



Academic Senate

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Sang-Hee Lee, Chair

January 11, 2024

To: Dana Simmons, Chair and Lead Proponent, Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity

From: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair Executive Council 

RE: Proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Global and Community Health (B.A in Global and Community Health [GCH])

Dear Dana,

On January 8, 2024 the Academic Senate Executive Council discussed the [subject proposal](#) along with the mixed consultative feedback from the Committees on Courses, Educational Policy, Planning & Budget and the CNAS, SOM, and SPP faculty executive committees.

Members of Executive Council, though supportive of inclusion of the proposed program on the Winter Division meeting, agreed that the recommendations and issues raised by committees should be clearly addressed.

Please provide a revised proposal in consideration of all of the review feedback and include responses to the comments and questions in the attached memos as soon as practicable. You may find it helpful to note that in the past, proponents have included a summary document that includes responses as a cover to a revised proposal.

Thank you.

Cc: Wesley Léonard, Chair, CHASS Faculty Executive Committee
Gabrielle Brewer, CHASS Faculty Executive Committee Liaison and Student Affairs Officer



Academic Senate

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

December 5, 2023

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Ward Beyermann, Chair
Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Proposed B.A. in Global and Community Health

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed the proposed B.A. in Global and Community Health at their December 1, 2023 meeting and voted to support the proposal.



December 4, 2023

TO: Sang-Hee Lee, Ph.D., Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Bahram Mobasher, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

SUBJECT: Response to Proposed Degree Programs in ENST and GCH Departments

Dear Sang-Hee,

The CNAS Faculty Executive Committee wants to address several concerns regarding the recent Major and Minor proposals in Environmental Studies and Global and Community Health. It has come to our attention that significant issues require consideration and resolution:

Regrettably, our concerns have not been adequately addressed during the processes underway, and the results are the development of a department that could potentially divert and confuse our students.

It has also come to our attention that there is a proposed change in the department's name from "Sustainability Studies" to "Environmental Sciences." Changing the name from "Sustainability" to "Environmental" may confuse current and future students. Therefore, it is recommended that we act or voice objections against this alteration. It seems reasonable to request reconsideration of the name change. We must collectively ensure that the department's name accurately represents its goals and scope.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Mobasher" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bahram Mobasher, Ph.D

Chair, Faculty Executive Committee College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences



COMMITTEE ON COURSES

December 6, 2023

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
Riverside Division

From: James Flegal, Chair
Committee on Courses

Re: Proposed B.A. in Global and Community Health


The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposed B.A. in Global and Community Health at their November 29, 2023 meeting and made the following recommendations for the proposed curriculum for the major:

- Include a “Sample Program” section similar to the one published for the Neuroscience undergraduate major in the academic catalog that clearly outlines the courses for students enrolled in the major to take by quarter and year;
- Ensure that course proposals for the following courses proposed to be included in the major’s curriculum are entered into CRS in a timely manner as all courses listed in the proposed curriculum do need to receive final approval by the Committee on Courses before the curriculum can be published in the catalog: SEHE 002, SEHE 101, SEHE 101S, SEHE 110, SEHE 11/HIST 111, SEHE 115, SEHE 120, SEHE 160, SEHE 161, SEHE 162, SEHE 170/SOC 183H, SEHE 174, SEHE 181/ANTH 144N, SEHE 182/ANTH 144N; SEHE 185, SEHE 189, SEHE 193, SEHE 195H, SEHE 198I, SEHE 198G/LABR 198G
- Consider adding the cross listed course for ANTH 144, GSST 185 to the proposed curriculum;
- Consider adding the cross listed course for ETST 116, HISA 147 to the proposed curriculum;
- Consider adding the cross listed course for SOC 127, POSC 127 to the proposed curriculum;
- Consider adding the cross listed course for SOC 167, PBPL 167 to the proposed curriculum;
- Consider adding the cross listed course for ETST 113, HISA 134 to the proposed curriculum;
- Consider adding the cross listed course for GSST 134, LGBS 134 to the proposed curriculum.

