EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

January 23, 2023

To: Riverside Division

From: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair, Executive Council

RE: Department Proposal: Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Executive Council received the proposal to establish a new Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) - during their January 23, 2023 meeting.

Included are:

1. Proposal to establish the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE).
2. Senate comments on the establishment of the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE).
3. Proponents' response to comments on the proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) which ultimately resulted in the final proposal as SEHE.
4. Senate feedback on the proposal formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE).
A Proposal for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE)

Approved
Academic Senate
February 21, 2023

A Proposal for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity
at the University of California, Riverside

Approved by CHASS Executive Committee on May 19, 2021

Revised for Submission to the Academic Senate June 21, 2021 (V.2)

Revised with Updates, October 21, 2021 (V.3)

Revised with Updates, March 21, 2022 (V.4)

Revised with Updates, October 3, 2022 (V.5)

Submitted by:
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Michelle Raheja, Associate Professor, English, CHASS
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Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, CHASS
Dana Simmons, Associate Professor, History, CHASS
Jennifer Syvertsen, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, CHASS
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, CHASS
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Environment, sustainability and health equity are at the center of UCR’s vision for its future role in scholarship and public service. The Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE) proposes a curriculum and research program grounded in the tools and concepts of the *humanities and social sciences*. The department’s interdisciplinary orientation, and focus on local environmental and health equity needs, will encourage faculty to address complex social, medical, and environmental problems, and will attract future students interested in serving the complex and diverse needs of the Inland Southern California region.

The mission of SEHE’s undergraduate programs is to integrate theoretical rigor, civic and social engagement, community service, and the methodological tools of community-based and community-facing research. SEHE undergraduate degrees will prepare students for some of the fastest growing areas of the United States labor market: health care/health policy, “green” jobs, and environment/sustainability. The SEHE Department will administer two undergraduate majors and minors: a **B.A. in Environmental Studies** and a **B.A. in Health Equity Studies**. The B.A. in Environmental Studies will replace the current (existing) **Sustainability Studies B.S. degree**, which enrolls over 100 students and is currently administered by the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department. We anticipate that the SEHE Department will draw new freshmen and transfer applicants to UCR.

By emphasizing equity and justice at the core of environmental practices, the SEHE Department will address the cascading factors deteriorating health and quality of life among impacted communities, and help devise solutions for overcoming barriers to sustainability and health equity. Building on our faculty members’ multidisciplinary expertise in gender studies, anthropology, history, english, environmental humanities, political science, public health, policy, statistics, sociology, ethnic studies, Indigenous studies, science and technology studies and social medicine, our new and dynamic program will contribute toward solutions to challenges to environmental sustainability and health equity.

In summary, the proposed department will: 1) serve community needs in Inland Southern California and beyond; 2) train students for socially relevant and equity-promoting careers in areas of high employment demand; and 3) create a platform for transformative, interdisciplinary and innovative research. By focusing on environmental and health equity, members of the SEHE Department will represent UCR’s values of inclusive excellence, social justice, and sustainability. We can establish this department now with minimal additional resources (**new FTE are not required**), and we will be prepared to attract innovative early career faculty and undergraduate applicants as economic conditions improve. We are excited to present this proposal to the Academic Senate and UCR Administration, and to carry out this work.
RESPONSE TO ACADEMIC SENATE REPORTS

Issue 1. Does Society, Environment and Health Equity describe a legitimate field of study in the humanities and social sciences? Does this area of study have the long-term viability necessary for departmental status?

Environmental Studies is a well-established interdisciplinary academic field with over 500 degree-granting departments and programs in the U.S. (and even more international departments on nearly every continent) that studies the human relationship with the environment from multiple perspectives. Environmental humanities shed light on the human experiences with nature and environmental challenges through art, literature, history, philosophy, gender, ethnic, Indigenous studies, and critical theory. Environmental humanities provide cultural and historical perspectives on the natural sciences, promoting rich, capacious, and in-depth analyses of the narratives and storytelling practices that construct binary oppositions between nature and the human; the history of science and its impact on race, gender, and the natural world; public-facing models for explaining health disparities and environmental collapse, while also providing stewardship for individuals and communities to create positive, informed social, political, cultural and policy change. The social sciences generate knowledge on societal and cultural aspects of the environment utilizing methodologies in sociology, anthropology, political science, and geography. Humanities and social sciences contribute to a better understanding of how the environment affects humans and vice versa, and to the development of empirically supported societal responses to environmental challenges and creative community resilience strategies against an uncertain future.

Over one hundred universities in the U.S., including UCLA, UCSC, UCSB, and UCSD, offer Baccalaureate Environmental Studies programs. Professional associations and peer-reviewed journals dedicated to environmental studies in the humanities and social sciences include the American Society for Environmental History, Anthropology and Environment Society, Environmental Sociology, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, International Association for Environmental Philosophy the Society of Environmental Journalists, Resilience: A Journal of Environmental Humanities; Journal of Ecocriticism, Journal of Ecohumanities, Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History, and Environmental Humanities. Scholars in these areas and journals study relationships between humans, non-/more-than-human living beings, and the physical environment. Additionally, SEHE and other departments on campus offer courses on the history and culture of science and medicine, as well as medical and environmental humanities, both of which are interdisciplinary fields that attend to science concerns in conversation with scholars more strictly in STEM fields. This work does not displace the need for research on “the physical, chemical, and biological factors as well as processes that control transfer of mass and energy among multiple components of the Earth system as well as
the human system” (CNAS Executive Committee), but rather enhances and facilitates dialogue, collaboration and coordination across disciplinary boundaries.

The SEHE Department is innovative in joining environmental studies with health humanities and social sciences. This intersection is rapidly gaining attention at the global, national and local levels. The U.S. federal government’s Department of Health and Human Services recently established an Office of Climate and Health Equity to “address the impact of climate change on the health of the American people.” Training and education are central to the Office’s mission. UC has established a multicampus Center for Climate, Health and Equity. SEHE chose the term “health equity” rather than a negative term such as “health disparities,” which reflects a deficit perspective that can be used to further marginalize groups and communities. Health equity is an appropriate frame for an interdisciplinary department that spans the social sciences and humanities and engages with professional organizations including the Society for Medical Anthropology, American Association for the History of Medicine, Health Humanities Consortium and Medical Sociology. Many universities in the U.S. offer Baccalaureate programs related to health, humanities, and social sciences, with a variety of degree titles. The SEHE B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies fits within this well established group. By joining Society, Environment and Health Equity, SEHE draws on deep and broad disciplinary traditions, while charting an interdisciplinary field that joins two of the most pressing and intertwined challenges of the 21st century.

Issue 2. Will a department of Society, Environment and Health Equity replicate or compete with existing programs at UCR such as Environmental Sciences and the School of Public Policy? How will SEHE collaborate with existing departments and programs?

Multiple UC campuses offer both Environmental Science and Environmental Studies degrees (UCSB, UCSC, UCB, and UCSD, for example) that attract both funding and students interested in the intersections between STEM fields and environmental and medical humanities and social sciences. As SEHE is no longer proposing a B.S. degree, we hope that the concerns about “overlap” between SEHE and ENSC programs are alleviated. SEHE faculty have strong expertise in environmental studies, which is complementary to the scientific expertise of CNAS faculty. Students trained for the B.A. in Environmental Studies will have a broad understanding of the societal challenges we face amidst the changing environment from a humanities and social science standpoint.

There is some productive and exciting overlap between the proposed B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies and the School of Public Policy’s Health and Population Policy undergraduate degree track. This is due to the fact that the SPP Health and Population Policy track includes eleven courses taught by SEHE faculty and faculty affiliates. Should SEHE be approved, we
would be happy to continue to make these and other courses available to SPP undergraduates. Just as there is both an Economics Department in CHASS and an Economic Policy track in SPP, as well as an Urban Studies program in CHASS and an Urban and Environmental Policy track in SPP, we believe that there is justification for an SEHE undergraduate degree and SPP tracks in health and the environment.

UCR is currently developing a campus-wide task force on academic programming in sustainability led by the Faculty Director of Sustainability. All colleges are working to strengthen their undergraduate and graduate degree offerings that pertain to sustainability. The ESST major and the graduate degrees that SEHE can develop in the future will become the flagship programs for CHASS in this area and contribute to the robust education that UCR offers in inland southern California.

**Issue 3. How will SEHE recruit majors? What outcomes will the department offer to its majors? What are job opportunities for graduates?**

The B.A. in Environmental Studies will replace the existing Sustainability Studies major (in the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies), which will sunset when the new department is established. The existing major already enrolls over 100 CHASS students, most of whom are expected to transfer to the new major. As the Senate Undergraduate Admissions committee suggests, SEHE is likely to attract new undergraduate applicants to UCR. Sustainability Studies currently is a “found” major, or one that students discover after matriculating at UCR; the new Environmental Studies and Health Equity Studies majors will be more visible in the SEHE department and more likely to attract majors to UCR before they enroll. Although the new major will “open” with some number of existing Sustainability Studies majors, we anticipate that enrollment will grow alongside faculty and staff resources. In addition, SEHE has potential to recruit majors from community colleges that have AA degrees in related fields. For instance, Riverside City College (RCC) has recently created a Social Justice program, is currently establishing a Sustainability Studies degree in consultation with SEHE faculty, and has various health-related and sociology courses that will serve as apt “feeders” to SEHE. SEHE faculty have also been working with and have interests in promoting the new major to Sherman Indian High School, and to Inland Southern California unified school districts. As K-12 teaching standards have changed to focus on inquiry-driven pedagogies, we see a role for faculty engagement with school teachers in the region.

According to California state labor market statistics, many of the top 100 fastest growing occupations in the state are related to health and the environment. This holds true for job growth in the field throughout the U.S., with an average salary of $68,000, slightly higher than that of comparable humanities and social science degrees. Please see Appendix D, Employment Record.
of Sustainability Studies Alumni, for employment record data for Sustainability Studies majors. Graduates of our environmental and health studies courses have found employment with the United Nations Development Program, Earth Justice, Skid Row Trust Health and Wellness, Mercy Corps, The People Concern, GRID Alternatives, Air Quality Management Districts (AQMDs) and Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) in California, Americorps, Climate Corps, Conservation Corps throughout the United States, Health Career Connection, San Diego Association of Governments (SDAG), the Sierra Club, and the U.S. Green Building Council.

**Issue 4. How will the department ensure short-term and long-term budgetary sustainability?**

In the short term, SEHE will build on the student and staff FTE currently housed in the Sustainability Studies major (now part of the GSST department, and scheduled to sunset when SEHE rolls out). Three faculty FTE currently are dedicated to SUST’s 100+ undergraduate majors. We intend for the department’s financial demands to track with enrollment. That said, departments have little control over operational and instructional income/expenses due to standard procedures for managing administrative units on campus and formulas for dispersing S&E and instructional funds. While we expect operational funds available to the department may be insufficient to start – i.e., S&E for the 9 FTE would be too low to fund normal office expenses, and no additional staff would be available – we don’t anticipate having office/administrative/staff needs beyond those already provided for the current Sustainability Studies major program. Departments do have some capacity to increase funds available through concurrent enrollment, summer sessions, and grants to support enhanced instructional opportunities, events, professional development, visiting lecturers, and research. SEHE faculty are committed to taking full advantage of these opportunities. SEHE faculty are actively seeking grant funding to bring resources to the university. Applications are pending for a $35,000 NEH Humanities Connections grant and a $10,000 UCHRI Living Through Upheaval grant. SEHE faculty won a $496,570 UCOP grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health, & Environmental Inequalities” (2021-2023).

Long-term budgetary planning is challenging for all units at UCR due to the vagaries of state financing. The foundation of a sustainable department is enrollment. SEHE would start with 100 majors and grow with our capacity to support more students. Alongside enrollment growth, SEHE is actively applying for federal and foundation funding. We are working with CHASS and UCR Development to build relationships with alumni donors and establish a development fund for strategic growth and expansion.
Issue 5. How will faculty FTE transfers to the new department impact their current home departments? How will FTE transfers impact faculty advancement, and what are SEHE’s standards for faculty merits and promotions?

SEHE faculty are currently affiliated with a variety of academic departments. Given this, their FTE transfers will not unduly impact any one department. Additionally, some SEHE faculty intend to stagger their FTE transfers over time or retain part of their FTE in their existing academic departments, which will help to reduce the immediate impacts of the proposed FTE transfers on existing academic departments (see ‘FTE forecasts’ and ‘FTE projections’ in the proposal for more details). The process of transferring FTE includes planning to cover the teaching, and sometimes also key service responsibilities (such as mentorship and personnel reviews) of faculty who change departments. For example, faculty often commit to teach courses in their previous home departments for some specified number of quarters or years, or until appropriate cross-listed courses can be developed. They may also or alternatively arrange to train former departmental colleagues to take on new roles, such as graduate or internship advisor. SEHE faculty are prepared to develop formal MOUs with their existing departments in order to mitigate impacts on teaching responsibilities associated with their departures to ensure that their home departments will not need to hire lecturers or request faculty replacements. SEHE faculty transferring from the Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies are an exception to this arrangement. These faculty currently oversee the existing Sustainability Studies major, and their home department fully supports the creation of the SEHE Department and views it as a more appropriate academic home for students and faculty with interests in Environmental Studies.

