

Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

June 3, 2017

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A MINOR PROGRAM  
IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1 of the By-Laws of Case Western Reserve University (the “University”) states, in relevant part, that the Board of Trustees shall oversee the educational programs of the University; and

WHEREAS, the charge for the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Education (the “Committee”) states, in relevant part, that the Committee shall review and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate with respect to undergraduate degree programs at the University, and the Committee voted at its March 21, 2017 meeting to recommend the Minor in Public Health to the Faculty Senate; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section A, Par. 2 of the Constitution of the University Faculty states in relevant part that the Faculty Senate shall make recommendations to the President for consideration and transmittal to the Board of Trustees with respect to policies governing standards for curricula and content of all degree programs; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on April 27, 2017, the Faculty Senate voted to recommend the Minor in Public Health to the President for consideration and transmittal to the Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:  
the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University approves the establishment of, and authorizes the University to take and to oversee all necessary actions in order to create, the Minor in Public Health.

APPROVED by the  
Case Western Reserve University  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
*Elizabeth J. Keefer*  
SECRETARY OF THE CORPORATION

Mendel Singer, PhD MPH

# Undergraduate Minor in Public Health

# Rationale

- Public health is a popular major and minor at other Universities
- Institute of Medicine has called for more undergraduate education in public health
- CWRU briefly had a major, but there were insufficient resources
- No comparable minor on campus
- UPDATE: All courses for the minor now exist
  - 2 new courses: one started this semester and the other in SIS for fall
- Collaborative with 6 other departments and 1 center
- Complements pre-health and majors in collaborating depts.

# Details

- 15 credits
- Consistent with national guidelines for a public health minor
- Required Courses:
  - MPHP 101 Intro to Public Health
  - MPHP 301 Intro to Epidemiology
  - Global Health: INTH 401 or ANTH 359
- 2-course area of concentration:
  - Medical Anthropology
  - Medical Sociology
  - Mental Health
  - Nutrition and Health Promotion
  - Global Health
- Exploring new options with History and Law

## Proposal for a New Undergraduate Minor in Public Health

### Contents:

Program Action Form

Detailed Proposal

Electives

Letters of Support

### Submitted by:

Mendel Singer, PhD MPH

Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education

Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

[mendel@case.edu](mailto:mendel@case.edu)

368-1951

**CWRU Action Form for Majors/Minors/Programs/Sequences/Degrees**  
(instructions on back)

Docket # \_\_\_\_\_

College/School: School of Medicine  
Department: Epidemiology and Biostatistics

PROPOSED:  major  
 minor  
 program  
 sequence  
 degree

TITLE: Public Health

EFFECTIVE: Spring (semester) 2017 (year)

DESCRIPTION: 15 credits, 3 required courses: Intro to Public Health(3 cr, MPHP 101), Intro to Epidemiology (3 cr MPHP 301), choose 1 of 2 courses (3cr) in Global Health (ANTH 379, INTH 301); 2 electives (6 cr) in a specific themed area: Mental Health, Medical Anthropology, Medical Sociology, Nutrition and Health Promotion, Global Health. Details in full proposal.

1. A public health minor meets the call of the Institute for Medicine for increasing undergraduate education in public health.
2. There is no comparable minor at CWRU.
3. Undergraduate public health education (majors and minors) have been amongst the most popular choices at schools that offer it. CWRU is behind the curve.
4. Public health is a popular choice for pre-health students who will be better clinicians for this exposure, and whose applications will be strengthened for health and health science professional or graduate school.
5. Only 2 new courses have to be introduced. No comparable courses currently exist at CWRU, and the competencies for these courses will follow nationally recommended guidelines. These courses provide the foundation and context for the many public health related courses offered by other departments. These other existing courses are integrated into the minor (as electives, and as the global health requirement), with support from these departments (see letters). These are essential to the minor.
6. All faculty/staff resources required are currently in place.
7. Target start date is January 2017.

Is this major/minor/program/sequence/degree:  new  
 modification  
 replacement

If modification or replacement please elaborate: \_\_\_\_\_

Does this change in major/minor/program/sequence/degree involve other departments?  Yes  No

If yes, which departments? Anthropology, Bioethics, Biology, Bioethics, Psychological Sciences, Sociology, Center for Global Health (signed letters of support from each of these departments is attached)

Contact person/committee: Mendel Singer, mendel@case.edu 368-1951

**SIGNATURES:**

Department Curriculum Chair(s)/Program Directors: Mendel Singer / [Signature] DATE March 11, 2016

Department Chair: [Signature] 3-11-2016

College/School Curriculum Committee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

College/School Dean(s): \_\_\_\_\_

FSCUE Curriculum Subcommittee Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

File copy sent to:  Registrar  Office of Undergraduate Studies/Graduate Studies  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# Proposal for a New Undergraduate Minor in Public Health

## Overview

1. A public health minor meets the call of the Institute for Medicine for increasing undergraduate education in public health.
2. There is no comparable minor at CWRU.
3. Undergraduate public health education (majors and minors) have been amongst the most popular choices at schools that offer it. CWRU is behind the curve.
4. Only 2 new courses have to be introduced. No comparable courses currently exist at CWRU, and the competencies for these courses will follow nationally recommended guidelines. These courses offer the fundamentals of public health and the public health context for many existing public-health related courses.
5. These existing courses related to public health that are offered by other departments are integrated into the minor, with support from these departments (see letters). These are essential to the minor.
6. All faculty/staff resources required are currently in place.
7. Target start date is Fall 2017.