PLANNING AND BUDGET

October 30, 2023

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Reza Abbaschian, Chair 
Committee on Planning and Budget

**RE: [Campus Review] Proposed Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts Degree
Program in Global and Community Health (GCH)**

At our meeting on October 10, 2023, the Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) discussed the proposed Bachelor of Arts degree program in Global and Community Health (GCH). CPB supports the proposed degree program.

As a general comment for all proposed degree programs: CPB stresses the necessity of having the right amount of Teaching Assistants to support course instructors and ensure the overall success of the program.



December 21, 2023

TO: Sang-Hee Lee, Ph.D., Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Marcus Kaul, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: Response to [Campus Review] Proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Global and Community Health (B.A in Global and Community Health [GCHI]) in the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Dear Sang-Hee,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed [Campus Review] Proposed Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Global and Community Health (B.A in Global and Community Health [GCHI]) in the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

The committee agrees with the proposed undergraduate Bachelor of Arts Degree Program and has no further comments.

Yours sincerely,

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

Marcus Kaul, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine

TO: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Richard M. Carpiano, Chair
Executive Committee, School of Public Policy

RE: [Campus Review] (Proposed Degree Program) Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in
Global and Community Health (B.A in Global and Community Health [GCH])

Date: November 22, 2023

The Faculty Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy reviewed the document “[Campus Review] (Proposed Degree Program) Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in Global and Community Health (B.A in Global and Community Health [GCH]).”

In the course of our review and discussion, the following issues arose about the proposed curriculum—issues very similar to the comments we submitted for the Environmental Studies BA degree:

1. Given the stated learning objectives that indicate the importance of students understanding health and environmental issues locally, nationally, and globally, it is crucial for students to have a thorough grounding in natural science to comprehend the interplay between the environment and human health. A significant concern raised with the current curriculum proposal is its apparent lack of foundational science. Without a robust understanding of environmental and health science or human biology, discussing the scientific underpinnings of environmental impacts and health inequities becomes challenging.

It is noteworthy that this degree program lacks upper-level or advanced courses in the natural sciences and no required lower division in the natural sciences (only a few courses that are among a larger list of many other course options they can choose from). The present focus seems to be predominantly on the social science and humanities aspects of health issues, without sufficient emphasis on the natural science aspects. Given that global health and community health are two established substantive subareas in public health and medicine that also rely heavily on biological/environmental science knowledge in addition to social science and other disciplines (e.g., education, ethics) in addressing communicable and non-communicable disease threats (in the case of the former, [transnationally](#)) via population interventions and clinical care approaches, this imbalance could lead to a skewed perspective and training experience among students.

Overall, the curriculum could be more effectively designed to integrate both natural sciences and social sciences, providing a comprehensive educational experience. The current structure risks limiting the depth and breadth of education students receive, thereby hindering their ability to fully understand and address complex health problems, particularly in this concerning era of science denialism, politicization of best evidence, and less than optimal data literacy. It also has implications for student preparation in terms of the proposal's stated goal of creating a student pipeline to the eventual MPH program in SOM (p. 10).

2. Page 15: Under the section header "Chairs' approval to include their courses in the new curriculum (in 2021 or 2023)," SPP Associate Dean Bruce Babcock is listed. The phrasing of this header can be read in more than one way, so, just to be certain, this approval only pertains to the PBPL courses cross-listed with other units that are listed in this proposed curriculum document (i.e. ENGR 171/PBPL 171) and not any other PBPL courses. This specificity is indicated in the email exchange between SEHE representative Ellen Reese and SPP Associate Dean Bruce Babcock included in the appendix of this document (p. 78 of the pdf document).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard M. Carpiano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Richard" being the most prominent.

Richard M. Carpiano, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Public Policy