SEHE faculty collectively developed, discussed, and unanimously voted in support of a research statement that specifies the standards that we plan to use for faculty merits and promotions. Our statement reflects our intellectual diversity and understanding that academic excellence takes multiple forms; we believe our collectively agreed upon standards will help to support the advancement of our faculty, who have been trained in, and contribute to, a variety of academic disciplines as well as the inter- and transdisciplinary fields of environmental, sustainability, and health equity studies. [A copy of our research statement can be found here.]

We are prepared to carry out the work of supporting faculty advancement. We are familiar with the procedures used for academic personnel reviews at UCR and providing mentorship to faculty preparing to pursue advancement. Our faculty have many years of experience in participating in academic personnel reviews at UCR and other universities; many of us have more than a decade, and some of us have more than two decades of experience as faculty members at UCR. Our faculty includes a Full Professor and several have also previously served as Department chair or co-chair at UCR. Already, many of our faculty are nearing advancement and are very likely to advance within the near future. Our intellectual synergies are also likely to help to advance and support our scholarship, which in turn will help to advance our careers.
Issue 6. Curriculum concerns: Should SEHE offer a B.S. degree in addition to the B.A.?
How were the unit requirements for the two majors set? Can there be more consistency in the statistics requirements for the Health Equity major?

We take the CNAS EC concerns very seriously and we have removed the B.S. degree in Environmental Studies from our proposal. The B.A. degree in Environmental Studies will continue to require lower-division CNAS courses in environment and sustainability as we now do in the current Sustainability Studies major (GSST), in order to develop scientific literacy and students’ ability to advocate for science. This has and will continue to have positive impacts on CNAS and their ability to support faculty and graduate student instructors. The B.A. curriculum focuses on the humanities and social sciences approach to the environment and sustainability. The B.A. degree remains consistent with our goal to equip students with knowledge, theory, and skills necessary to engage and contribute to a world in which environmental degradation occupies an increasingly significant place in economics, politics and governance, ethics, health and well-being, and society in general. The B.A. will train students interested in using art and culture as tools for communicating and advocating around environment, sustainability, and health equity. A number of SEHE faculty represent this arena of art and cultural history as it intersects with environmental and medical humanities, spanning visual culture, performance, literature, and other modes of socially engaged public practice.

Unit requirements for the Environmental Studies and Health Equity Studies majors were set in accordance with the 2015 Major Requirements Project directive from the Office of the Provost. As UCR’s Graduation Rate Task Force noted in 2014, “streamlined majors could also allow professors to teach more often in seminar and capstone courses, learning environments that can be productive of high levels of intellectual growth for many students.” We are open to increasing unit requirements should the Senate believe it necessary. SEHE faculty affiliate Esra Kurum, Assistant Professor of Statistics, reviewed the Health Equity Studies data science requirement in response to the Senate reports. Following her recommendation, and having verified that the course can accommodate all Health Equity Studies majors, we will narrow the requirement to STAT 004.

Issue 7. How will SEHE bolster UCR’s ability to recruit and retain faculty from diverse backgrounds? How will SEHE ensure that students with different backgrounds learn about and consider this new department?

SEHE can play a vital role in recruiting and retaining talented and diverse faculty by providing the institutional and scholarly support necessary for interdisciplinary inquiries and community-based research. Faculty working on issues of diversity and equity often struggle to
achieve recognition and support for community based research, teaching and service. SEHE places these activities at the core of our departmental project. It will regularly review department teaching/mentoring loads for equitable distribution (given that certain faculty subgroups disproportionately mentor certain student subgroups) and take steps to address inequities. We welcome collaborations with structures for Indigenous and Latinx research and scholarship, such as the California Center for Native Nations and the Latino and Latin American Studies Research Center. We look forward to supporting the foundation of a Department of Black Study. We expect and plan that our curriculum will complement and bolster these initiatives by offering courses that center rather than tokenize BIPOC and other radical intellectuals, communities, and issues. Our faculty already reflect the goals set by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in terms of our gender, race, ethnic, and disability demographics. One of our faculty has just been named as the Co-Chair of UCR’s new Staff and Faculty Disability Network. We will also be proactive in recruiting and retaining BIPOC scholars working in environmental and health equity studies. As we mentioned above, SEHE faculty have already brought resources to the university in the form of a $496,570 UCOP grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health, & Environmental Inequalities” (2021-2023). Given UCR’s status as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and as one of the most diverse universities in the U.S. SEHE faculty feel it is incumbent upon us to become an international leader in recruiting and retaining diverse faculty in environmental studies and health equity. We have already discussed how we can work cooperatively and non-hierarchically to support and mentor one another at our 2021 Summer Retreat and we look forward to continuing to put those ideas into practice within our proposed department.

The Department will take action to recruit and retain diverse students. SEHE will state plainly on its website its commitment to diversity and provide links to relevant resources at UCR (e.g., diversity.ucr.edu; list of campus ethnic & gender centers/organizations; options/contacts for complaint resolution and statements regarding racial justice that are underscored by a demonstrable and proactive commitment to hiring and recruiting diverse faculty). It will advertise the new department to organizations serving diverse students, such as Cal State Universities and local Riverside and San Bernardino high schools. To promote teaching and mentoring that uplift all students and meet the specific needs of student subgroups, the Department will provide its faculty with information about available resources on how to teach/mentor diverse students and will consider in personnel reviews professional development and performance in this area.
# Table of Responses to Specific Committee Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Response and bookmarked page number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAP</td>
<td>Outline how the promotion process will be managed; revise plan for promotion to Full in accordance with Bylaw 55.</td>
<td>Please see Issue 5 above and our revised merit and promotion process. SEHE will have at least one Full Professor FTE, who can manage promotions to Full.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Impact of the FTE transfer process on faculty advancement</td>
<td>Please see Issue 5 above.</td>
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<td>Standards and expectations for merits and promotions</td>
<td>SEHE’s statement of department standards and expectations is linked in Issue 5 above.</td>
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<td>CEP</td>
<td>Why a department vs. interdepartmental program?</td>
<td>Programs without departments lack the institutional structure and resources necessary to support the anticipated number of majors. See full justification here.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Will this disciplinary configuration be relevant in several years?</td>
<td>We anticipate that the climate and health nexus will be one of the major issues of the 21st century. See Issue 1 above and our Rationale for the department.</td>
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<td>What are SEHE’s long-term plans?</td>
<td>Medium-term goals include collaborative research grants and a 4+1 Masters (MA) degree.</td>
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<td>Co DEI</td>
<td>Insert a DEI section in the proposal. How will SEHE ensure/ promote DEI in faculty and student recruitment?</td>
<td>Please see Issue 7 above and the revised proposal’s DEI section here.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Long term implications for budgetary and personnel resources</td>
<td>Please see Issue 4 above and our revised financial plan here.</td>
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<td>How can existing centers and programs contribute?</td>
<td>We welcome faculty affiliates, cross-listed courses, and research collaborations.</td>
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<td>Courses</td>
<td>Requesting to see letters of support from ENSC; Psychology; Urban Studies; SOM Dept of Social Medicine, Population and Public Health</td>
<td>Please see attached letters of support from the Chair of the Urban Studies program (Dr. Patricia Morton) and the Chair of the SOM Dept of Social Medicine, Population and Public Health (Dr. Mark Wolfson)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Welfare</td>
<td>Concern about lack of CNAS support for BS track</td>
<td>The revised proposal has removed the BS degree. See Issue 6 above.</td>
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<td>Interdepartmental program would get better CNAS participation</td>
<td>We are committed to working hard to welcome cross-college collaborators. Programs without departments lack the</td>
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<td><strong>Graduate Council</strong></td>
<td>Concern with the use of the term 'environment'</td>
<td>Please see Issue 1 above.</td>
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<td>Concern regarding the level of scientific training in the BS degree</td>
<td>The revised proposal has removed the BS degree. See Issue 6 above.</td>
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<td>Potential overlap with ENSC</td>
<td>Please see Issue 2 above.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lack of Psychology courses in SEHE curriculum</td>
<td>We are eager to collaborate with colleagues in Psychology. Given the impacted nature of that major, including courses in SEHE requirements may be unwise at this time.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Planning &amp; Budget</strong></td>
<td>Will staff support be sufficient for the new department?</td>
<td>Please see ‘Staff’ in the Resources Required section and see Issue 4 above.</td>
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<td>What are employment and salary prospects for majors?</td>
<td>Please see Issue 3 above, the Careers section of this report and Appendix D on employment records of Sustainability Studies majors.</td>
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<td>Why not an inter-college major?</td>
<td>We wish that a cross-college department were possible. Freestanding programs (without departments) lack the institutional structure and resources necessary to support the anticipated number of majors. See full justification here.</td>
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<td>Why no graduate program?</td>
<td>The Senate process for a department and undergraduate major precedes proposals for a graduate program. Upon approval, we will propose a 4+1 Masters (MA) degree.</td>
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<td>Does NSF support this proposal?</td>
<td>The NSF Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences is a promising potential funder for SEHE’s work. See a list of potential funders below.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UG Admission</strong></td>
<td>Please highlight changes in the revised proposal and provide an Exec Summary</td>
<td>Thank you for the suggestion, which we have attempted to follow.</td>
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<td>SEHE is likely to encourage applications from new students and increase overall applications to UCR.</td>
<td>We agree (see here).</td>
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<td><strong>CNAS EC</strong></td>
<td>Potential overlap and insufficient consultation with ENSC</td>
<td>Please see Issue 2 above. We continue to work to build dialogue and collaboration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issue</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Response</td>
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<td>Insufficient BS program; missing scientific expertise.</td>
<td>The revised proposal has removed the BS degree. See Issue 6 above.</td>
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<td>What are post-graduation outcomes for SUST majors?</td>
<td>We provide a list of known employment outcomes for our students in the Careers section of this report and employment records data is in Appendix D.</td>
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<td>Concern with the use of the term 'environment'</td>
<td>Please see Issue 1 above.</td>
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<td>SOM EC Request for greater inclusion and support from SOM faculty</td>
<td>We welcome that possibility and are making efforts to reach out.</td>
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<td>Request for letters of support from Dean Deas and Mark Wolfson</td>
<td>Please see a letter of support from Mark Wolfson attached to this proposal.</td>
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<td>What is the process for faculty to join SEHE, and how will FTE positions be allocated?</td>
<td>Requests to move faculty FTE to SEHE will be voted on by core faculty (authors of the proposal) and will require approval by the Academic Senate. Any new positions would be allocated by the Dean of CHASS.</td>
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<td>SPP EC Proposers are practicing “institutional cannibalism and cooptation, …feeding off of existing campus units”</td>
<td>This language is offensive and not appropriate for an official Senate communication. Many of the authors of this proposal have supported SPP and SPP students with mentorship and teaching (including one third of the courses listed in the SPP ‘Health and Population Policy’ curriculum) for years.</td>
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<td>Health Equity is an inappropriate name. SEHE should use Vanderbilt's name.</td>
<td>Please see Issue 1 above.</td>
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<td>CHASS &quot;does not have a patent on [health equity].&quot; CHASS's use of the term 'health equity' seeks to prevent others from doing so.</td>
<td>We have not applied for any patents and have no plans to do so. Many schools and colleges offer courses related to health, environment and sustainability, as should be the case.</td>
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<td>PBPL courses cannot be cross-listed and should not appear on EHSE curriculum</td>
<td>With regret, we have removed PBPL courses from the SEHE curriculum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impacts on faculty home departments with movement of FTE</td>
<td>Please see Issue 5 above.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who are the authors of this proposal?</td>
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<td>Letters of support do not sufficiently justify a new department</td>
<td>We respectfully submit that the letters of support are strongly positive and reflect a</td>
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broad range of expertise at UCR and beyond, across multiple disciplines.

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<th>Question</th>
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<td>Why was a subject code approved prior to department approval?</td>
<td>We requested a subject code to put forward new course proposals, to be prepared should the department be approved. The subject code does not indicate department approval.</td>
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<tr>
<td>There is no science component in the SEHE curriculum</td>
<td>The proposed majors are humanities and social science majors. However SEHE majors do require lower division science courses. Please see Issue 6 and the curricula.</td>
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<td>The SEHE majors have low unit requirements</td>
<td>Please see Issue 6 above.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disparities across data analysis course options for the Health Equity major</td>
<td>Please see Issue 6 above.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Why not cooperate with existing departments, instead of establishing a new department?</td>
<td>Freestanding programs (without departments) lack the institutional structure and resources necessary to support the anticipated number of majors. See full justification here.</td>
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Rationale for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity

Building on our faculty members’ multidisciplinary expertise in gender studies, anthropology, history, political science, public health, policy, statistics, sociology, ethnic studies, Indigenous studies, literary studies, science and technology studies, and social medicine, our new and dynamic program will contribute to solutions to challenges to environmental sustainability and health equity. The humanities shed light on the human experiences of environmental change, health and illness, and social justice through art, literature, history, philosophy, gender, ethnic, and indigenous studies, and critical theory. The social sciences generate knowledge on societal and cultural aspects of environment, sustainability, and health equity by utilizing methodologies in sociology, anthropology, political science, and geography. Humanities and social sciences contribute not only to a better understanding of the topics, but also to developing community resilience towards an uncertain future.