## Rationale:

In 2003, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) came to the conclusion that it was necessary not only to have a well-educated public health workforce but also an educated public. They made a formal recommendation that “all undergraduates should have access to education in public health.”<sup>1</sup>

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts an increase of over 20% in jobs for health educators and community health workers through 2022. Announcement of an anticipated shortfall of 250,000 in the public health workforce led many universities to respond by starting undergraduate majors, master’s programs (MPH), and schools of public health. Public health majors soon became the most popular, or one of the most popular majors, wherever these new programs began. Schools that started public health minors have had similar response. Kent State University recently started a school of public health and now has more than 800 undergraduate public health majors. Tulane University, with about 8,400 undergraduates and a significant number of pre-health students, has about 550 public health majors and another 150 public health minors.

CWRU started its MPH program in 1999, but in response to the need and student demand, a major in public health was created in 2006. The University valued it as a strong recruiting tool. Unfortunately, it was very short-lived due to being under-resourced. Since then, interest in public health has been partially met in other ways. Multiple departments offer undergraduate courses that intersect with public health, and the Integrated Graduate Studies (IGS) program (BA/MPH) has been very successful in both quality and quantity. Demand for these courses is high, particularly among the large pre-health

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<sup>1</sup> Gebbie K, Rosenstock L, Hernandez LM. Who will keep the public healthy? Educating public health professionals for the 21st century. Washington DC: National Academy Press, 2003: 144.

population. Indeed, public health is a critical complementary subject for many professions as seen in our MPH program, where nearly half of the students are dual-degree students simultaneously seeking one of 10 professional and graduate degrees. After discussion with the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and the Pre-Health Advisor, as well as the departments offering related courses, it is clear that a public health minor at CWRU would fill a substantial gap and be highly subscribed. Most of these students are already taking some public health related courses that would count as electives towards a public health minor, but they lack the strong foundation in public health. As such, they are missing many of the core concepts of public health that would create the public health framework for these public health related courses. This would be addressed through two new introductory courses (already submitted for course approval) that would be required for the minor.

A public health minor would also serve to educate our public. Periodically, we witness public health crises such as the Ebola epidemic and the Avian Flu pandemic of recent years. It always brings attention to the public health infrastructure in place and the politics and policy around it. At those times people begin to realize some of the impact of public health and the need for the general public to know more. New introductory courses created for the minor would be open to all students. Aside from providing public health education to a broader audience, it will facilitate the pathway to public health as a career or in a complementary role to another degree. As it is now, many people do not even know about public health as a career option until very late due to the lack of undergraduate exposure. This manifests itself in the form of students not exploring public health until close to or after graduation. This is illustrated by the timing of our applications – we get our largest number in February-June, as opposed to earlier in the academic year, as is the case for most other graduate/professional programs.

Part of the reason for the popularity of the major and minor in public health is the appeal to the large number of pre-health students. Many correctly see it as critically important, complementary knowledge that will make them better practitioners. Many will see it as a way to improve their application to a health professional school. In this last capacity, it may not only improve the rate of acceptance of our pre-health students at the programs of their choice but may also serve as a recruiting tool into our graduate programs.

### **Department Home for Program**

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics is located in the School of Medicine (note: the department is in the midst of changing its name to “Population and Quantitative Health Sciences). The Department is home to about 35 full-time primary faculty and runs multiple graduate programs with total enrollment close to 150. These programs include a Master’s in Public Health, a Master’s in Biostatistics, and a PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. These programs are administered through the School of Graduate Studies. Until now, the Department’s involvement with undergraduates has been limited to IGS students doing the BA/MPH, other students who take one of our 300/400 level courses, and the occasional students who venture to take one of our 400 level courses. In Spring 2017, the department’s first purely undergraduate course, MPHP 101 Introduction to Public Health, will be offered.

### **Approach**

Despite the lack of foundational courses in public health, there is already a wealth of public health related courses being taught at CWRU. As such, creation of a new minor does not require much in the way of new courses to be developed. This proposal takes a collaborative, multidisciplinary approach that takes advantage of synergies that can be created, as opposed to being competitive with already existing courses and programs. Although the proposal is based in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPBI; the home of the MPH program), it is anticipated that the majority of students pursuing this minor will take only 2 of their 5 courses in this department. This proposal follows meetings and discussions with many departments. All courses that are listed as part of this proposal have the endorsement of their department chairs (letters attached), have been identified as welcoming the additional students anticipated, and as being appropriate for the kinds of students who would become part of these courses' classroom dynamics as a result of this new minor. These departments include: Anthropology, Bioethics, Biology, Nutrition, Psychology and Sociology. Also, the Center for Global Health and Diseases has an undergraduate certificate in global health that would be an important complementary player. They have also been included in the development of this proposal, and a supporting letter from the Center is included here.

