee, Program Review and Assessment Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, University Libraries Committee, University Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Veteran/Disability Institution

**Proposal for an External Degree
The University of Georgia**

Institution: University of Georgia

Date: February 27, 2017

College/School/Division: College of Public Health

Department: College of Public Health

Degree (please indicate whether this is a stand-alone degree): Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)

Major: Public Health

CIP Code: 51.2201

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2017

Narrative

The proposal for an External Degree must include a brief narrative that addresses the points listed below.

The Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree program at the University of Georgia College of Public Health is designed to prepare graduates for senior-level public health practice careers. Options are also available for students with interests in academia or applied research careers in public health.

The degree is designed for students with either an earned Master of Public Health or equivalent degree or a professional doctorate in areas such as medicine, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, or law. A minimum of three years of relevant public health practice experience is required. Our enrollment is diverse, and students include current and former employees of state and local health agencies, non-profit organizations, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Most students have been “working professionals” with full-time jobs.

In the past, selected DrPH courses have been offered individually at the Gwinnett campus, but much of the DrPH coursework was only available in Athens. This resulted in difficulties in class scheduling for the working DrPH students. Beginning in fall 2017, additional DrPH core courses will be offered at the Gwinnett campus. For various administrative and student access reasons, we would like to offer the complete DrPH degree program at the Gwinnett campus.

1. Assessment

A needs assessment demonstrating a sufficient pool of qualified applicants.

The difficulties presented to DrPH students at the Athens campus were addressed by a six-member committee that included two current DrPH students. The committee reviewed all aspects of the program from admissions to course sequencing and recommended that all core courses be offered at the Gwinnett campus. To gauge the prospective applicant pool for a Gwinnett-based program, an Open House was scheduled at the Gwinnett campus from 5-7 pm on November 3, 2016. Emails using available lists that included the CDC were sent out, and information was posted on the College website. An Open House with information sessions was held at the UGA Gwinnett Campus on November 3, 2016.

Over 110 individuals attended the Open House. Participants reported that the Gwinnett location was a major driving force for their interest in applying to the UGA DrPH program. The change in venue brought a dramatic increase in applicants for fall 2017 admission. The table below shows the number of applications

and class enrollment for the years 2014, 2015, 2016, and the current year. It is clear from these data that the Gwinnett location has significantly increased interest in the DrPH program.

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. Applicants	29	25	25	64 (as of 2/27/17)
No. Enrolled	6	4	3	15 (anticipated enrollment)

2. Admission Requirements

All requirements for admission to an External Academic Degree Program will be the same as those for the same degree at an authorized unit.

Current admission requirements remain in place.

3. Program Content

The basic curriculum of the program will be equivalent to the authorized unit's approved program. The criteria for electives or substitutions for specific requirements will be equivalent at both (or all) locations.

Core curriculum remains the same.

4. Student Advising

Each student must have reasonable access to an advisor or advisory committee.

Advising policies currently in place will apply for students at the Gwinnett campus. These are outlined in the **DrPH 2016-2017 Handbook**:

4.1 Students are initially assigned to the DrPH Program Coordinator as advisees. As students progress through the program, they will identify a major professor who will serve as advisor and Chair of the Doctoral Committee.

4.2 The advisor, in conjunction with the student, is responsible for:

1. Developing and updating the tentative program of study
2. Monitoring problems related to the completion of the degree (e.g., deficiencies, probation, incompletes)
3. Approving overloads
4. Filing forms in accordance with Graduate School and departmental regulations (e.g., transfer of credits, approval of formal program of study, admission to candidacy)
5. Guiding research
6. Approving elective courses and internship site

4.3 Students are responsible for monitoring their progress throughout the program. Students will initiate meetings with their advisors prior to registration and will adhere to the deadlines for registration, filing forms with their degree program office and filing forms with the Graduate School.