Environmental Studies is a well established interdisciplinary academic field that studies the human relationship with the environment from multiple perspectives. Environmental humanities shed light on the human experiences with nature and environmental challenges through art, literature, history, philosophy, gender, ethnic, and indigenous studies, and critical theory. The social sciences generate knowledge on societal and cultural aspects of the environment utilizing methodologies in sociology, anthropology, political science, and geography. Humanities and social sciences contribute to a better understanding of how the environment affects humans and vice versa, and to the development of empirically supported societal responses to environmental challenges and creative community resilience strategies against an uncertain future. Professional associations dedicated to environmental studies in the humanities and social sciences include the American Society for Environmental History, Anthropology and Environment Society, Environmental Sociology, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, International Association for Environmental Philosophy and the Society of Environmental Journalists. Scholars in these areas study relationships between humans, non-human living beings, and the physical environment. This work does not displace the need for research on “the physical, chemical, and biological factors as well as processes that control transfer of mass and energy among multiple components of the Earth system as well as the human system” (CNAS Executive Committee), but rather seeks dialogue, collaboration and coordination across disciplinary boundaries.

The SEHE Department is innovative in joining environmental studies with health humanities and social sciences. This intersection is rapidly gaining attention at the global, national and local levels. The U.S. federal government’s Department of Health and Human Services recently established an Office of Climate and Health Equity to “address the impact of climate change on the health of the American people.” Training and education are central to the Office’s mission.
UC has established a multicampus Center for Climate, Health and Equity. SEHE chose the term ‘health equity’ rather than a negative term such as ‘health disparities’, which reflects a deficit perspective that can be used to further marginalize groups and communities. Health equity is an appropriate frame for an interdisciplinary department that spans the social sciences and humanities and engages with professional organizations including the Society for Medical Anthropology, American Association for the History of Medicine, Health Humanities Consortium and Medical Sociology. Over one hundred universities in the U.S. offer Baccalaureate programs related to health humanities and social sciences, with a variety of degree titles. The SEHE B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies fits within this well established group. By joining Society, Environment and Health Equity, SEHE draws on deep and broad disciplinary traditions, while charting an interdisciplinary field that joins two of the most pressing and intertwined challenges of the 21st century.

Creating sustainable, healthy societies is one of the biggest challenges of contemporary life, given the imminent threats from climate change, global pandemics, and environmental catastrophes. Global health experts have asserted that addressing climate change could be the “greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century” (Watts, et al. 2015). As climate change disrupts systems for provision of food, clean air and water, shifts the landscapes where infectious diseases are transmitted, and increases the number of extreme heat and other weather events around the globe, the need for health interventions to address these challenges is all the more pressing. Research at the intersections of health and environment reveals the inherent tensions between contradictions that arise when societies put assumptions that have influenced strategies for economic growth and at the center of aspirations associated with the equitable and sustainable development, yielding inequitable sustainability goals (Berg and Hukkinen 2011; Krueger and Gibbs 2007; Redclift 2005).

A growing body of research demonstrates that environment, sustainability and public health are reciprocally linked. While sustainable development enhances health and quality of life, improved health and well-being also promote sustainable behaviors and values. At the same time, inequality also plays a significant role in both environmental exposures and health outcomes. Sociodemographic characteristics in various neighborhoods, specifically racial, ethnic or status compositions are inextricably linked and jointly influence access to clean air, water, green spaces, and healthy foods. For example, it is well documented that predominantly African-American/Black, Indigenous, and Latinx communities in California face a high vulnerability to climate change risks due to low air conditioning and car ownership (socio-economic status [SES] inequality related risk), threats from poor public transportation (governance and infrastructure related risks), low tree canopy coverage as well as wildfire risk (natural threats) and a big portion of elderly populations living alone (social risks) (English et al. 2013). Inequalities are socially and spatially concentrated in lower SES neighborhoods. Sustainability issues around one domain affect others in turn influencing community resilience at
both regional and city (macro) and neighborhood/individual (micro) as well as human (e.g. consumption patterns) and natural system levels (e.g. water flow and transport) scales. This is a complex problem of local and global significance, requiring urgent attention. By emphasizing equity and justice at the core of sustainability and environmental practices, the SEHE Department will address the cascading environment and sustainability factors deteriorating health and quality of life among at-risk communities and help devise solutions for overcoming barriers to sustainability and health equity.

Our faculty expertise on issues of environment, health and sustainability, coupled with our connections to local, regional and global stakeholders, will situate the SEHE Department at the forefront of new, socially inclusive and ‘just’ sustainabilities (Agyeman et al. 2016) and health equities research and educational paradigm that will benefit society as a whole.

Serving community needs in Inland Southern California and beyond

The California Environmental Protection Agency’s (CalEPA) analysis indicates that inland southern California is home to some of the worst census tracts in terms of pollution burdens and population vulnerability to ill-health and poverty according to the EPA’s Environmental Justice classification (California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment 2021). Riverside itself is the UC campus that is most impacted by environmental justice (EJ), which means that our faculty, students, and staff are exposed to more pollution than any other UCs. As noted at the founding of the UCR School of Medicine, this region is in need of specialized personnel with training in health related issues. As a public institution, UCR is obliged to conduct research on the intersections of environment, sustainability, and health disparities in the region. To that end, research by members of the UCR BREATHE Center and Center for Health Disparities highlight intersections of health and environmental degradation in inland southern California.

The UCR Center for Health Disparities Research is an example of a successful multidisciplinary collaboration around the social and environmental determinants of health, grounded in inland southern California and oriented toward the social good. Employing community-engaged research approaches, campus-based researchers collaborate with community partners and healthcare providers to address local and regional health needs. This center creates opportunities for junior faculty development and builds the communities to meaningfully partner in research. An important aspect of this center is its ability to bring together investigators from diverse disciplinary backgrounds. The proposed department involves faculty currently affiliated with the center and can promote among other faculty members of the department the use of center resources. For example, it can promote submission of proposals for research grants funded by the center and participation in the training and consulting resources provided by the center. It can also share information about center events and resources so that students in the proposed department can avail themselves of the supplemental educational opportunities.
Serving the needs in Inland Southern California requires diverse methods of engagement and ongoing research in partnership with local communities. Practitioners with broad training in analyzing, communicating (especially in the dominant languages including Spanish) and building coalitions around health and sustainability are urgently needed in this region. Faculty in the proposed department have been engaged in research related to the region’s health and environmental impacts, notably surrounding the rapidly expanding logistics industry. The SEHE department is supported by UC Palm Desert, which administers the UC Climate Stewards and UC California Naturalists Programs, and the UCR/UCPD Center for Conservation Biology. This collaboration will promote more outreach to the Coachella Valley, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, tribal, and Salton Sea communities and will forge stronger relationships with UC Palm Desert, which has a strong record of community-based scholarship and partnership. The SEHE Department will significantly enhance UCR’s ability to respond to regional needs for community based studies by consolidating these practitioners and creating another focal point for UCR in CHASS.

Creating a foundation for transformative, interdisciplinary and innovative research

The COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing climate crisis have taught us that a multidisciplinary scope is required to grasp the scale and nature of the challenges before us. As a general pattern, research in the fields of climate change, environmental justice and health inequity tends to engage teams of scholars from multiple disciplines. Faculty members of the proposed department have collaborated for over a decade on shared research and programming under the auspices of the Center for Ideas and Society (CIS), the BREATHE Center, the Center for Health Disparities (CHD), Healthy Campus Initiative, the Aging Initiative, the Basic Needs Working Group, the Health Inequities Faculty Commons, Center for Healthy Communities (CHC), the College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) and other ad-hoc collaborations. Several of us share professional affiliation with the Society for Social Studies of Science and other professional organizations.

Many of the faculty entering the SEHE Department have worked together for over a decade in interdisciplinary collaborations around common areas of concern. Past collaborations have been ad-hoc and time limited, attached to particular grant funding, or to projects undertaken as overload. SEHE faculty have participated in founding and convening the Healthy Campus Initiative, UCR Committee on Sustainability, the Medical Humanities Designated Emphasis (DE) and minor, Medical Spanish DE, the Science Studies Interdisciplinary Research Group, the Speculative Fiction and Cultures of Science DE and minor, the BREATHE Center, California Agriculture and Food Enterprise (CAFE), the UCR Basic Needs Working Group, Health Inequities Faculty Commons, and the Center for Health Disparities Research. These projects are all sustainable only to the extent that individual faculty members devote extra time, on top of their departmental service and teaching. Historically, ad-hoc projects and interdisciplinary
programs tend to fade after a few years due to funding, faculty turnover or burnout. The SEHE Department will create a stable platform for deeper and ongoing collaborations.

Need for an academic department
There are limits to our capacity to support each others’ research without the institutional foundation of an academic department. When pursuing critical research needed to reduce environmental degradation, increase ecological and socio-economic sustainability, and achieve health equity is not highly rewarded by their home departments, faculty commitment to interdisciplinary work is difficult, especially for junior faculty. Furthermore, because not all of our established departments that excel in their own disciplines have been prepared for the challenges associated with evaluating interdisciplinary work, many well-documented grievances and concerns have been raised about underrating interdisciplinary scholarship. Fortunately, faculty who have committed to join or affiliate with the SEHE Department are equipped intellectually and ethically to evaluate these types of research within the broader and more complex fields of study in which they are embedded. Departmentalization will provide the institutional and scholarly support necessary for ongoing, interdisciplinary collaborations in environmental studies, sustainability, and health equity and advancement of participating faculty.

The SEHE Department will join a growing number of academic departments in the U.S. that place an emphasis on the interconnections between environment and health. The University of Michigan’s six decade old Social Environment and Health (SEH) program has expanded its interdisciplinary focus on the environment and its relationship to health, health inequality in particular. Their research highlights the intersection of the social with the physical environment, including climate change and environmental hazards, on socioeconomic and racial inequalities in health. American University’s School of International Studies has a comparable Program (equivalent to a department) in Environmental Sustainability and Global Health. American University’s program is less than seven years old and is growing rapidly, with faculty in fields from anthropology, geography, political science to public health and economics, and 65 undergraduate majors. Considering such endeavors are still relatively rare, the proposed department will put UCR on the cutting edge by institutionalizing the academic response to the interconnected issues of sustainability and environmental and health inequity.

Engaging UC system commitment to carbon neutrality
In 2013, the University of California adopted its Carbon Neutrality Initiative, which commits the university to transitioning to 100 percent clean electricity and becoming carbon neutral by 2025, making the UC system the first institution of higher education to set such a bold goal. Additionally, the UC pledges to: make carbon neutrality and sustainability an integral part of the educational experience of students on every campus; expand and accelerate climate change and resilience research; and invest in climate change solutions. More recently, the University of
California formally partnered with the Biden Administration “on a new period of innovation and discovery and looks forward to seeing how our renowned faculty contribute to addressing this crisis” (UC Office of the President 2021). UCR, specifically, ranks #2 in systemwide renewable energy, #16 for greenest universities in the U.S. and #35 on Sierra Club's rankings of "cool schools" for energy and sustainability efforts, according to UCR's Office of Sustainability. SEHE majors, especially, Environmental Studies B.A. responds directly to the UC System’s commitment to educating its more than 250,000 students about climate change, especially its impacts on human and nonhuman life and social strategies available to make climate resilience more likely. SEHE courses will offer students opportunities to engage in original research relevant to the environmental, social, and public health impacts of climate change. Both majors emphasize campus- and community-based experiences in order to prepare our graduates to participate in local, federal, and global efforts to respond effectively to current and future challenges due to climate change.

Advancing UCR’s profile for external funders in health and the environment

One of the key advantages of the SEHE Department is its ability to respond to the contemporary challenges to environment, sustainability, and health equity simultaneously. These challenges on different domains often work in interlinked ways, with threats and risks affecting each other reciprocally and creating cascades of inequalities and unsustainabilities. Because SEHE faculty are from diverse disciplines and possess expertise on these different domains and their intersections, we will be exceptionally well-suited to address the impending challenges to environmental and human well-being that traverse each other. We expect that the SEHE Department will function as a multiplier, leveraging existing resources and collaborations across campus for ambitious research projects, attracting extramural grants as an appealing institutional home. SEHE faculty are actively seeking grant funding to bring resources to the university. Applications are pending for a $35,000 NEH Humanities Connections grant for “Creating Undergraduate Majors in Society, Environment and Health Equity” and a $10,000 UCHRI Living Through Upheaval grant for “After Epistemicide: Building Relations, Imagining Futures.” SEHE faculty won a $496,570 UCOP grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health, & Environmental Inequalities” (2021-2023).

