



## University Senate TRANSMITTAL FORM

<b>Senate Document #:</b>	10-11-23
<b>PCC ID #:</b>	09082
<b>Title:</b>	Proposal to Rename the Department of Public and Community Health as the Department of Behavioral and Community Health
<b>Presenter:</b>	David Salness, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses Committee
<b>Date of SEC Review:</b>	October 27, 2010
<b>Date of Senate Review:</b>	November 11, 2010
<b>Voting (highlight one):</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On resolutions or recommendations one by one, or</li> <li>2. In a single vote</li> <li>3. To endorse entire report</li> </ol>
<b>Statement of Issue:</b>	<p>The Department of Public and Community Health within the School of Public Health proposes to change its name to the Department of Behavioral and Community Health. The name Behavioral and Community Health better conveys the nature of the work conducted within the department and more accurately reflects the department's commitment to health behavior. The proposed name is also more consistent with similar departments in the leading schools of public health in the United States. The department's current name is also redundant since the College of Health and Human Performance became the School of Public Health. The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences supports this name change because of its potential to further collaboration between the two colleges.</p> <p>The Senate PCC committee unanimously approved the proposal at its October 15, 2010 meeting. The Academic Planning Advisory Committee approved the proposal on September 30, 2010.</p>
<b>Relevant Policy # &amp; URL:</b>	
<b>Recommendation:</b>	The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate accept the name change.
<b>Committee Work:</b>	The Committee considered the proposal at its October 15, 2010

	meeting. Robin Sawyer, Associate Chair of Public and Community Health, and Coke Farmer, Assistant Dean of the School of Public Health, were present to discuss the proposal and answer questions.
<b>Alternatives:</b>	The Senate could decline to approve the new name for Public and Community Health.
<b>Risks:</b>	If the Senate does not approve the new name, then the Department will retain its existing name, which does not accurately reflect the nature of the department.
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	There are no financial implications with this proposal.
<b>Further Approvals Required:</b> <i>(*Important for PCC Items)</i>	If the Senate approves this proposal, it would still require further approval by the President.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK  
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL**

• Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to [pcc-submissions@umd.edu](mailto:pcc-submissions@umd.edu).

PCC LOG NO.

09082

• Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

**College/School: School of Public Health**

College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: **01203300**

Unit Codes can be found at: [https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html\\_Reports/units.htm](https://hypprod.umd.edu/Html_Reports/units.htm)

**Department/Program: Public & Community Health**

Department/Program Unit code-Last 7 digits: **1330301**

**Type of Action (choose one):**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum change (including informal specializations)     | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New academic degree/award program</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> New Professional Studies award iteration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration</i>   | <input type="checkbox"/> New Minor                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Suspend/delete program</i>                              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other – Dept. name change     |

*Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.*

**Summary of Proposed Action:**

Change of departmental name to the Department of Behavioral & Community Health. Since the College of Health & Human Performance became the School of Public Health, the department's current name is redundant given the name of the school, fails to convey the nature of the work conducted within the department, and is inconsistent with similar departments in the leading schools of public health in the United States.

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APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair Nancy Atkinson NANCY ATKINSON 2/26/10
2. Department Chair ELBERT D GLOVER Elbert D Glover 3/2/10
3. College/School PCC Chair Jimmy R. Sapkota, JSapkota 4/19/10
4. Dean \_\_\_\_\_
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) \_\_\_\_\_
6. Chair, Senate PCC David Galmas 10/15/10
7. University Senate Chair (if required) \_\_\_\_\_
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost \_\_\_\_\_



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

*Department of Public and Community Health*

2387 SPH Building  
College Park, Maryland 20742-2611  
301.405.2467 TEL 301.314.9167 FAX

January 13, 2010

## **Departmental name change request – PCC Committee**

This proposal serves to formally request a departmental name change from the Department of Public and Community Health to the Department of Behavioral and Community Health. Since the evolution of the College of Health and Human Performance into a School of Public Health, the current name of our department is redundant given the name of the school, and does not convey the nature of the work conducted within the department, namely that surrounding health behavior. We recognize that we are part of a university with a College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, and respectfully request the use of a form of “health behavior” in our department name. The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) requires accredited schools of public health to include “a social and behavioral sciences” component, which the current Department of Public and Community Health is integral to fulfilling. CEPH defines this component as “concepts and methods of social and behavioral sciences relevant to the identification and solution of public health problems” (pg. 10 of accreditation criteria at <http://www.ceph.org/files/public/SPH-Criteria-2005.SO5.pdf>).

As evidence of our commitment to health behavior, the current Department of Public and Community Health has a Center of Health Behavior Research and a Laboratory for Health Behavior Assessment & Intervention. Adding behavior to the name of our department would be consistent with our departmental mission, which includes that “the Department of Public and Community Health is committed to achieving excellence in both undergraduate and graduate education that is specifically focused on developing expertise in individual and community *health behavior* and promotion.” The signature graduate course offered by our department that all Masters of Public Health students in the school must take is titled Health Behavior. We also offer a Health Behavior II course and an undergraduate Introduction to Health Behavior course.