5. Resident Requirements

Residence requirements will be identical to those established for the authorized degree program with residence at the approved location serving to meet that requirement.

The resident requirements will not change.

6. Program Management

Each proposal must contain a specified plan for program maintenance and program quality. This plan will provide contact persons at cooperating units, a detailed timetable, and complete plans for application and matriculation of students. In addition, specific plans should be provided concerning the schedule of courses, the duration of the program, program review, and possible duplication with other programs in the immediate area.

A Steering Committee will oversee the Gwinnett DrPH program. Current members of the committee include:

Stuart Feldman, Ph.D., Interim Department Head, Responsible for the overall program.

Don Lloyd, PhD, Responsibilities include admissions, advising, scheduling, progression.

Brittani Harmon, DrPH, Responsibilities include advising, curriculum design, alumni

Mary Ann Johnson, PhD, Responsibilities include admissions.

Joel Lee, DrPH, Responsibilities include overseeing comprehensive examinations.

DrPH Student Representative

All courses to be offered are currently on the books. Curriculum review, which may result in current course modification or development of new courses, will take place in fall 2017.

The current course sequence is:

MPH Prerequisite Requirements (See Notes 1 & 2)			
Semester	Hours	Course #	Course Name
	3	BIOS 7010	Introductory Biostatistics I
	3	EHSC 7010	Fundamentals of Environmental Health Science
	3	EPID 7010	Introduction to Epidemiology I
	3	HPAM 7010	Introduction to Health Policy and Management
	3	HPRB 7010	Social and Behavioral Foundations in Public Health

DrPH Requirements and Electives			
Semester	Hours	Course #	Course Name
Fall 1	3	PBHL 9100	Doctor of Public Health Seminar I
Fall 1	3	EPID(HPAM) 7700	Public Health and Healthcare Ethics
Spring 1	3	HPAM 8800	Leadership in Public Health
Spring 1	3	HPAM 8700	Management of Public Health Organizations
Summer 1	3	BIOS 7020	Introductory Biostatistics II

Summer 1	3	EPID 7020	Introduction to Epidemiology II
Fall 2	3	PBHL 9200	Doctor of Public Health Seminar II
Fall 2	3	HPRB 9310	Theory and Practice of Public Health Communication
Spring 2	4	HPAM 8850	Economic Evaluation Methods in Health
Spring 2	3	HPAM 8410	Health Informatics I
Summer 2	3		Elective 1
Summer 2	3		Elective 2
Fall 3	3		Elective 3
Fall 3	3		Elective 4
Spring 3	3		Residency
Spring 3	0		Comprehensive Doctoral Exams
	12	----- 9300/ ----- 9005	Doctoral Research
57 Hours	Minimum Required for Degree Completion		

Notes:

1. Courses from a CEPH-accredited MPH program are automatically accepted. Similar courses from other programs will be reviewed for consideration.
2. The prerequisite core course in a discipline must be completed prior to any DrPH course in that discipline.
3. For electives, a student may choose a combination of HPAM courses from the *Policy or Management* track, based upon research and career plans, or from another department with advisor approval. Cognate electives also include *Disaster Management, Gerontology, and Global Health*.
4. A student may choose to increase the field residency by three (3) additional credit hours and apply that work to an electives requirement.
5. A minimum letter grade of “B” is required in all course work.
6. Students must enroll in a minimum of three (3) hours the semester of graduation.

7. Library and Laboratory Resources

The proposal must include a review of existing library and laboratory (or other specialized resources) at the host location. If deficiencies exist, the proposal must include a plan, including timetable and budget, for alleviating the deficiencies.

The library resource located at the Gwinnett campus will fully support the DrPH program. The resource description is below.

Library Resource Center at Gwinnett:

Located on the first floor, the Gwinnett Campus Library Resource Center offers students, faculty, and staff access to the [collections of the UGA Libraries](#), as well as to the [GALILEO](#) suite of databases. There are 10 computer workstations, a private study room, and several tables available for group work. Printing is available through a [WEPA print kiosk](#).