Each contributing faculty member brings unique disciplinary perspectives (e.g., critical race theory, feminist theory, environmental justice, social theory, structural vulnerability in health) and methodological expertise including quantitative survey design, qualitative methods and ethnographic observation, mixed-methods research, deliberative methods, historical contextualization, and community-based research approaches, to the SEHE Department. Each faculty applies their disciplinary methods to a common set of research challenges around sustainability and health, and many currently address environmental and health equity needs in the local region through their research and public service. A number of them are recipients of
grants from the National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIH/NIMHD), Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), and the National Science Foundation (NSF), and various foundations (See Appendix A: Faculty Grants and Awards). The terrain for collaboration is rich and broad. We believe that these combined specializations and focus on local environmental and health equity needs will allow department members to succeed in competitive multidisciplinary research grants for solutions to complex social, medical, and environmental problems that require diverse disciplinary perspectives to address, which will attract future students interested to learn and eventually serve the complex and diverse needs of the inland southern California region.

The SEHE Department represents another means of institutionalizing academic research and training around issues concerning threats to the natural environment, sustaining socio-economic systems, and increasing health equity. These areas of both social and scholarly concerns are recognized as complex biosocial interactions requiring “multidisciplinary, multilevel, and multi-factorial research efforts that identify and account for the roles of multiple, complex, and interacting factors simultaneously” (Srinivasan and Williams 2014). A number of agencies and organizations increasingly acknowledge the importance of areas of inquiry that relate environment, sustainability, and health equity, and many have also committed to funding research, demonstrating rich opportunities for scholarship and other activities in the new department.

- **At the international level**, the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and the World Health Organization all relate environment/sustainability and health to each other, as well as to economic development in some cases. They may support research that responds to climate change and seeks to establish equitable and adaptive systems that integrate global social issues/systems, environmental systems/resources, and political economies sufficient to support scientific and medical innovation in the interests of growing and increasingly diverse communities at all levels of activity/action. NIH’s Fogarty International Center facilitates global health research by US and international researchers, providing an excellent opportunity for faculty and students members of the SEHE Department to gain insight and knowledge in a global context to address local sustainability and health equity needs. In addition, independent organizations, such as the Research Program on Migration and Health/Programa de Investigación en Migración en Salud (PiMSA) fund interdisciplinary research projects related to environment, sustainability, and health equity.

- **Within the United States**, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Department of Defense (DoD), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Science Foundation Directorate on the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences, the National
Institutes of Health (NIH), and NIH/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCORI) are among federal sources of funding for research that recognizes the impact of climate change on human health, with particular attention to ensuring equitable responses to the most vulnerable or least advantaged members of society. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services, in particular, emphasizes health equity, or “the attainment of the highest level of health for all people,” which is evident in its Healthy People 2020 initiative. Furthermore, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)’s Culture of Health has brought to light the fifth wave in public health igniting a movement to create healthier and more equitable communities and bringing health into all policies. RWJF has invested millions into developing a future culture of health leaders and supporting multidisciplinary investigative and stakeholder teams. These research agendas for health equity require a multi-dimensional and multi-level approach that integrates biological, behavioral, community engaged, and social and humanistic approaches to be able to address complex and intersectional inequalities of health and health care. Independent organizations, such as the William T. Grant Foundation and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) are sources of funding for related interdisciplinary research on environmental, sustainability, and health equity, such as that pursued by SEHE faculty.

- **State and local funding** for scholarly and community-based research related to the natural environment, sustainability, public health and social justice includes state and regional public agencies, such as the California Air Resources Board (CARB), the state Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), and the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and foundations, including the California Endowment, the California Research Foundation, the Pacific Research Institute (PREI) and the Energy Foundation. Notably, the Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) Health Care Scholarship Fund has provided more than $8 million to medical schools in the region.

Our faculty representatives have discussed funding opportunities with UCR’s foundation development officers and received enthusiastic feedback as “immensely fundable” for its timeliness. They also lauded our effort to offer “real world challenges and solutions to students in CHASS.” They will support our engagement with foundations as a department that *engages the humanities* as partners and collaborators in the fields of environment, sustainability, and health in order to separate the new department from the other units on campus. This will keep us from inadvertently encroaching on the partnerships that other colleges have cultivated with the funders.

Donors are looking for programs that meet the challenges of the 21st century to fund. Donors are particularly excited about supporting students in these fields, not only through coursework but opportunities for hands-on research training with a social justice focus on our area. The
fundraising and development office at UCR calls our new department “immensely fundable” through foundation funding in the health and environmental humanities as well as opportunities on the federal grant side, including grants to support pipeline programs to diversify STEM fields. Some donors have already expressed interest in providing research and scholarship funding for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity. This is an opportunity that is available to UCR to seize.

**Advancing diversity, equity and inclusion**

The SEHE Department offers unique research synergies at the intersections of Society, Environment and Health Equity, research and educational programs that are currently lacking an institutional base at UCR. As noted above, interdisciplinary initiatives are sometimes difficult to receive recognition within departments bound to a particular discipline at UCR. As a result, we have had difficulties retaining faculty. UCR lost a medical sociologist to UC Santa Barbara a couple of years ago, another medical sociologist to Vanderbilt's Medicine, Health and Society department, and a social psychologist with research in health to the private sector. These losses arguably could have been prevented if UCR had greater investment in interdisciplinary collaborations, particularly focusing on health equity. Recognizing that the siloed nature of traditional academic institutions limits collaboration on research and teaching, many universities are moving towards interdisciplinary departments; and large funding agencies like NIH expect diverse disciplines to be present in a research team. The proposed department will bring UCR up to speed on these trends and play a vital role in retaining talented faculty by providing the institutional and scholarly support necessary for interdisciplinary inquiries into environmental and health inequality. Furthermore, with its explicit agenda on social justice and equity, our department will be among the departments carrying the torch in inclusive excellence. By providing an institutional home with an emphasis on sustainability, inclusion and equity, the SEHE Department would bolster UCR’s ability to recruit and retain faculty from diverse backgrounds in strategically important areas, and sustain long-term multidisciplinary research collaborations.

As we previously stated above (in response to Issue #7): “SEHE can play a vital role in recruiting and retaining talented and diverse faculty by providing the institutional and scholarly support necessary for interdisciplinary inquiries and community-based research. Faculty working on issues of diversity and equity often struggle to achieve recognition and support for community- based research, teaching and service. SEHE places these activities at the core of our departmental project. It will regularly review department teaching/mentoring loads for equitable distribution (given that certain faculty subgroups disproportionately mentor certain student subgroups) and take steps to address inequities. We welcome collaborations with structures for Indigenous and Latinx research and scholarship, such as the California Center for Native Nations and the Latino and Latin American Studies Research Center.” In addition “Our faculty already reflects the goals set by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in terms of our gender, race,
ethnic, and disability demographics. One of our faculty has just been named as the Co-Chair of UCR’s new Staff and Faculty Disability Network. We will also be proactive in recruiting and retaining BIPOC scholars working in environmental and health equity studies. As we mentioned above, SEHE faculty have already brought resources to the university in the form of a $496,570 UCOP grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health, & Environmental Inequalities” (2021-2023). Given UCR’s status as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) and as one of the most diverse universities in the U.S., SEHE faculty feel it is incumbent upon us to be international leaders in recruiting and retaining diverse faculty. We have already discussed how we can work cooperatively and non-hierarchically to support and mentor one another at our 2021 Summer Retreat and we look forward to continuing to put those ideas into practice within our proposed department.”

To be clear, the SEHE Department alone will not constitute a complete institutional response to the challenges of racism and social inequity. The establishment of an SEHE Department is not proposed as a substitute for academic programs specifically designed to further research and scholarship of Black, Latinx and Indigenous faculty and students. SEHE faculty look forward to supporting the foundation of a Department of Black Study. We welcome collaborations with structures for Indigenous and Latinx research and scholarship, such as the California Center for Native Nations and the Latino and Latin American Studies Research Center. We expect and plan that our curriculum will complement and bolster these initiatives by offering courses that center rather than tokenize Black, Indigenous, and other radical intellectuals, communities, and issues. Such courses would provide important interdisciplinary perspectives to expand the robustness of these initiatives and the SEHE curriculum alike.

The Department will take action to recruit and retain diverse students. It will state plainly on its website its commitment to diversity and provide links to relevant resources at UCR (e.g., diversity.ucr.edu; list of campus ethnic & gender centers/organizations; options/contacts for complaint resolution). It will advertise the new department to organizations serving diverse students, such as Cal State Universities, local Riverside and San Bernardino high schools, including alternative schools (e.g., YouthBuild Inland Empire), youth-serving government agencies (e.g., San Bernardino County GenerationGO!; City of Riverside Youth Opportunity Center), and youth-serving community organizations (e.g., Empower YOU Edutainment). We will coordinate with units on campus (e.g., Undergraduate Office of Student Engagement; University Extension Youth Programs) that have programs supporting local youth and promoting college attendance (e.g., tutoring programs; Summer Academy); we’ll ask their help in disseminating information about the department. To promote teaching and mentoring that uplift all students and meet the specific needs of student subgroups, the Department will provide its faculty with information about available resources on how to teach/mentor diverse students and will consider in personnel reviews professional development and performance in this area. It will regularly review department teaching/mentoring loads for equitable distribution (given that
certain faculty subgroups disproportionately mentor certain student subgroups) and take steps to address inequities.

Meeting UCR students’ needs

The SEHE Department provides an academic space in which students can process their lived experiences while building knowledge and skills that empower them to exercise their agency and promote change. It offers them the opportunity to study social inequities, health, and sustainability -- issues that deeply matter to them -- in theoretically grounded scholarly literature that transcends disciplinary boundaries. Our majors will gain methodological tools to grasp dynamic interactions of social, economic and political inequities, environmental toxicity and climate-related crises, health, disability and disease. They will be exposed to innovative and community-engaged approaches that prepare them to create and communicate evidence-based ideas and policy solutions to overcome these inequities. They will come to understand how to read statistical data and how to communicate it to broader audiences and be able to analyze relationships between the local, national and global scales, and to identify structural causes of individual phenomena.

SEHE distinguishes itself from related majors in its emphasis on combining critical ethnographic, historical and sociological methods, and practical, hands-on work building career skills and serving communities. We anticipate growing existing partnerships with community organizations, free clinics, the COPE Health Scholars program, Humanities Action Lab, California State Parks, and others. Our majors will be grounded in critical thinking, awareness of inequities and disparities, and ready to apply useful skills to serve their communities.

UCR students are extremely diverse. The breakdown of our undergraduates by ethnicity is: Hispanic (41.5%), Asian (33.8%), White (11%), Black or African American (3.3%), and less than 1% Native American, Alaskan, Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian. The majority of them (58%) are first generation college students. A great number of students are from immigrant families and come from or live in low-income neighborhoods in Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino, which bear some of the heaviest pollution burdens and suffer the highest cases of asthma, cardiovascular disease, and poverty in the state of California. These same neighborhoods are also challenged by the effect of climate change, worsening air pollution and heatwaves in particular. The pandemic has also hit UCR students and their families hard owing to their intersectional vulnerabilities.

Our students will receive interdisciplinary education that will pave the way for a wide range of careers in some of the fastest growing job markets. The Health Equity Studies is suitable for students seeking to enter a profession in public health, health administration, community relations and policy in healthcare settings, social work, and government, community organizations, and mutual aid groups. The Environmental Studies major prepares students for
public administration and service, urban and environmental planning, policy advocacy, education, health care, green industry, consulting, research, international development, and non-profit organizations focused on the environment, sustainability, and social justice. Both programs will be an excellent gateway to postgraduate studies in medicine, public health, public policy, social work, urban planning, and Environmental Studies. The department will also provide a pathway toward continuing studies in a variety of academic fields, including anthropology, sociology, gender studies, ethnic studies, political science, or history.

It is extremely important that the two proposed majors are housed in their own department for their stability and ability to serve the students well. While successful interdisciplinary academic programming within existing departments or in a free-standing interdisciplinary program is possible, historically, with few exceptions, interdepartmental degrees and interdisciplinary programs have not been well supported at UCR. For instance, although the Law and Society major is widely considered to be a successful interdepartmental program, it still struggles to provide the consistent, coordinated support for students necessary for its sustained success. As such, the number of Law and Society degrees awarded has declined steadily from around 130 in 2012 and 2013 to less than 50 in the last couple of years. Freestanding interdisciplinary programs face even greater challenges because without FTE, there is no regular financial basis to sustain their activities, few, if any, faculty charged with teaching the courses required for students to complete their degrees, and no central space for students to gather or, at least, expect to encounter their professors, instructors, and TAs. Existing programs are generally administered by a steering committee of faculty whose primary affiliations are to their academic departments. They operate on extraordinarily slim budgets based on concurrent and summer session funds, ad hoc college support, and grants. And most courses are taught primarily by adjunct faculty. Such a faulty institutional structure would be no way to prepare students to confront challenges associated with existing and anticipated threats to the natural environment, the sustainability imperative, and the crushing need for health equity.

**Bolstering student enrollment**

Demand from students for academic programs in health and the environment is growing as these issues have been increasingly moved into the center of our daily concerns as well as on the national political stage. Majors in SEHE could serve as a powerful recruiting tool to attract applicants to UCR. The pool of potential majors in Health Equity Studies is deep: the Health Professions Advisory Center serves more than 5000 UCR undergraduates interested in a future career in the healthcare area. There are currently few options for pre-health undergraduates, relative to their number. The Health Equity Studies major would offer a humanities and social-science infused track toward a future career in medicine and allied professions such as public health and health administration. Student demand for a humanities major in environment and sustainability is already demonstrable: the number of majors for the Sustainability Studies in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department has increased since 2015 from 12 to more than 100
majors. Once the major transfers over to SEHE and the course offerings broadened, we expect the enrollment to double.