### **Design**

The core of the minor follows formal recommendations. In 2006, there was a Consensus Conference on Undergraduate Public Health Education, organized by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research (APTR) Healthy People Curriculum Task Force. Their report (attached) recommended 3 specific courses to be required of any public health undergraduate education, with each of them being able to be taught without prerequisites. These 3 courses are introductory courses in public health, epidemiology and global health. The last one is already taught here at CWRU from different perspectives in existing courses, and students would have to take one of these existing courses to fulfill the requirement for global health. There are currently no introductory courses in public health or epidemiology at CWRU, so they are being created by EPBI. Course Action Forms have already been submitted for these 2 new courses.

### **Curriculum**

The proposed public health requires the completion of 15 credits

Required Courses (9 credits):

EPBI 101 (3 cr) Introduction to Public Health (projected to begin Spring 2017)

EPBI 301 (3 cr) Introduction to Epidemiology (projected to begin Fall 2017)

One of the following courses in Global Health (3 credits):

INTH 301 Introduction to Global Health

ANTH 359 Introduction to International Health

Electives (6 credits):

Students must choose 2 electives (6 credits) from within one of the following areas:

Global Health

Medical Anthropology

Medical Sociology

Mental Health

Nutrition and Health Promotion

The list of elective courses that are approved for this minor is in the Appendix. Students may petition to allow other courses to qualify. It should be noted that we hope to offer an Environmental Health elective theme in the future.

Some elective courses have prerequisites. These prerequisites have to be met to gain admission to the class as with any other course (or obtain instructor permission), but the prerequisites do not count toward the minor.

CWRU allows some double-counting of courses across majors and minors. This minor is imposing no rules of its own in this regard but will merely implement CWRU rules.

**Administration**

Director, Public Health Minor: Scott Frank, MD MS

We will have a director for the minor who will be responsible for advising students and managing the program. In fact, one of the jobs of the director will be to get more students in for advising. Feedback from other faculty with minor programs has been that many students tend to not seek advising and just follow the posted requirements and show up for certification. While some of this may be inevitable, we want to work to move these students to come for advising. This advising will likely cover not just the course selection but also advising relating to careers and choice of graduate/professional school programs. Using our estimate of 35 minors, plus 15 other students who seek advising but do not end up doing the minor, each class would produce 50 people in need of advising. Adding in overhead time for management of the program, and some additional advising sessions, we are allotting 15% effort for the program director (exclusive of teaching time).

We are in a very fortunate position. Scott Frank MD MS, is currently the director of the Master of Public Health (MPH) program and the director of the Shaker Heights Health Department. He has chosen to reduce his administrative burden and will be switching from leading the MPH program to leading the new minor. Dr. Frank created the MPH program and has led it since its inception in 1999. His long history of working with undergraduates in the IGS program will serve him well in this new position. Dr. Frank will also be teaching the required minor course, MPHP 101 Introduction to Public Health, which will be offered for the first time this Spring (2017).

#### Course Instructors:

Two new courses are being created by the EPBI department. MPHP 101 Introduction to Public Health was approved and will be offered this Spring (2017) by Scott Frank MD MS, the director for the new minor. This course will be offered every Spring semester. The other course, MPHP 301, Introduction to Epidemiology, is nearing approval (minor changes to the syllabus were requested), and is slated to be taught every Fall beginning 2017. This course will be taught by Catherine Stein PhD, an Associate Professor in the EPBI department with an excellent teaching track record.

#### Other Resources:

The administrative overhead associated with a minor, beyond the role of the program director, is not large. We are assigning 7.5% effort for this by Nickalaus Koziura, our Administrative Director for Non-Clinical Graduate Education.

#### Finances

At the University level, increased tuition revenue would be limited as this program's primary appeal will be to existing CWRU undergraduate students. We do believe that having a public health minor may attract some additional undergraduate students planning a future in a health profession. It may also play a role in some students choosing to complete their degree at CWRU rather than transfer. However, the potential impact in recruiting of a minor is likely to be limited. Some of these students may, as a result of this new minor and its new courses, end up doing the IGS BA/MPH program or the MPH traditional graduate program upon graduation. The primary impact of the new minor in terms of tuition revenue will be the tuition that goes to the EPBI department via the School of Medicine for the undergraduates who enroll in the 2 public health minor required courses that EPBI will be teaching. There will also be tuition revenue related to additional students taking the already existing courses that count as either the required course in global health or an elective.

We are conservatively estimating the number of public health minors per year at 35, of which 25-30 will be pre-health students. Steve Scherger, the pre-health advisor feels this is probably a little conservative in terms of pre-health, and the number of minors who are not pre-health is probably underestimated as well. We further estimate that the Intro to Public Health course will attract non-minors as well and would likely reach 60 students. We estimate the Intro to Epidemiology course would likely attract an extra 10 non-minors for a total enrollment of 45. There would likely be additional revenue from more students opting for our IGS BA/MPH program as a result of the introduction of the new minor and courses, or eventually enter our MPH graduate program after graduation. However, it is also possible that a few might opt for the minor over doing the BA/MPH. We are also not counting the students who

would choose our 300 level course in health education/communication/advocacy for a minor elective (there is a lot of room in that class to handle additional undergraduates).

At the School of Medicine, tuition return is distributed directly to the departments based on formulas. For undergraduate courses, the tuition return to the teaching department next year will be about \$1,400 per student enrolled in a 3-credit course.