8. Budget

The budget must provide a realistic estimate of the costs of developing and implementing a quality program.

Our proposal is to move an existing program from the main UGA campus in Athens to the Gwinnett Campus. We anticipate that once established, the DrPH offered at Gwinnett will be self-sustaining. Any new program costs during the coming year of transition will be met by the College of Public Health from internal sources. DrPH courses will be taught by current faculty already funded by the college and by part-time faculty who currently receive teaching stipends from existing sources. A DrPH Program Coordinator will be identified from our faculty at UGA to lead the administration of the Gwinnett program. Similarly, an Academic Advisor from UGA will be assigned responsibility at the Gwinnett campus. Budgetary and administrative support will be provided by CPH staff at UGA. In other words, though the program will have a coordinator, a curriculum advisor, budget and administrative staff, plus regular and part-time faculty, these will not require new funding. All participants will be reimbursed for their mileage when travelling to Gwinnett, at an annual estimated cost to the program of \$4,800. There will be no fee for the use of classrooms and library resources at Gwinnett. The curriculum requires no laboratories, specialized facilities or other significant operating expenses. The program has already purchased the required complement of computers and related technology for FY17. No doubt there could be additional expenses as the program is established at the new location; the CPH Dean has confirmed that these will be funded from internal CPH resources.

[Mileage reimbursement formula: Assuming an 80 mile round trip to Gwinnett made once a week for two semesters by three faculty and one advisory staff member, we anticipate reimbursing 8,960 miles per year at the current rate of \$.53 per mile for an annual total of \$4,748.]

9. Program Costs Assessed to Students

Any costs beyond those normally associated with the program on campus must be spelled out and justified.

Current differential tuition will remain in place. Moving the degree so that offerings are designated as Gwinnett courses will also allow Gwinnett to recover credit hour payments to help fund operations, at no additional cost to students.

10. Accreditation

Appropriate accreditation procedures will be carried out by the authorized institution.

The College of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). The DrPH program falls under this accreditation. Once the Gwinnett offering is approved by UGA and the Board of Regents, CEPH will be notified of this change.



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March 9, 2017

Dr. Pamela Whitten
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602

Dear Provost Whitten,

This letter is in support of the request from the College of Public Health to move its Doctor of Public Health program from the Athens to the Gwinnett campus. I have reviewed the proposal carefully, and I agree that this is the best strategy to both preserve the program and serve our students. As you know, the Gwinnett campus is located on the outskirts of Atlanta and, therefore, more readily accessible to potential Doctor of Public Health students than is the campus in Athens. Its proximity to the Centers for Disease Control and other public health employers in the Atlanta metro area is another strong rationale for moving the program. The change in venue requires no additional resource from central administration. The College of Public Health will allocate additional resources as needed and expects to recoup its investment, by making the program more accessible to public health professionals in the Atlanta metro area.

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns about this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Barbour
Dean, the Graduate School



The University of Georgia

College of Public Health
Dean's Office

March 2, 2017

Pamela S. Whitten, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs
University of Georgia

Dear Provost Whitten,

I write to confirm my approval of the request by The College of Public Health to offer the full Doctor of Public Health degree program at the Gwinnett campus. As you are aware, we have offered individual courses at Gwinnett for the DrPH in the past. For administrative and student demand reasons, we have decided to now offer the full DrPH degree at that location. The attached request form gives a full rationale.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Williams, Ph.D.
Dean

Approvals on File

Proposal: Offer the Existing Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) at Gwinnett

Department: College of Public Health

College: College of Public Health

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2017

School/College:

- College of Public Health Dean, Dr. Phillip Williams, 3/2/17

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Dean, Dr. Suzanne Barbour, 3/9/17

Additional Support:

- Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Director of the Gwinnett Campus, Dr. Laura Crawley, 3/15/17