The University of Maryland School of Public Health, based on the investment the University has made in it, its culture and infrastructure for research, and its location near the national capitol, is well positioned to compete with the top ranked Schools of Public Health throughout the United States. The vast majority of Schools of Public Health have a department similar to the current Department of Public and Community Health with a like emphasis on health behavior. In fact 15 of the top 25 schools of public health use some form of behavior in their name. For example, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (ranked 1) has a department of Health,

Behavior and Society. The University of North Carolina (ranked 2) and University of Michigan (ranked 5) both have departments of Health Behavior and Health Education. Emory University (ranked 7) has a department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education. University of Pittsburg (ranked 11) has a department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences. University of Texas (ranked 12) has a department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences. Boston University (ranked 13) and Yale University (ranked 16) both have departments of Social and Behavioral Sciences. University of Iowa (ranked 18) has a Department of Community and Behavioral Health.

In order to attract the best and brightest students to our department and compete with top ranked schools of public health, it is critical to have a department name that clearly conveys the breadth of our work and a name that will attract students of the very highest quality.

Schools of Public Health and Their Departments of “Public and Community Health”

<b>2007 Rank</b>	<b>School and Location</b>	<b>Most Relevant Department</b>
1	<b>Johns Hopkins University</b> Baltimore, MD	Health, Behavior and Society
2	<b>Harvard University</b> Boston, MA	Society, Human Development, and Health
2	<b>University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill</b> Chapel Hill, NC	Health Behavior and Health Education
4	<b>University of Washington</b> Seattle, WA	none
5	<b>University of Michigan--Ann Arbor</b> Ann Arbor, MI	Health Behavior and Health Education
6	<b>Columbia University</b> New York, NY	The Department of Sociomedical Sciences
7	<b>Emory University</b> Atlanta, GA	Behavioral Sciences and Health Education
8	<b>University of California--Berkeley</b> Berkeley, CA	Community Health & Human Development
8	<b>University of California--Los Angeles</b> Los Angeles, CA	Community Health Sciences
10	<b>University of Minnesota--Twin Cities</b> Minneapolis, MN	Community Health Education
11	<b>University of Pittsburgh</b> Pittsburgh, PA	Behavioral and Community Health Sciences
12	<b>University of Texas--Houston Health Sciences Center</b> Houston, TX	Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences
13	<b>Boston University</b> Boston, MA	Social and Behavioral Sciences
13	<b>Tulane University</b> New Orleans, LA	Community Health Sciences
15	<b>University of Illinois--Chicago</b> Chicago, IL	Community Health Sciences

16	<b>University of Alabama--Birmingham</b> Birmingham, AL	Health Behavior
16	<b>Yale University</b> New Haven, CT	Social and Behavioral Sciences
18	<b>University of Iowa</b> Iowa City, IA	Community and Behavioral Health
19	<b>George Washington University</b> Washington, DC	Prevention and Community Health
20	<b>University of South Florida</b> Tampa, FL	Community and Family Health
21	<b>Ohio State University</b> Columbus, OH	Health Behavior and Health Promotion
21	<b>St. Louis University</b> St. Louis, MO	Behavioral Science/Health Education
21	<b>University of Arizona (Zuckerman)</b> Tucson, AZ	Health Behavior and Health Promotion
24	<b>Texas A&amp;M University System Health Sciences Center</b> College Station, TX	Social and Behavioral Health
24	<b>University of South Carolina</b> Columbia, SC	Health Promotion, Education, and Behavior

## Fwd: Follow-up

Robert Gold [rsgold@umd.edu]

**Sent:** Thursday, April 29, 2010 12:52 PM

**To:** Robin G. Sawyer; Elbert D. Glover

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Robin, Glover

Great news from BSOS. See below.

bob

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "John Townshend" <[jtownshend@bsos.umd.edu](mailto:jtownshend@bsos.umd.edu)>  
**Date:** April 29, 2010 9:15:36 AM EDT  
**To:** "Robert Gold" <[rsgold@umd.edu](mailto:rsgold@umd.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: Follow-up

HI Bob

I did and they didnt respond so please assume this has our full support and offers a way for our two colleges to be better connected in the future.

Best from Beijing.

John

Dr. John R. Townshend  
Dean and Professor  
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences  
2141 Tydings Hall  
University of Maryland

Dean's Coordinator Julianna Bynoe  
301-405-1691  
[jbynoe@bsos.umd.edu](mailto:jbynoe@bsos.umd.edu)

Robert Gold <rsgold@umd.edu> 4/27/2010 9:06 PM  
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John

I know how busy things are for all of us at this time, Two weeks ago I asked whether you might support a request to change the name of one of our



departments. You were going to check with some of your Chairs. We would like to move forward with this request through the various stages of approval and I'm hoping you'll support this effort. Have you been able to give this any further thought? Thanks

bob

Robert Gold, Ph.D., Dr.P.H., FASHA, FAAHB  
Dean, School of Public Health  
rsgold@umd.edu  
301-405-2437

Robert Gold  
Dean, School of Public Health  
[rsgold@umd.edu](mailto:rsgold@umd.edu)  
301-405-2437