New revenue:

MPHP 101 Introduction to Public Health	60	
<u>MPHP 301 Introduction to Epidemiology</u>	<u>45</u>	
		105 students x 1,400 = \$147,000

The resulting tuition return (\$147,000) allows for the assignment of substantial resources, including 20% faculty FTE for program director time, 2 course instructors (10% effort each), teaching assistants and some administrative staff time (7.5%) with some money (estimated \$3,000) allocated for support for student public health activities.

<b>PROJECTED SCENARIO</b>	
Tuition Return	\$147,000
Program Director, 15%	(\$33,000)
2 Course instructors (10% effort per course)	(\$32,000)
Teaching Assistants (2 per course; 3 credits paid per TA)	(\$21,000)
Administrative Assistant Time (7.5%)	(\$4,600)
Support for student public health activities	(\$2,500)
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>\$53,900</b>

Pessimistic Scenario:

Under the pessimistic scenario, there are only 20 public health minors, with 15 other students taking the Introduction to Public Health course but nobody else taking the Introduction to Epidemiology course.

MPHP 101 Introduction to Public Health            35

MPHP 301 Introduction to Epidemiology            20

55 students x \$1,400 = \$77,000

<b>PESSIMISTIC SCENARIO</b>	
Tuition Return	\$77,000
Program Director, 10%	(\$22,000)
2 Course instructors (10% effort per course)	(\$32,000)
Teaching Assistants (3 total; 3 credits paid per TA)	(\$15,750)
Administrative Assistant Time (5.0%)	(\$3,100)
Support for student public health activities	(\$2,000)
Net Revenue	\$2,150

Letters of Support are from all of the participating departments and centers, the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the Pre-Health Advisor.

Cyrus Taylor, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Steven Scherger, Pre-Health Advisor

Dale Dannefer, Chair of Sociology

Lawrence Greksa, Chair of Anthropology

Lee Thompson, Chair of Psychology

Hope Barkoukis, Chair of Nutrition

Mark Willis, Chair of Biology

James Kazura and Peter Zimmerman, Certificate Program in Global Health/Center for Global Health

Mark Aulisio, Chair of Bioethics

Jonathan Haines, Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Course Title	Course #	Prerequisites	Special Attribute	Semester	Notes
<b>Mental Health</b>					
Social Psychology	PSCL315	PSCL 101		every semester	
Health Psychology	PSCL317	PSCL 101, 315		Rotation	
Abnormal Psychology	PSCL321	PSCL 101		every semester	
Developmental Psychopathology	PSCL344	PSCL 230 or 321		Fall? Spring?	every year
Sociology of Mental Illness	SOCI 345	SOCI 101 Jr/Sr - might be waived	N/A	Rotation	
<b>Medical Anthropology</b>					
Health, Culture, & Disease: An Introduction to Medical Anthropol	ANTH215	N/A	N/A	Spring	
AIDS: Epidemiology, Biology, and Culture	ANTH 323	ANTH 102 or ANTH 103 or ANTH 105	N/A	Rotation	
Power, Illness, and Inequality: The Political Economy of Health	ANTH 326	Rec-ANTH 102 or ANTH 215		Rotation	
Anthropology and Public Health	ANTH 328	N/A		Rotation	
Maternal Health: Anthropological Perspectives on Reproductive Health & Healing in East Asia	ANTH 338	N/A	N/A	Fall	
<b>Introduction to International Health</b>	ANTH359	N/A	Global & Cultural Diversity	Spring	
			N/A	Fall	Elective if INTH 301 is taken as requirement
<b>Medical Sociology</b>					
Body, Culture and Disability	SOCI2xx	N/A		Rotation	
Health, Illness and Social Behavior	SOCI311	SOCI 101 Soph/Jr/Sr - might be waived	N/A	Fall	
Health Disparities	SOCI344	SOCI 101 Soph/Jr/Sr - might be waived	N/A	Rotation	
Sociology of Mental Illness	SOCI 345	SOCI 101 Jr/Sr - might be waived	N/A	Rotation	
Health Care Delivery	SOCI365	SOCI 101 Soph/Jr/Sr - might be waived	N/A	Rotation	
<b>Global Health</b>					
<b>Introduction to International Health</b>	ANTH359	N/A	N/A	Fall	Elective if INTH 301 is taken as requirement
<b>Fundamentals of Global Health</b>	INTH301	Limited to Juniors & Seniors	N/A	Spring	Elective if ANTH 359 is taken as requirement
Ecology & Evolution of Infectious Diseases	BIOL352	BIOL214 or BIOL251, MATH121 or MATH125, MATH122 or MATH126	N/A	Fall	
International Bioethics & Practice: Public Health in the Netherlands	BETH315B	N/A	Study Abroad, Global & Cultural	Spring	
AIDS: Epidemiology, Biology, and Culture	ANTH 323	ANTH 102 or ANTH 103 or ANTH 105	N/A	Rotation	
Health & Healing in East Asia	ANTH354	N/A	Global & Cultural Diversity	Spring	
<b>Nutrition and Health Promotion</b>					
Food is Medicine	NTRN 3xx		Not approved yet	new?	
Dietary Patterns	NTRN 343	NTRN201 - but OK w/o	N/A	Spring	
Child Nutrition, Development and Health	NTRN328	NTRN201 - but OK w/o	N/A	Fall/Spring	
Health Education, Communication and Advocacy	MPHP313	Limited to Juniors & Seniors	N/A	Fall	

Letters of Support are from all of the participating departments and centers, the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and the Pre-Health Advisor.