Results from a survey study conducted for this proposal also demonstrate student demand. In March-April 2021, 505 UCR students completed the Qualtrics survey distributed by UCR faculty. Sixty-two percent of the students were from CHASS, 25% were from CNAS, 10% were from Engineering, 2% were from Public Policy, and 1% were from Business.

- 93% reported that they thought UCR should have an undergraduate major in Environmental Studies in CHASS.
- 56% reported that they would consider majoring in Environmental Studies.
- 70% reported that they would consider minoring in Environmental Studies.
- 94% reported that they thought UCR should have an undergraduate major in Health Equity Studies in CHASS.
- 55% reported that they would consider majoring in Healthy Equity Studies.
- 65% reported that they would consider minoring in Healthy Equity Studies.

The proposed undergraduate programs will become much more visible to prospective students and transfer students under a department dedicated to the subjects. Our majors promise to become very competitive among comparable UC and CSU programs, attracting more inspired applicants to UCR. The minors will allow CHASS and non-CHASS majors to supplement their specialized education with humanities and social sciences concentration in environment and sustainability or health equity.

**Career and academic pathways**

Health and environment related careers are two of the fastest growing sectors in U.S. employment. According to California state labor market statistics, many of the top 100 fastest growing occupations in California are related to health and the environment. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), “employment in healthcare occupations is projected to grow 15 percent from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 2.4 million new jobs. Healthcare occupations are projected to add more jobs than any of the other occupational groups” (U.S. BLS 2020a). Employment in community and social service occupations (primarily social work and counseling) is projected to grow 12 percent from 2019 to 2029 (U.S. BLS 2020b). California’s fastest growing health occupations include various types of health-related therapists, counselors, social workers, and managers. The course work our major provides will prepare students for health and health care related careers including health administration & management, health education, social work and health advocacy & policy in non-profits or government health organizations, hospitals, health or senior care centers, and educational settings or pursuing higher education in health sciences. SEHE offers an excellent foundation for students entering professional schools of medicine, nursing, pharmacy or public
health. For students who choose not to pursue postgraduate study, SEHE provides training and skills for work in community relations, community outreach, social services, administration and advocacy. While the UCR Medical School addresses these needs for the severe doctor shortage, the deficit of workforce in other health and health care professions in the Inland Empire is still unmet. Instituting a Health Equity Studies major in a Hispanic Serving Institution in the Inland Empire will both address the current demand for healthcare services workforce and contribute to the goal of diversifying health and health care workforce.

According to a recent report, the global green technology and sustainability market size is set to grow from $11.2 billion in 2020 to $36.6 billion by 2025. The BLS predicts that more than half of the growth in employment expected by 2026 will be in eco-friendly occupations. The U.S. government has recently announced plans for a more aggressive plan to counter climate change while acknowledging the importance of incorporating social and environmental justice into its ongoing policy and planning. Demand for employees with relevant backgrounds is more than likely to increase as organizations create dedicated positions related to sustainability and climate resilience. More environmental and sustainability-related job opportunities are slated to open up in green buildings, climate adaptation, sustainable energy, transportation, education, water, watershed, and waste management, food and agriculture, business and purchasing, outdoor recreation, and environmental law and regulation. The ESST and HQST majors prepare students for work in the fast-growing and intertwined fields of health, environment and sustainability with roles in planning, governance, business management, consulting, law, and community engagement.

Entry level jobs in the areas of environment/sustainability, health and safety, planning, and public service require education and training in environmental studies, health and safety, spatial analysis and other research and planning skills, environmental, health and safety regulatory regimes, and an understanding of socioeconomic contexts for environmental and health policy issues. SEHE majors will be versed in collaborative experience and practical training, leadership/management preparation, emotional intelligence and social awareness. They will be strong candidates in a competitive job market.

Career pathways are integrated into SEHE Department planning from the outset. SEHE faculty currently are working with the Career Center and the Health Professions Advising Center to integrate career-oriented opportunities within the major. The Career Center has already established internship opportunities with environment and health-related organizations including the Environmental Protection Agency, among others. In addition, SEHE will study the possibility of integrating professional certification programs into the curriculum. The APLU has identified integrated industry certifications as a central need and goal for public institutions of higher education (APLU 2020). Such an effort could fit with SEHE’s on community service and hands-on skills; for example, a Health Equity Studies major might take an SEHE 198I course in which they gain practical experience and pass a certification as a Certified Clinical Medical
Assistant, while analyzing these experiences critically under SEHE faculty supervision. The SEHE majors will ground such opportunities within a theoretically and methodologically rigorous academic curriculum.

We anticipate that our curriculum will inspire some students to pursue a career in advancing the common good. Alum of the environmental justice and human rights course of one of our core faculty demonstrate this. They are working for organizations such as the United Nations Development Program, Earth Justice, Skid Row Trust Health and Wellness, Mercy Corps, and The People Concern. A number of Sustainability Studies graduates have worked or are working for agencies and organizations such as GRID Alternatives, Air Quality Management Districts (AQMDs) and Air Pollution Control Districts (APCDs) in California, Americorps, Climate Corps, Conservation Corps throughout the United States, Health Career Connection, San Diego Association of Governments (SDAG), the Sierra Club, and the U.S. Green Building Council. Sustainability Studies alumni have also gone on to graduate school programs in public policy, urban and regional planning, and public health, in order to better serve their communities. Please see Appendix D, Employment Record for Sustainability Studies Alum, for positions successfully acquired by students with humanities and social sciences training.

SEHE majors will also be well positioned for medical training. They would be highly qualified to enter the Thomas Haider program at the UCR School of Medicine, which admits up to 24 qualified UCR undergraduates or recent UCR graduates via a unique pathway. The Haider program requires “strong academic ability, significant clinical and volunteer experience, and a demonstrated commitment to practice medicine in Inland Southern California.”\(^1\) The extensive grounding in health equity and/or sustainability, combined with skills in community-based research, will give SEHE majors an ideal preparation for this program or for other medical and health-care professional schools.

Finally, SEHE majors will be uniquely qualified to enter postgraduate programs in the humanities and social sciences. Alums of the existing Sustainability Studies major have been accepted by graduate and professional programs, such as CSU Long Beach’s M.S. in Sustainability Management and Policy, M.Ed. in the UCR School of Education and the UCR Business School. SEHE majors will have an understanding of how to translate academic research within community settings. SEHE majors moving into postgraduate study in the humanities and social sciences will already be oriented toward a career in community-engaged academic research.

Support from stakeholders

We have made an effort to inform as many UCR faculty members as we reasonably could while we were preparing this proposal so that stakeholders can communicate both support and concerns. In February 2022 we held an SEHE Open House, to which we invited members of Senate committees, CHASS faculty, CNAS, BCOE and SOM faculty with related research interests and faculty in the ENSC Department. We are in dialogue with Chairs and Deans in CNAS, SPP and SOM, and are planning to visit department meetings. We have tried to engage any raised concerns as best as we could, and we welcomed the participation of colleagues interested in the formation of the new department. Our proposal has received strong endorsements as reflected in the letters we received from internal and external stakeholders. In addition, some department chairs including History, Statistics, and Media and Cultural Studies have told us that department faculty responded positively to the proposed initiative during their meetings. Below are excerpts from the letters we received. (The original letters are provided to reviewers in a separate file).

Internal letters:

Gerald A. Maguire, the chair of UCR School of Medicine Psychiatry and Neuroscience Department writes that the SEHE: “will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability and the common good. ...Such a development is especially important to meet the unmet mental health needs of our region. To provide optimal behavioral health, one must utilize the skills and expertise of a diverse multidisciplinary team. Our faculty and trainees in Psychiatry and Neuroscience are eager to partner with our colleagues from the proposed Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity.”

Georgia Warnke writes as then Director of the Center for Ideas and Society (CIS) at UC Riverside: “[I] support enthusiastically the proposal for a new Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity... It will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related to environmental and healthcare careers and it has the potential of increasing diversity in related workforce areas.”

Matthew Barth, Director of the Bourns College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology, and UCR Faculty Director of Sustainability enthusiastically supports the new Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity and its curriculums.

Matthew Barth, Brian Siana, Fortino Morales, and Francis Mitalo representing the UCR Office of Sustainability are particularly excited that “this new department will be offering a minor for students ... especially for those in other colleges (e.g. CNAS and BCOE). These future scientists and engineers can now leave UCR with a better understanding of the social impacts of their
work.” The office hopes to partner with the new department to facilitate internships, experiential learning, and within courses as relevant.

Derick Fay, Acting Chair of the Department of Anthropology writes: “this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university. … I fully support the development of the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity, and welcome the many synergies between its programming and that of my own Department. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside, and its creation will further enhance the university’s reputation as a site of critical engagement with inequality and diversity.

Xinping Cui, Professor and Chair of Department of Statistics writes: “Our department faculty unanimously support the development of the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity and we are also excited to see one of our faculty members is part of this important endeavor.”

Adem Orsdemir, Assistant Professor of Operations and Supply Chain Management writes: “As someone with a research interest in social responsibility and environmental sustainability, I believe that this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university.”

Michael McKibben, Chair and Associate Professor of Geology in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences (EPS) writes “It is important to supply tools for both scientific and critical thinking to the preparation pursuing this field [environmental and health disparities], making partnership between CNAS departments and the new CHASS program essential.” Knowing that the students in the existing Sustainability Studies Major had great success in upper-division GEO courses in Climate Change, the EPS Department welcomes students from the new department into its courses. The letter also notes that “courses developed by the SEHE Department are sure to interest majors in our department, particularly those focused on Climate Change. We wholeheartedly support the opportunity for our students to gain the rich interdisciplinary perspective that these courses will offer.”

Patricia Morton, Chair of Urban Studies program writes, “The establishment of this proposed new department would help to expand and enrich course offerings for UCR students and better serve students interested in understanding and responding to some of the most pressing urban problems locally and around the world that are related to public and environmental health and the growing climate crisis.” She also writes that the proposed new majors would help to better prepare UCR students “for a variety of graduate programs and careers related to public health, the environment, and sustainability. Occupations in these inter-related fields, and interest in them among UCR students, are on the rise both regionally and nationally, especially given recent
health crises, aging populations, and rising environmental problems that greatly affecting urban residents both locally and around the world.”

Judith Rodenbeck, representing the Department of Media and Cultural Studies as the Chair conveys the department faculty’s unanimous endorsement of the proposal and intention to cross-list a number of courses. She writes: “The proposed department responds in a meaningful and pro-active way to UCR’s position as a regional anchor for knowledge-production and employment as well as to the university’s stated core values of social justice, sustainability, and the common good. This new department will serve the Inland Empire and beyond, as well as our local students and community, by preparing students for behavioral, administrative, policy, and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers. Additionally, it will increase the representation of well-prepared BIPOC advocates in the related workforce.”

David Lo, Senior Associate Dean of Research of School of Medicine enthusiastically elaborate on the synergies between SEHE and the interdisciplinary research conducted at the BREATH Center, the aim of the Center for Health Disparity Research to train and promote a new generation of researchers in topics related to health disparities, social equity, and community engagement, and the Thomas Haider Program that serves as a pathway for UCR students to pursue a medical career in the Inland Empire. He believes, as we do, that “the NIH and other agencies, including the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have begun to recognize the critical need to promote work in environmental and social justice to address health needs, and the necessary role of community networks as full partners in the research” and support our effort stating: “The growth in attention and funding in this area provides important opportunities for undergraduate education and future career opportunities, and the SEHE programs will be timely in helping to launch UCR students in entirely new types of careers of service to the community.”

External letters:

Steffanie Strathdee, Associate Dean of Global Health Sciences at the University of California, San Diego writes that she is excited by the innovative curriculum that addresses some of the most pressing global health concerns of our time. “The interdisciplinary program furthers the University of California’s commitment to innovative pedagogies and scholarship that addresses the diverse needs of our underserved communities. I hope that the program will grow to offer graduate education and serve as an interdisciplinary hub for learning opportunities and research collaborations across UC campuses.”

Noting that “approaches to understanding and addressing these environmental challenges have been constrained by the very disciplinary epistemologies its practitioners apply,” Ronnie Lipschutz, Professor Emeritus of Politics at the University of California, Santa Cruz reiterates the importance of the “interdisciplinary framework and scope required to educate and train
students in addressing the complex and ‘wicked problems’ … such as climate change (and all the social systems that give rise to it,) [which] are characterized by complex linkages among technological, political, social and economic systems and institutions.” He also notes that “there is a pressing need to acknowledge and incorporate the structural injustices and racism that are foundational to our social institutions and practices… UCR’s student demographic is well-placed to make important and significant contributions [in addressing the uneven distribution of the impacts of climate change and the benefits from the coming green economy.]” He concludes: “There are many other reasons to support the creation of an SEHE Department at UCR, not the least that similar initiatives exist or are being launched across the country and the world. I endorse this initiative in the strongest terms and hope UCR will create and fund this new department.”