Jonathan Haines, Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Cyrus Taylor, Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Steven Scherger, Pre-Health Advisor

Hope Barkoukis, Chair of Nutrition

Mark Aulisio, Chair of Bioethics

Lawrence Greksa, Chair of Anthropology

Mark Willis, Chair of Biology

Dale Dannefer, Chair of Sociology

Lee Thompson, Chair of Psychological Sciences

James Kazura and Peter Zimmerman, Certificate Program in Global Health/Center for Global Health



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

Jonathan L. Haines, PhD  
Professor and Chairman  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Mary W. Sheldon, MD Professor of Genomic Sciences  
Director, Institute for Computational Biology

Wolstein Research Building  
Suite 2-529  
2103 Cornell Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

February 29, 2016

Phone 216.368.3197

Dr. Mendel Singer,  
Vice-Chair for Education  
Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University:

Dear Mendel:

The department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics fully supports this proposal for a new undergraduate minor in public health. This minor will answer the call of the Institute of Medicine to increase undergraduate education in public health. I think this is an important program for CWRU, and am prepared to provide the necessary resources of faculty and staff time and finances, including the provision of teaching assistants for the two proposed new courses. I am convinced that this very limited foray into undergraduate teaching is financially justified, as is elucidated in the proposal. We find that many students have no exposure to what public health is until very late in their undergraduate studies and often only after they graduate. They often express to us how much easier their career paths would have been had they been exposed to the field of public health earlier in college. Further there are many fields for which having some public health education is highly beneficial, as can be seen by the 10 dual-degree programs associated with our Master's program. This new minor, administered by my department but fully collaborative with about a half dozen other departments, will bring public health education to the CWRU undergraduate population and complement majors in the collaborating departments.

I am fully committed to supporting this new minor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan L. Haines".

Jonathan L. Haines, PhD  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Director, Institute for Computational Biology  
Interim Chair, Department of Environmental Health Sciences  
Mary W. Sheldon, MD Professor of Genomic Sciences  
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine

**Subject:** Re: Minor in Public Health  
**From:** Mendel Singer <mendel@case.edu>  
**Date:** 3/3/2016 8:26 PM  
**To:** "Cyrus C. Taylor" <cct@case.edu>  
**CC:** Beth Trecasa <bmt5@case.edu>, "Jill E. Korbin" <jek7@case.edu>, Cyrus Taylor <cct@cwru.edu>

Thank you again. I will be including this email message in my proposal.

mendel

On 3/1/2016 11:17 AM, Cyrus C. Taylor wrote:

Dear Mendel,

I am enthusiastic about your efforts to establish an undergraduate minor in public health at CWRU.

Such a program will be an important addition at an institution like ours with multiple strengths in health-related areas and a large proportion of students that have interests in health-related fields.

The public health minor you propose will be a complement to many majors and will contribute to the career goals of our students. In my view, the proposal is very collaborative and strongly aligned with multiple departments from the College of Arts & Sciences. The proposal calls for 2 new courses to be taught by Epidemiology and Biostatistics, so it is leveraging existing courses rather than competing. As a minor, it will enhance many of our programs.

I appreciate the consultative way you have progressed with this proposal and I look forward to collaborating with you on this initiative.

With very best wishes,

Cyrus

--  
Cyrus C. Taylor  
Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences &  
Albert A. Michelson Professor in Physics  
Case Western Reserve University  
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Re: Minor in Public Health

message. Thank you.

--

Mendel E. Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education  
Director, MS Biostatistics  
MPH Director of Research  
Director, Jewish Community Health Initiative ([www.JewHealth.org](http://www.JewHealth.org))  
Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Case School of Medicine  
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[www.case.edu](http://www.case.edu)

March 2, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Public Health Minor as currently proposed. My support is based on the demand that I believe exists among our undergraduate pre-health students for such a program and the benefits they would receive from it.

I am in agreement with the assertion made in the proposal that the minor would be a popular option for pre-health students who are seeking to enhance their undergraduate studies and their preparation for careers in the health sciences. The proposal estimates that there will be 35 minors per year, 25 of whom would be pre-health. I believe this is a conservative estimate and it could do much better. Many of our pre-health students are interested in opportunities to expand their preparation for their future careers and to distinguish themselves by exploring health-related topics beyond the core sciences required by the professional health science schools. The minor in Public Health would benefit our students in their professional development by equipping them with the core concepts of the public health framework in which they will operate. Such development will aid them in their applications to professional health science programs; but even more important, in their future careers as health care providers.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further my support for the proposed Public Health minor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steven P. Scherger".

Steven P. Scherger, PhD  
Director of Health Career Advising  
[steven.scherger@case.edu](mailto:steven.scherger@case.edu)



think beyond the possible

Department of Nutrition  
School of Medicine - Room WG 48  
2109 Adelbert Road  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-4954  
216.368.2440

February 26, 2016

To: Dr. Mendel Singer

The Nutrition department has a growing relationship with the department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, including a new dual-degree Master's program with an MS in Nutrition and MPH (Master's of Public Health). This new minor is another positive collaboration between these departments. The Obesity Epidemic is a major health concern which highlights the importance of combining nutrition and public health. Public Health Nutrition is a fast growing area of nutrition and a very popular Master's program here at CWRU. The offering of a minor in public health will bring the public health context and approach to our nutrition majors and better prepare them for the challenges of today and tomorrow. I have worked out which Nutrition courses would be good electives to offer students in this new minor with Mendel Singer, Vice Chair for Education in the Epidemiology and Biostatistics department. These particular courses are all very important to public health and suitable for the students doing the minor regardless of whether they are majoring in Nutrition. We will be able to accommodate the extra students.

On behalf of the Nutrition Department, we all enthusiastically endorse the proposal for a minor in public health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Hope Barkoukis'.

Hope Barkoukis, PhD, RD, LD  
Interim Chair- Nutrition Dept.  
Associate Professor  
School of Medicine, CWRU



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Mark P. Aulisio, Ph.D.  
Susan E. Watson Professor and Chair  
Department of Bioethics

MetroHealth Medical Center  
Rammelkamp Center  
2500 MetroHealth Drive  
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Case Western Reserve University  
School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
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Phone: 216-778-8497  
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February 26, 2016

Mendel E. Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education  
Director, MS Biostatistics  
MPH Director of Research  
Director, Jewish Community Health Initiative ([www.JewHealth.org](http://www.JewHealth.org))  
Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Case School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Ave, WG-57  
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Professor Singer,

I am delighted to offer our department's support for the proposed minor in public health. The minor is a good idea that will surely be popular with students. We do not see this new minor as being a competitor with our own, as it is very different with almost no overlap. There is one bioethics course listed as an elective, "Public Health in the Netherlands" (BETH 315B) and students doing the public health minor are welcome to take this course. Our department wholeheartedly supports this proposal and wishes you and your colleagues success in the approval process and implementation of the public health minor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark P. Aulisio'.

Mark P. Aulisio  
Susan E. Watson Professor and Chair  
Department of Bioethics  
Director, Center for Biomedical Ethics, MetroHealth  
Case Western Reserve University



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Lawrence P. Greksa, Ph.D.  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Anthropology

March 1, 2016

Fax (216)368-5334  
E-mail [Lawrence.greksa@case.edu](mailto:Lawrence.greksa@case.edu)

To: Mendel Singer  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

From: Lawrence Greksa  
Chair, Anthropology

RE: Proposed minor in Public Health

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The Department of Anthropology is happy to participate in your proposed minor in public health. In particular, the Anthropology courses you have suggested as meeting the Medical Anthropology and Global Health requirements are ones which we believe can absorb any additional students who choose to take them as part of the minor. We suspect that some of our Medical Anthropology concentration majors will find this minor to be of interest.

*Lawrence*



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
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Case School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Ave, WG-57  
Cleveland, OH 44106

March 1, 2016

Dear Dr. Singer,

I am writing in support of the proposed undergraduate minor in public health. This new minor is welcome to the Biology department. We have many pre-health students who will find this minor to be a strong pairing with the major in biology, and for those biology majors with environmental interests, public health is also a natural pairing. There is only one course from my department listed as an elective in this proposal, and public health minor students are welcome to take this course. I am happy to support this proposal for a minor in public health.

If I can be of any further assistance please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark A. Willis".

Mark A. Willis, PhD  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Biology



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
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COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Sociology  
Case Western Reserve University  
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3-1-2016

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Professor Mendel Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education  
Director, MS Biostatistics  
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[www.case.edu/artsoci/soci](http://www.case.edu/artsoci/soci)

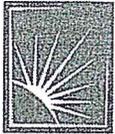
Dear Professor Singer,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed undergraduate minor in Public Health. Our department has a great strength in Medical Sociology, and a minor in Public Health will serve as a great complement to the major at the same time that Public Health students will profit from the opportunity to broaden and ground their understanding in fields such as medical sociology. I expect there will be great interest in this new minor and it will fill a need for undergraduate education in Public Health. I have discussed the curriculum for this minor with Mendel Singer, the Vice Chair from the Epidemiology and Biostatistics department who is leading the effort for this new minor. I support this new minor as well as the use of the indicated Sociology courses for electives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dannefer".

Dale Dannefer  
Selah Chamberlain Professor of Sociology  
Chair, Department of Sociology



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Psychological Sciences

Case Western Reserve University  
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Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7123

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<http://www.cwru.edu/artsci/pscl/>

March 6, 2016

Mendel E. Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education  
Director, MS Biostatistics  
MPH Director of Research  
Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Case School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Ave, WG-57  
Cleveland, OH 44106

Dear Professor Singer:

I am writing in support of the proposed minor in public health. This new minor will appeal to many students and will enhance their educational experience at CWRU. I have seen the proposal and am very much in support of it. Adding this minor to our psychology major or to our major in communication disorders makes for a very powerful combination, and will bring a new dimension to their education that will be very helpful for those continuing on to become mental health professionals or speech language pathologists. The proposal's list of elective courses includes 4 psychology courses. These courses were chosen carefully so they are both appropriate for the minors and there is room for these extra students. I approve of the minor and the use of our courses as electives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lee Anne Thompson".