Tracey Osborne, the Founding Director of the UC Center for Climate Justice writes: “Now is the right time for such a department, as the UC system continues to recognize the need for interdisciplinary social science and humanities approaches to environmental and sustainability-related issues to complement a science-based curriculum. … With the creation of this department, UC Riverside is poised to provide an innovative curriculum for its diverse student body as well as to lead the way for other UC campuses.” She offers her strongest support for this endeavor stating that: “The kinds of pedagogical approaches required to plan for and address holistic solutions to climate change and other environmental problems in California and beyond must address scientific, social, economic, and cultural components. The innovative, forward-thinking approach offered in the proposal for the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity is exactly what is needed to broaden these offerings for UCR students.”

Elizabeth DeSombre of Wellesley College, who created its Environmental Studies Department notes that there is “no technology that will magically create sustainability; there are different choices, among different priorities, that need to be managed through decisions that society makes… An ability to examine the implications of these decisions on different populations (and the social structures that lead to inequities in the first place) is a key strength of many social science and interdisciplinary fields.” she strongly supports the creation of the new department by saying “The proposal of this new department brings together scholars and teachers who have decades of experience thinking about these issues and the intersections between them. It has the ability to contribute significant educational goals and prepare students to genuinely help the world navigate difficult issues with important equity implications.”

Sarah Jaquette Ray, Professor and Chair of the Environmental Studies Department at Humboldt University serves on the design team for UC Center for Climate justice and served as the CSU program leader for the UC/CSU Knowledge Action Network Transformation Climate Education and Action. She notes that “human health is the way that people are going to really experience and respond to both the urgent and long-term effects of climate change,” and as such, “[i]t is
imperative that we produce experts that bring these realms of expertise together for planetary health, to focus more on health in the sustainability world, and to respond the needs of future, not the past. Ray expresses her strong support for the new department by stating: As a result of being immersed in all of these discussions about why and how California’s institutions might rise to the occasion of the myriad accelerations and transitions that the world is facing—related to health, justice, climate, technology, information, and culture—I can attest to the need for institutions of higher education to respond at scale. A Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity is exactly such a response.”

Professor Danielle Celemajer, Deputy Director of the Sydney Environment Institute, University of Sydney, Australia offers that the proposal is designed to overcome the structural impediments of our universities for multidimensional research and teaching, when they are needed the most to address interlocking systems of inequality and exploitation of structural violence in environmental and health inequities. She finds particularly impressive, “the proposal['s] attentiveness to the contribution the department would make across different scales.” She elaborates: “That is, it has a clear focus on how research and graduates would contribute to addressing the complex social, medical, and environmental issues in Inland Southern California region. At the same time, it has a national and global vision.” She concludes: “Should this department be constituted, I know that many colleagues across the world will be eager to collaborate with its scholars. I certainly hope that you see the value of supporting it.”

Professor Tonya Huff of the Life Sciences Department at Riverside City College has seen interests in environmental issues grow among her students. In response to student demand and the expanding niche in the job market for eco-friendly occupations, RCC has begun developing a sustainability major that will create a pathway to the proposed ESST major in collaboration with UCR faculty. She believes that the transition between the majors “will be seamless” and is “excited about the potential for this pathway for [RCC] students.” She states: “I believe that these topics are relevant, necessary, and in demand and that such programs would be tremendously beneficial for the students of UCR.”

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

**Undergraduate Programs**
The SEHE Department offers the following degree programs:

- B.A. in Environmental Studies
- B.A. in Health Equity Studies

Both programs also offer Minors.
The SEHE undergraduate curricula respond directly to major ecological and public health threats; provide students with opportunities to engage in research and related work in the areas of environment, sustainability, health equity and social justice; and prepare students to move into professional jobs and/or graduate programs after graduating from UCR. The Strategic Plan points to the need for “opportunities for students to learn in off-campus environments, through internships, study abroad, and state and federal leadership programs” (UC Riverside 2021, 11). The SEHE Department will offer a faculty-mentored internship option as a capstone experience for both majors. Community research and engagement, both on and off campus, is already at the core of many participating faculty members’ research and teaching; this strength will be amplified by the SEHE curriculum. Coursework will give students methods, contextual knowledge and experience in community-grounded research and service. Above all, through in-depth, engaged learning experiences, these majors nurture community leaders and global citizens who can meet the challenges of the 21st century. (Detailed curriculum proposals following the guidelines of the Committee on Education Policy are provided in Appendixes B & C).

Graduate Programs (Future goals)

No graduate programs will be offered by the SEHE Department at this time. Once the department is founded and undergraduate programs are functioning, we plan to submit a proposal for combined (4+1) Masters degrees in Environmental Studies and Health Equity Studies. Next the SEHE faculty will explore building the department’s Masters programs into a Ph.D. program.

Learning outcomes

Through humanities and social sciences education, Environmental Studies major program (ESST) equips students with knowledge, theory, and skills that advance their contribution to a world in which environmental degradation has become an increasingly significant societal subject of concern. In order to gain a deeper understanding of the complex interactions between the workings of human societies and ecological changes, the major engages a range of environmental challenges including climate change, air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, energy demands, toxic accumulations, waste management, deforestation and desertification, food security, and water scarcity as social phenomena and examines how they intersect with broader societal issues such as environmental justice, policy and governance, history of colonialism, global capitalism, hunger and poverty, structural racism, gender inequality, health inequity, and community resilience. The major also introduces humanities approaches such as critical theory, environmental philosophy, regional history, storytelling, and other creative expressions to enrich students’ intellectual relationships with nature and non-human elements.

Future workers in the field of health and sustainability require training in social determinants, ethnographic methods, complex systems and community engagement. Healthcare institutions,
companies, and community organizations increasingly recognize the need and the value of understanding the role of structural racism, gender and sexuality, economic disparity, and historical dispossession in the uneven impacts of health crises. The **Health Equity Studies major program** (HQST) will educate students in these critical areas of knowledge. Health Equity Studies majors will be equipped to carry out multi-dimensional and multi-level analyses that integrate biological, behavioral, social and humanistic approaches to address complex and intersectional inequalities of health and health care. They will learn how to read statistical data and how to communicate it to broader audiences, be able to analyze relationships between the local, national and global scales, and to identify structural causes of individual phenomena. They will have training in ethnographic methods, sociological analysis and historical research.

Both majors will bring humanist and social-scientific toolkits and critical consciousness to work in health and sustainability. Our majors will gain methodological tools to grasp dynamic interactions of social, economic and political inequities, environmental and climate-related crises, health, disability and disease. Both majors offer opportunities to gain experience with community-based research and engagement through coursework and off-campus internship opportunities.

The **ESST and HQST minors** allow students in biomedical or scientific degree programs to complement their curriculum with a social-scientific and humanities perspective. The minor would also be appropriate for students in Public Policy or CHASS majors, who wish to complement disciplinary study with more focused attention to environment, sustainability and health disparities and inequities. In the future, once the department is established, the ESST and HQST academic minors are well positioned to be part of UCR’s Strategic initiative to offer online academic minors to UC undergraduates systemwide (UC Riverside 2021, 2). SEHE programs offer unique advantages, which are not replicated by existing UC majors in Environmental Studies or Public Health (see “Comparable Programs” below). UC students may well find that a minor in Health Equity or Environmental Studies allows them to bolster their attention and skill in areas that matter to them, around social justice and equity.

**The curricula**

For full proposals for the two undergraduate majors in the format requested by the Academic Senate Committee on Education Policy, see Appendix B and C.

**Environmental Studies (ESST)**

**B.A. degree in Environmental Studies** consists of lower-division, methods, and upper-division requirements, which includes the capstone requirement. Total required units are 52 units.
**Lower-division** requirements (4 courses, 16 units) include:

a) SEHE 001 Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change

b) SEHE 002 Society, Culture, and the Environment

c) Two courses from a list of CNAS courses related to sustainability and environment (18 options)

**Upper-division** requirements (36 units) consist of three core areas and 2 electives, and a research methods or senior practicum course. Except for some elective courses, all courses are taught by core or affiliated faculty.

a) One course in climate change and society (5 options)

b) One course in environmental justice (5 options)

c) One course in environmental politics, policy, and governance (8 options)

d) Two additional SEHE courses in any area

e) Two electives from the seven areas that approach environmental studies from different angles. The seven areas are: i) gender, race, and structural inequity; ii) Native American and non-Western perspectives; iii) space, the built environment, and design; (iv) policy, economics, and development; (v) social movement, change, and activism; (vi) health and well-being; and (vii) science and technology studies.

f) Research methods or senior practicum course led by core faculty. (6 options)

**Minor in Environmental Studies**

**Lower-division requirements** include 1 course (4 units):

SEHE 002 Society, Culture, and the Environment

**Upper-division requirements** include 4 courses (16 units):

One course in climate change and society

One course in environmental justice

One course in environmental policy, politics, and governance

One additional course from the above core areas

A comprehensive proposal for ESST undergraduate curriculum may be found in Appendix B.
Health Equity Studies (HQST)

**B.A. degree in Healthy Equity Studies** consists of 52 units and focuses primarily on humanities and social science studies of health inequity.

**Lower-division requirements** include 4 courses (16 units):
- a) SEHE 001 Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change
- b) SEHE 003 Introduction to Health Equity
- c) One course in Data Science
- d) One course in Medical and Health Humanities from among eight course options

**Upper-division requirements** include 9 courses (36 units):
- a) One course in Climate Change, Environment and Health (7 course options)
- b) Three courses in Health Disparities and Inequities (17 course options)
- c) Three courses in Health Practices, Politics, and Policies (18 course options)
- d) One course in Gender, Race, and Structural Inequities (17 course options)
- e) One research methods course (6 course options)

**Minor in Health Equity Studies** consists of 20 units:

**Lower-division requirements** include 1 course (4 units):
- SEHE 003 Introduction to Health Equity

**Upper-division requirements** include 4 courses (16 units):
- Two courses in Health Disparities and Inequities
- Two courses in Health Practices, Politics, and Policies

A comprehensive proposal for HQST undergraduate curriculum may be found in Appendix C.

**Anticipated enrollment**

Student demand for Sustainability Studies is already demonstrable. The existing Sustainability Studies B.S. (in the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies) has grown from 12 majors in 2015 to consistently enrolling 100+ majors during the last few years. In addition to CHASS students who add Sustainability Studies as double major or switch majors entirely, the Sustainability Studies B.S. has been popular among CNAS students who move to CHASS and transfer students from community colleges. From our experience, the majority of our students are third and fourth year students as we receive CNAS, transfer, and undeclared students joining the major as a junior.
The official data from ir.ucr.edu in the chart below shows a lower number of students than the information we gathered owing to the fact that the IR data is collected at the beginning of the academic year, whereas our data was gathered towards the end after more students have joined the major. 2021-2022 enrollment declined, as it did in most CHASS majors, due to the uncertainties and difficulties brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. We expect the numbers to bounce back, especially once the major is housed in its own department.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># of majors (mid-year)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>n/d</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>n/d</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>enrollment # (based on IR)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td></td>
<td>degrees conferred</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>53</td>
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The table below shows where students came to the SUST major from.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Majors</th>
<th>Origin</th>
<th>Degrees Conferred</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CHASS/double</td>
<td>Freshmen or Transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CNAS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015~2016</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016~2017</td>
<td>Data was not collected this year</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017~2018</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018~2019</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019~2020</td>
<td>Data was not collected this year</td>
<td>51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020~2021</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29</td>
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<td></td>
<td>51</td>
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By moving the major to a new department and expanding the range of course offerings, we anticipate that enrollment in the ESST program may double undergraduate students within
the first 6 years. Interdisciplinary programs such as Global Studies in other institutions have shown that the number of majors can grow exponentially reaching 500-800 once they departmentalize. Given the enrollment numbers and growth seen in comparable degrees in other UCs, the Environmental Studies Major has the potential to grow much quicker and near 300 students within 6 years. (For example, UCSB Environmental Studies has been enrolling 750-900 majors yearly. Environmental Studies at UCSC had 343 majors in 2020)

We anticipate that the Health Equity Studies major will attract a similar demographic of students who are already moving from CNAS to CHASS, transfer students, and, additionally, pre-medical students. The Public Health degrees offered by UC Merced, UC Irvine, UC Berkeley, and UCSD have almost uniformly seen a steady growth in the number of degrees awarded in the past 10 years. UC Irvine has been awarding more than 500 degrees a year. A conservative estimate of growth for HQST major is 120 and a rapid growth estimate is 170 in 6 years.

In summary, the conservative and the rapid growth scenarios of projected enrollment numbers (majors) per year are as follows. Please note that these estimates reflect anticipated student demand and faculty capacity; in consultation with the CHASS Dean, enrollment growth may be adjusted to track with available staff capacity.

**Conservative Projection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring/Year</th>
<th>6-year projection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESST Majors*</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQST Majors</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Majors</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Degrees Conferred</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Rapid Growth Projection**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spring/Year</th>
<th>6 years projection</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ESST Majors</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQST Majors</td>
<td>10</td>
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</table>
In addition, we will grow in the number of minors. We expect to have about 100 minors in total between the two majors within 5 years.