Professor and Chair



CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY EST. 1826

**Center for Global Health and Diseases**

March 14, 2016

Mendel E. Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education  
Director, MS Biostatistics  
MPH Director of Research  
Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Case School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Ave, WG-57  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
216-368-1951

Dear Dr. Singer:

We currently offer an undergraduate certificate in Global Health from the Center for Global Health & Diseases, and see a public health minor as a complementary piece that will strengthen our certificate program. Students interested in the public health minor and opting for the Global Health "track" may choose to pursue our certificate as well, and vice versa. Our course "Introduction to Global Health (INTH 301/401)" will serve as one of two options to meet the Global Health requirement for this new minor. There is room for expansion to accommodate all of the new students in the classroom.

I see this new minor as a great and welcome addition to the undergraduate curriculum.

Sincerely,

James W. Kazura, MD  
Professor of International Health &Z  
Medicine  
Director, Center for Global Health &  
Diseases  
Email: [jxk14@case.edu](mailto:jxk14@case.edu)

Peter A. Zimmerman, Ph. D.  
Professor of International Health, Genetics  
and Biology  
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SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
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William P. Schilling, Ph.D  
Professor  
Department of Physiology & Biophysics  
Case Western Reserve University

10900 Euclid Avenue  
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Office 216.778.8965  
Email: [wschilling@metrohealth.org](mailto:wschilling@metrohealth.org)  
<http://physiology.case.edu>

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University

**From:** William Schilling, PhD  
Chair, Faculty Council

**Re:** Minor in Public Health

**Date:** March 28, 2016

At its March 21, 2016, meeting, the Faculty Council voted to recommend approval of an undergraduate minor in Public Health proposal. The minor will be offered by the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics in the School of Medicine.

In accordance with our SOM practices, an *ad hoc* committee composed of members of the Faculty Council Steering Committee, Graduate Directors, the SOM members of the Faculty Senate's Committee on Graduate Programs, the Associate Dean for Graduate Education and members from the undergraduate degree programs (Nutrition and Biochemistry) was created to review the program proposal. The *ad hoc* committee was chaired by Nicholas Ziats and met with Mendel Singer, Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics, and Scott Frank, Director of the Master of Public Health Program. The *ad hoc* committee reviewed the documents, discussed the proposal, and engaged with the program presenters. After the meeting was concluded a summary of minor changes was created. These changes were adopted and the revised proposal was circulated to the *ad hoc* committee for a vote. The *ad hoc* committee approved the reviewed proposal and it was sent to the Faculty Council for a discussion and vote.

After your review, I hope you will join me in recommending approval of the proposal for an undergraduate minor in Public Health by the Faculty Senate and Board of Trustees as required by the Faculty Handbook.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William P. Schilling, Ph.D.  
Faculty Council Chair  
Professor of Physiology and Biophysics

cc: Nicole Deming, JD, MA



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

Pamela B. Davis, M.D., Ph.D.  
Dean  
Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs

Office of the Dean

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<http://casemed.case.edu>

March 28, 2016

Roy Ritzmann, PhD  
Chair, Faculty Senate  
c/o Rebecca Weiss, Secretary of the University Faculty  
Adelbert Hall  
7001

Dear Dr. Ritzmann:

As noted in the accompanying memo from Dr. Bill Schilling, Chair of the School of Medicine's Faculty Council, the Faculty Council has recommended approval of a new undergraduate minor in Public Health.

There is a growing need for professionals educated in public health and able to educate the general public on public health issues. There is a high demand for undergraduate public health programs nationally and the existing programs are very popular. The current faculty and staff in the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics are able to administer the undergraduate minor with existing resources. The Public Health program has worked to integrate existing course offerings from other departments to the benefit of all participants. The department and faculty have experience with the management of a wide variety of educational programs.

The proposal approval process is outlined in Dr. Schilling's memo. An *ad hoc* Committee was convened to review this new program and after revisions, the program was approved by the Faculty Council. I concur with the Faculty of Medicine and recommend approval of this undergraduate program.

Please submit the proposed Minor in Public Health to the appropriate committees for their review at their earliest opportunity. I would be pleased to answer any questions that might arise during the review process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD

c: Dr. Bill Schilling, Chair, Faculty Council  
Nicole Deming, Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs and Human Resources, SOM

enclosures



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Committee on Educational Programs  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Case Western Reserve University  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7068

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Cyrus Taylor, Dean  
**FROM:** Maggie Popkin, Chair  
Committee on Educational Programs  
**DATE:** September 27, 2016  
**SUBJECT:** CEP Comments on Proposal for a Minor in Public Health

The CEP met Friday, September 16, and considered the proposal for a Minor in Public Health which was forwarded by the FSCUE Curriculum Subcommittee on behalf of the School of Medicine. In keeping with the current protocol, the college must submit its evaluation to the FSCUE-CC by Friday, October 21, 2016. The CEP noted the following during its review:

- The Description on the Action Form notes "15 credits, plus a 200+-level statistics course anywhere in the University." The CEP members felt that including a list of courses that fit this requirement would be helpful.