The break down of the 170 degrees conferred in 2028-2029 in the rapid growth model is:
- Environmental Studies B.A. :100
- Health Equity Studies B.A. :70

Relation to existing academic programs and distinct contribution to campus

The SEHE department would fit into an already existing ecosystem at UCR around environmental studies, medicine and community health. Sustainability and health equity call for multidisciplinary solutions, which cannot be contained in a single college or department. We have made an effort to talk to departments whose programs intersect with ESST and HQST in order to develop programs that are complementary and synergistic. SEHE faculty are committed to building bridges among BCOE, CHASS, CNAS, SPP, SOM, and the Business School through multidisciplinary research and undergraduate curriculum. We will work with the UCR Sustainability Curriculum committee and the Center for Health Disparities Research to foster cross-college collaborations.

Multiple UC campuses offer both Environmental Science and Environmental Studies degrees (UCSB, UCSC, UCB, and UCSD, for example) that attract both funding and students interested in the intersections between STEM fields and environmental and medical humanities and social sciences. As SEHE is no longer proposing a B.S. degree, we hope that the concerns about “overlap” between SEHE and ENSC programs are alleviated. SEHE faculty have strong expertise in environmental studies, which is complementary to the scientific expertise of CNAS faculty. Students trained for the B.A.in Environmental Studies will have a broad understanding of the societal challenges we face amidst the changing environment from a humanities and social science standpoint.

The SEHE department would diversify the undergraduate curriculum in the areas of health, environment and sustainability, offering breadth courses for majors in other departments. For example, the proposed majors will complement and enhance available offerings for students who pursue the global health and sustainability track through the global studies major. The proposed department will extend course offerings available to the subset of GBST majors who wish to
concentrate on health and sustainability (one of the four recommended concentrations within the global studies major). Three faculty members who are affiliated with the proposed department played leadership roles in developing the health and sustainability track for GBST majors, including former GBST chair, Bronwyn Leebaw, current GBST chair, Juliann Allison, and POSC professor, Kim Yi Dionne. As faculty members gathered informally to discuss the best way to develop the GBST tracks, it became very clear to us that there is a significant demand for broader offerings and opportunities for a deeper level of engagement on these themes—well beyond what could be accommodated under the umbrella of Global Studies. The proposed department will also expand opportunities for faculty collaboration on grants that will enable us to expand other avenues of opportunity to students at every level. It will provide an alternative pathway for the many UCR undergraduates who wish to pursue a concentration in environmental studies, sustainability, or health equity, yet do not wish to major in global studies. This is particularly important, given that we are in touch with many UCR alumni that have taken available courses on these themes in order to pursue career paths with a local or regional focus. These, and many other students could have benefited from the opportunity to pursue a major in the proposed department. However, they would not have been well served by the global studies curriculum.

Anthropology offers a concentration for its majors in Medical Anthropology; some of these courses will overlap with HQST because of shared faculty, but the anthropology degree has another set of unique requirements that go beyond the scope of health. Our courses will benefit anthropology majors interested in medicine and health.

There is also an undergraduate minor in Medical and Health Humanities (MHH), which draws from diverse courses in the humanities, social sciences, literature, English, and related areas. Students pursue the MHH minor in conjunction with another degree program. Whereas MHH engages with a broad humanities field concerned with representations of the body, health and disability, HQST offers a more focused set of requirements specifically around health disparities and health inequities. That said, HQST classes would also support the MHH program and the HQST major is entirely compatible with an MHH minor.

The Department of Psychology has a specialized subfield in health and well-being for graduate studies, but no specific program for undergraduates. Therefore, there is currently no significant overlap between the HQST major and the PSYC major. If psychology decides to generate an undergraduate curriculum for mental and behavioral health equity and/or when the proposed department considers building graduate programs in the future, SEHE faculty will work in tandem with the psychology faculty to create complementary and synergetic programs. Note that psychology majors interested in clinical or community work may benefit from courses offered by HQST.
The HQST program also has potential for productive collaboration with the UCR School of Business. Faculty in the UCR Healthy Campus Initiative (HCI) have found that HCI internships are in high demand among UCR Business students. Business students are extremely eager to use their skills to promote health and wellbeing; this experience builds the capacity of students wanting to use their marketing skills to promote public health.

The B.A. in Public Policy degree offers an Urban and Environmental Policy Track and Health and Population Policy Track. Our faculty have had a number of conversations with SPP faculty to discuss how our programs can coexist synergistically. SPP and SEHE have few overlapping faculty, which translates into very different methodological and pedagogical strategies in our undergraduate programs, making each major a unique experience. We recognize that there is some concern that SEHE and School of Public Policy might compete for students interested in environmental and health issues. SPP and SEHE representatives discussed this issue with our experienced undergraduate advisors, who reassured us that having more choices of majors is better for the students and makes UCR competitive against other universities. Just as there is both an Economics Department in CHASS and an Economic Policy track in SPP, as well as an Urban Studies program in CHASS and an Urban and Environmental Policy track in SPP, we believe that there is justification for an SEHE undergraduate degree and SPP tracks in health and the environment.

As a program that mostly focuses on social science and humanities, ESST in CHASS is distinct from Environmental Sciences (ENSC) in CNAS. ENSC and ESST are complementary, rather than competing or overlapping, programs. ESST faculty look forward to collaborating with ENSC faculty members to generate interdisciplinary experiences for students in both majors.

**Comparable undergraduate programs**

*Environmental Studies B.A.*

Three UC Campuses offer interdisciplinary B.A. programs in Environmental Studies. Among them, UCSC and UCLA also offer a separate STEM Environmental Science B.S. degree run by another department. UCI offers their interdisciplinary Environmental Science and Policy degree as a B.A. The other four campuses only offer Environmental Science or Environment Systems B.S. degrees in STEM.

UC Santa Barbara offers both the B.A. and B.S degrees in Environmental Studies through the same program, which consists of courses in science, social sciences, and humanities. Similar to the proposed Environmental Studies major at UCR, Santa Barbara’s program is richly interdisciplinary with an emphasis on environmental justice, with the B.S degree requiring additional STEM courses. UCSB’s College of Letters and Science, which is equivalent to UCR’s College of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences (CHASS) and College of Natural and
Agricultural Sciences (CNAS) combined, enables close collaboration between faculty with environmental science expertise and those with social science and humanities expertise in the environment and sustainability. The UCSB Environmental Studies major has tracks in Environment-Human Health and Environmental Justice and Social Inequity. UCSB’s Environmental Studies program is the most successful model among the UC campuses with 50 years of history. The program has seen an increase in their enrollment from 750 in 2013 to over 900 in 2017 and they award over 250 Bachelor’s degrees each year.

UC Santa Cruz offers an Environmental Studies B.A. program in the Social Science Division in addition to the Environmental Science B.S. program jointly administered by the Ocean Science Department and the Earth and Planetary Sciences Department. The B.A. in Environmental Studies is offered by faculty in the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Students can choose to concentrate in environmental justice, science and policy, or geographical information systems (GIS). The UCSC B.A. in Environmental Studies has also steadily increased its enrollments and degrees awarded, which rose from 164 in 2008 to 246 in 2020, with a peak of 304 in 2012. In addition, Rachel Carson’s College offers a Sustainability Studies Minor.

UCLA’s Geography Department in the Social Sciences Division of the UCLA College offers a B.A. in Geography/Environmental Studies in addition to a B.S. in Environmental Science offered by the Institute of Environment and Sustainability. Disaggregated numbers of enrollment and degrees awarded were not publicly available.

UC Irvine offers the Environmental Science and Policy B.A. through the School of Social Ecology (SSE), an interdisciplinary department. Related degrees in Social Ecology (B.A.) and Urban Studies (B.A.) are also offered through SEE. The aggregate number of degrees offered by the School has climbed by 25% in the last five years to 1,200+.

UC Berkeley, UC Merced, UC Davis, and UC San Diego offer B.S. degrees in Environmental Science or Systems, but no B.A. UC Berkeley, however, offers a Sustainability Studies Summer Institute that is open to non-Berkeley students and awards a certificate for completion.

Other R1 universities, including Yale, Rutgers, and Johns Hopkins University, the University of Oregon, Pittsburg, and North Carolina, have a separate or parallel Environmental Studies B.A. degree alongside an Environmental Science B.S. degree.

Departments of Sustainable Development, which support a multidisciplinary program around environment, health, and economic development, are relatively common in Anglophone and European universities (including the University of Keele’s Sustainable Development degree; the Sustainability and Environment program at the University of New South Wales; BSc in Sustainable Development at MLA College, UK; BSc in Global and Environmental Studies at
Leuphana University Luneburg; BA in Community Development at the University of Johannesburg; BA of Sustainability at Edith Cowan University, Australia; BA in Global Studies (Sustainability) at Bond University, Australia). Within the United States, Columbia University’s Department of Sustainable Development offers an undergraduate major. An analogous program with slightly different emphasis, is the undergraduate minor at Rice University’s Program in Poverty, Justice, and Human Capabilities. Arizona State University has established a School of Sustainability, offering B.A. and B.S. degrees in Sustainability, a B.A. in Sustainable Food Systems, and an accelerated B.A./M.A. in Sustainability. Alaska Pacific University and University of South Florida offer a BA in Sustainability Studies; Connecticut College has a BA in Social Justice and Sustainability. University of Florida has an interdisciplinary B.A. major in Sustainability Studies. University of Texas offers tracks in humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. University of Indiana, Bloomington, offers a B.A. in Environmental Studies that integrates the humanities with social and natural sciences.

**Health Equity Studies**

As mentioned above, four UC campuses (UCM, UCSD, UCI, and UCB) have undergraduate degree programs in public health. UCLA offers a minor in public health. UCR’s medical school is currently considering creating a graduate program in public health. The proposed program in Health Equity is not a public health major per se. Rather, it is a strong feeder program for graduate degrees in public health that highlights the structural and biological factors that lead to health inequity and multidimensional strategies to promote health equity. The field reflects the increasing interest in health equity research, including the UCR Center for Health Disparities Research. UC Berkeley also hosts the California Initiative for Health Equity and Action, which provides grants to undergraduate Health Equity Scholars from across California. While UC Merced and CSUs are highly represented among the 2020 Health Equity Scholar cohort, UC Riverside did not send a single student to this program. (This should change.) Mills College offers B.A. and B.S. degrees in Public Health and Health Equity. Cal State San Bernardino offers an undergraduate Certificate in Health Equity and Health Disparities. UCR’s program will be the first of all UC campuses to offer an interdisciplinary program that prepares students for the emerging challenges in promoting health, healthcare systems, and health education.

Conceptually similar to the proposed major in Health Equity is Vanderbilt University’s B.A and minor in Medicine, Health, and Society. Courses in medical science, social science, and humanities train students to “think critically about complex social issues that impact health, healthcare, and health policy.” Vanderbilt University’s Medicine, Health and Society Department houses 18 FTE (including two Writers in Residence) organized in four research groups: Culture, Power and Science; Health Disparities and Policy; Critical Global Health; and Health Humanities and Public Practice.

The University of Arizona College of Social and Behavioral Science offers an undergraduate BS
in Care, Health and Society, designed to complement training for health care professions. The curriculum trains students “to understand the social dimensions of health and health care to inform public health initiatives and the provision of individual health care.” All majors fulfill an internship requirement in a community or health care organization as part of their degree program. The internship requirement is an intriguing model, toward which our department may build.

Columbia University recently announced the establishment of a Medical Humanities Major in response to the current health crisis, noting that issues like vaccine hesitancy and anti-Asian sentiments show that social factors sometimes loom larger than biological factors in dealing with a pandemic and often with stigmatized severe illnesses. Their program, as do ours, emphasizes the importance of a humanities approach to studying health and medicine, particularly in discussing social justice and structural inequity rooted historically in racism, sexism, and colonialism.

**Operation of the New Department**

We are preparing to be fully operational in 2022-2023 under the assumption that the department will be approved by Fall 2022.

**FTE Forecast**

Three faculty from Gender and Sexuality Studies, who have been the core faculty of Sustainability Studies Program, and two other faculty have committed to transferring their full FTEs to the new department. Additional faculty have committed to transferring their partial lines. One tenured hire from the $496,570 UCOP grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health, & Environmental Inequalities” (2021-2023) will be housed in SEHE. Because academic personnel issues are sensitive, we will not name those faculty. We do, however, anticipate that there will be enough faculty to cover the courses that need to be taught for both majors and operate as a department. Since many of the electives will be taught by affiliate faculty from their home departments, we will have enough department faculty to cover the core courses. Therefore, we do not anticipate significant problems administering the two majors during the first five years as the program builds up.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Assistant</th>
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<td><strong>1st year</strong></td>
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A Proposal for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2nd year (9.5 FTE) (8.5 FTE)</th>
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**Governance**

The Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity will be housed within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS) of the University of California, Riverside. The SEHE Department will be dedicated to innovative research, teaching, and administration in the context of regulations established by the College, the campus, and the UC system more generally. The department will promote and support equitable labor standards that apply to all its employees (faculty, staff, and students) in their relationships with the University and the system. Its by-laws will not supersede the University of California Academic Personnel Manual, or other system-wide regulations. In addition, SEHE will strive to support our junior faculty, deploy non-hierarchical consensus-based and transparent decision making procedures, and facilitate the participation of affiliated faculty in the life of the department.