This information has NOT been provided to the FSCUE-CC. As the CEP understands the process, these comments should come to you first in the event you would like any other A&S committee(s) to review the proposal. Again, the college's comments are due 10/21/16.

cc: J. Korbin  
M. Popkin

Approved for transmittal to FSCUE Curriculum Subcommittee:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cyrus C. Taylor".

Cyrus C. Taylor  
Dean and Albert A. Michelson Professor in Physics  
College of Arts and Sciences

## Jeffrey Wolcowitz

---

**From:** Mendel Singer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 28, 2016 4:03 PM  
**To:** Jeffrey Wolcowitz  
**Cc:** jonathan kraines  
**Subject:** Revised Proposal for Undergraduate Minor in Public Health  
**Attachments:** Revised Proposal for Public Health Minor - Proposal and Supporting Documents - December 28 2016.pdf; CWRU Proposal for a New Undergraduate Minor in Public Health Dec 28 2016.docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

First, thank you for all your efforts in guiding this process!

Attached is the revised proposal, the first pages of which detail the changes made to the original proposal. I am also attaching a Word version of the heart of the proposal (without PAF, letters of support, appendix) with track edits and comments.

The request was to change the co-requisite of a 200+ level statistics course to a full requirement, with explicit listing of qualifying courses, permission to take these courses, and changing of the minor accordingly from 15 to 18 credits.

We had always assumed most students take a statistics course towards either their major or the quantitative reasoning requirement and hadn't thought we needed it as a requirement and merely listed it as a co-requisite. We have decided to drop the statistics requirement for this reason and several others. National guidelines for a public health minor do not include statistics as a requirement. Some statistics will in fact be taught in the required course in Epidemiology, and a little in the Intro to Public Health. We would like to keep the minor to 15 credits.

There were several other changes made, including leadership of the minor. Scott Frank has elected to step down from running our Master's in Public Health and take over the minor (and have more time to pursue large scale community projects). There are some other edits/updates.

The attached revised proposal begins with a listing of the changes made and the rationale behind them. Again, the Word document showing the track edits is also attached.

Please keep me posted about the process ahead, so I can report back to my chair.

Thank you very much - Happy Holidays!

mendel

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Mendel E. Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education Director, MS Biostatistics MPH Director of Research Director, Jewish Community Health Initiative ([www.JewHealth.org](http://www.JewHealth.org)) Dept. of Epidemiology and Biostatistics Case School of Medicine  
10900 Euclid Ave, WG-57  
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216-368-1951



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
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mendel@case.edu

December 28, 2016

### **Summary of Revisions to Proposal for New Undergraduate Minor in Public Health**

The proposal for a new undergraduate minor in public health listed a statistics co-requisite. Comments on the proposal made the very reasonable argument that if it is ultimately required, then it should be listed as a full requirement. Further, an explicit list of courses that fill the requirement should be included along with permission of the corresponding department chairs granting permission for students in this minor to take those courses.

For the reasons stated below, we have decided to drop the statistics requirement. We have made other updates to the proposal, also detailed below.

#### *1. Removal of Statistics Co-Requisite*

The original proposal included a 3-credit co-requisite for a statistics course. This has now been dropped for the following reasons:

- a. Most students take a statistics course as part of their major or towards meeting their quantitative reasoning requirement (this was why it had only been listed as a co-requisite and not a requirement)
- b. The relevant statistics will be taught anyway in the required courses (mostly in “MPHP 301 Introduction to Epidemiology”, some in “MPHP 101 Intro to Public Health”)
- c. It is not part of the requirements according to the national guidelines for a public health minor.

#### *2. Change in Leadership of Minor*

The person who currently runs our Master’s program in Public Health (MPH), Scott Frank MD MS, has chosen to step down as director of the MPH program and move to directing the minor. At the time of the original proposal, he had been considering this change (after 17 years of running the MPH) but had not decided.

#### *3. Change in Instructor for required course, MPHP 301 Introduction to Epidemiology*

This course is now slated to be taught by Catherine Stein, PhD – one of our experienced Epidemiology faculty members who has an excellent teaching track record. It had originally been listed as being taught by Laura Santurri because she was going to head the minor and we felt it important for the leader to be someone who taught a required course. With the change in leadership, we are now free to have the course be taught by someone whose main focus is Epidemiology, rather than public health in general.

4. *Update on Status of the Two Proposed New Courses*

This proposal included the creation of two new courses, and listed them both with a date for submission of their course action forms. One of them (MPHP 101) has now been approved and will be taught for the first time this Spring. The other is close to approval, with minor edits requested to the syllabus. This course is due to be taught in Fall 2017. The proposal now reflects these updates.

5. *Updated Financial Projections*

Financial projections were revised. The % efforts now better reflect expectations over the 12-month contracts used in the School of Medicine. Thus, the 15% administrative time budgeted for the director of the minor equates to 20% time over 9 months, but is in fact 15% of the annual salary (note: numbers include fringe). The budget for public health initiatives (and awareness of the field and the minor), was adjusted downward, but remains generous (\$2,500 per year).

The revised proposal follows. Also attached is a Word version of the proposal with track edits showing all changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mendel E. Singer".

Mendel Singer, PhD MPH  
Associate Professor and Vice Chair for Education