**Mentorship and advancement**

The founding SEHE faculty strive to establish a collaborative, community-centered and supportive working environment. One of our highest priorities will be to mentor and support pre-tenured colleagues through the personnel process. We will build a mentorship team consisting of at least two tenured faculty for each pre-tenured faculty member, which will remain in place through the tenure process. Each tenured mentor will meet with pre-tenured faculty regularly not only advising on academic and personnel matters but also offering support and encouragement through a constructive mentoring framework in both formal and informal settings. In personnel deliberations, we will situate colleagues’ research, teaching and service both in the multidisciplinary field of environment, sustainability and health, and in the context of particular disciplinary expectations. We will call on the expertise of affiliated faculty in specialized disciplines, where necessary, to that end. We also recognize that some pre-tenure faculty (particularly women and members of minority groups) often assume greater mentoring, emotional, and informal labor burdens, and face more challenges and barriers in institutional merit and promotion processes. Tenured faculty in the department will pay special attention to these imbalances and disparities, protecting the time of pre-tenure faculty and helping them to achieve their full potential in a supportive academic environment.

**Merits and Promotions**
SEHE faculty collectively developed, discussed, and unanimously voted in support of a research statement that specifies the standards that we plan to use for faculty merits and promotions. Our statement reflects our intellectual diversity and understanding that academic excellence takes multiple diverse forms; we believe our collectively agreed upon standards will help to support the advancement of our faculty, who have been trained in, and contribute to, a variety of academic disciplines as well as the inter- and transdisciplinary fields of environmental, sustainability, and health equity studies. A copy of our research statement can be found here. We are prepared to carry out the work of supporting faculty advancement. We are familiar with the procedures used for academic personnel reviews at UCR and providing mentorship to faculty preparing to pursue advancement. Our faculty have many years of experience in participating in academic personnel reviews at UCR and other universities; many of us have more than a decade, and some of us have more than two decades of experience as faculty members at UCR. Our faculty includes a Full Professor and several have also previously served as Department chair or co-chair at UCR. Already, many of our faculty are nearing advancement and are very likely to advance within the near future. Our intellectual synergies are also likely to help to advance and support our scholarship, which in turn will help to advance our careers.

Service
While faculty course load is easily apportioned by FTE percentage, service is more challenging to manage across departments sharing FTE. We plan to make service transparent by listing each faculty member’s service load (department, college, campus and professional) on a shared document. We believe that the MOU between CHASS and SPP that allows a 50-50% shared FTE to perform service for each college/school in alternate years is a great model. We will work towards implementing similar agreements between CHASS departments so that split FTE faculty will not be excessively taxed with services. We will also work toward a consensus model of departmental decision making, following existing models in Ethnic Studies and elsewhere.

Research collaboration
We are invested in fostering collaboration with affiliated faculty. We plan to hold a department seminar monthly or bimonthly, in which core and affiliated faculty will discuss research and pedagogical methods. Affiliated faculty will be invited to a quarterly general department meeting to discuss curriculum and planning issues, and would be invited to serve on departmental committees if desired. Affiliated faculty would be encouraged to mentor SEHE majors’ capstone research projects or internships. To the greatest extent feasible, we will encourage and incentivize all faculty to collaborate on community-oriented teaching, external funding and research.

Resources Required and Financial Plan
The SEHE faculty have designed this program to accomplish large goals with minimal additional resources by drawing on existing faculty expertise. We expect that the SEHE Department will function as a multiplier, leveraging existing resources and collaborations across campus for ambitious research projects and innovative curricula.

A. Faculty

The core faculty who are moving full or partial FTE to the new Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity will be able to cover all the core courses for the two undergraduate majors initially.

B. TA

Initially, four to six TA positions per year are desired.

Currently GSST 021: Gender & Sustainability, a required course for Sustainability Studies majors, is taught twice a year with 75 students, utilizing two TAs. This requirement will be replaced by SEHE 002: Culture, Society, and the Environment in the new major of Environmental Studies. SEHE 002 will also be our recruiting course from undeclared freshmen and is likely to draw even more students due to its subject matter. We would need two TA-ships to continue teaching our introductory course twice a year with 75 students.

An additional two to four TA positions are desirable in order to support two new gateway courses: SEHE 001: Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change and SEHE 003: Introduction to Health Equity Studies. SEHE 001 will be required of all SEHE students in both majors. Depending on enrollment growth scenarios, this could require a twice-yearly course with 75-150 students. Given that ANTH 020: Culture, Health, and Healing easily enrolls 150 students every year, we anticipate that demand for SEHE 003 will also be high. We plan to teach the course twice a year with 75 students with sections. SEHE 003 will also be our recruiting course from undeclared freshmen to the Health Equity Studies major. Without the addition of the TAs, we will have to teach it as a smaller class, which would keep it from reaching its full recruitment potential.

C. Staff

The establishment of SEHE will initially require few additional staff resources because faculty and students will be redistributed rather than added. We fully expect that CHASS will resolve the existing staffing challenges apace with SEHE’s growth so that the needs of the department do not exceed the capacity and availability of staff. The MDU staff seems already stretched to maximum capacity. The SEHE /Department would not be
unique among the programs served by the MDU in advocating for an increase in staffing.

In the short term, SEHE can initiate the ESST major and transfer existing student and faculty FTE from the Sustainability Studies major (in GSST) with the current staff support available to the Sustainability Studies major. SEHE will work with the CHASS Dean’s Office to track faculty and student FTE growth alongside increased staff capacity.

Once SEHE rolls out fully, we recommend that a new CHASS unit be established to be shared among SEHE Department and other departments in order to relieve the impacted MDU staff. This would require:

- One shared FAO
- One shared Financial Analyst
- One full academic advisor covering both SEHE majors

D. Computer

No additional computer facilities are required for the new department.

E. Library

Tiffany Moxham, Associate University Librarian has been consulted. The UCR library maintains an extensive database, e-journal, and textbook collection that will support both these majors. This includes diverse subjects in journals from major publishers and societies and specialized databases such as GreenFILE and AGRICOLA. UCR is also home to a medical school and thus supports Health Equity topics through access to fulltext via PubMed, an extensive number of journals including those covered by the new Elsevier contract and specialty databases such as Access Medicine. All subject areas also have options to choose monographs that reflect their specific topics through Patron Driven acquisitions and have access to fast interlibrary loan services for unique journal content. As such, the additional costs to the library will be minimal and in line with existing majors needs i.e. supplementing current collections.

F. Space

Since SEHE founding core faculty are all current faculty members, we anticipate that the new department will not create additional need for office space. However, once
SEHE rolls out fully, we do wish to have a departmental space and a shared conference room that we can have access to. In due time, we would like SEHE faculty to be consolidated in one place when the opportunity arises for reshuffling office spaces.

- One departmental space/room for department chair and departmental material
- Shared conference room for meetings
- (Future) Consolidate faculty members on one floor in the same building.

**Faculty affiliates and Letters of Support**

**Affiliated faculty**
- Juliann Allison, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, CHASS
- Cecilia Ayón, Professor, Public Policy, SPP
- Matthew Barth, Yeager Families Professor of Engineering, BCOE
- Ann Cheney, Associate Professor, Social Medicine Population and Public Health, SOM
- Allison Hedge Coke, Distinguished Professor, Creative Writing, CHASS
- Ariel Dinar, Distinguished Professor, Public Policy, SPP
- Kim Yi Dionne, Associate Professor, Political Science, CHASS
- Derick Fay, Associate Professor, Anthropology, CHASS
- Farah Godrej, Associate Professor, Political Science, CHASS
- Catherine Gudis, Associate Professor, History, CHASS
- Tabassum “Ruhi” Khan, Associate Professor, Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS
- Gloria Chan Sook Kim, Assistant Professor, Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS
- Matthew King, Associate Professor, Religious Studies, CHASS
- Esra Kurum, Assistant Professor, Statistics, CNAS
- Chiuon Lee, Assistant Professor, Sociology, CHASS
- Bronwyn Leebaw, Associate Professor, Political Science, CHASS
- Philipp Lehmann, Assistant Professor, History, CHASS
- Antoine Lentacker, Assistant Professor, History, CHASS
- Bruce Link, Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Public Policy, CHASS and SPP
- Carla Mazzio, Associate Professor, English, CHASS
- Juliet McMullin, Professor of Anthropology, CHASS
- Keith Miyake, Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies, CHASS
- Patricia Morton, Associate Professor, Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS
- Tanya Nieri, Associate Professor, Sociology, CHASS
- Michelle Raheja, Associate Professor, English, CHASS
- Ellen Reese, Professor of Sociology and Chair of Labor Studies, CHASS
- Judith Rodenbeck, Associate Professor, Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS
- Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, CHASS
Freya Schiwy, Professor, Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS
Dana Simmons, Associate Professor, History, CHASS
Jennifer Syvertsen, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, CHASS
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, CHASS
Fuson Wang, Assistant Professor, English, CHASS
Rachel Wu, Assistant Professor, Psychology, CHASS

We have obtained letters of support from the following individuals on behalf of their organizations. The letters are provided in a separate file to the reviewers.

UCR

Matthew Barth, Director of the Bourns College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology, and UCR Faculty Director of Sustainability

Matthew Barth, Director of Academic Sustainability, Brian Siana, Associate Director of Academic Sustainability, Fortino Morales, Sustainability Officer, Francis Mitalo, Sustainability Program Coordinator from the UCR Office of Sustainability

Xinping Cui, Professor and Chair, Department of Statistics, CNAS

Derick A. Fay, Associate Professor and Acting Chair, Department of Anthropology, CHASS

David Lo, Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences Senior Associate Dean, Research School of Medicine, Founding Director, BREATHE Center Contact PI, Co-Director, U54 Center for Health Disparities Research at UCR

Gerald A. Maguire, Professor and Chair, Psychiatry and Neuroscience, School of Medicine

Michael A. McKibben, Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, CNASS

Patricia Morton, Urban Studies program Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Media and Cultural Studies

Adem Orsdemir, Assistant Professor of Operations and Supply Management, School of Business

Judith Rodenbeck, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Media and Cultural Studies, CHASS

Jane Ward, Chair, Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, CHASS

Georgia Warnke, Director, Center for Ideas and Society

Daryle Williams, Dean of CHASS

Mark Wolfson, Chair, Department of Social Medicine, Population, and Public Health
External

Danielle Celemajer, Professor and Deputy Director, Sydney Environment Institute, University of Sydney, Australia

Elizabeth DeSombre, Founding Director of the Environmental Studies Department, Wellesley College

Tonya Huff, Professor, Department of Life Sciences, Riverside City College

Ronnie D. Lipschutz, Professor Emeritus of Politics, University of California, Santa Cruz, President and Codirector, Sustainable Systems Research Foundation

Tracy Osborn, Founding Director of the UC Center for Climate Justice, Associate Professor, Vice Chair and Presidential Chair, Department of Management of Complex Systems, University of California, Merced

Sarah Jaquette Ray, Professor and Chair of the Environmental Studies Department at Humboldt University

Steffanie A. Strathdee, Professor and Harold Simon Chair, Associate Dean of Global Health Sciences, University of California, San Diego

REFERENCES


Shobha Srinivasan, PhD and Shanita D. Williams.


https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm


Appendix A: Recent Faculty Grants and Awards

Faculty Grants Received


Cheney, Ann. 2020-2021. PCORI (patient centered outcomes research institute). “MyPlate Dissemination for Latinos in Rural Communities.” Role: PI. $300,000, direct costs.


Gudis, Catherine. 2021-2022. ACLS-Mellon Foundation Society & Scholars Fellowship Program Funding. $16,000.


Kurum, Esra. 2021-2026. NIH/NIDDK. “Multilevel time-dynamic modeling of hospitalization and survival in patients on dialysis.” Role: Co-PI. $720,036.00 (UCR amount).


Lee, Chioun. 2018-2022. NIH/NIA Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) “Gender Differences in Early Life Adversity, Adult Obesity, and Cardiovascular Risk.” Role: PI. $763,000.


Leebaw, Bronwyn. 2016-2017 UCEAP. Study Abroad Development Grant for the Global Studies Program. $ 5,000.


Simmons, Dana. UC Humanities Research Institute Mid-Career Manuscript Workshop Grant 2019-2021. “Hungry, Thinking with Animals.” $5,000.


**Faculty Fellowships and Awards**


Lehmann, Philipp. 2021-2022. Mellon Second Project Fellowship, Center for Ideas and Society, UCR


Sasser, Jade S. 2017. Blum Initiative Faculty Seed Grant, UCR

Sasser, Jade S. 2019-2020. Dean’s Mellon Fellowship, Center for Ideas in Society, UCR

Syvertsen, Jennifer. 2021-2022. Mellon Second Project Fellowship, Center for Ideas and Society, UCR


Appendix B: Proposal for Undergraduate Major in Environmental Studies

A Proposal for

Bachelor of Arts and Science Degree Programs in

Environmental Studies

April 16, 2021

Revised
May 12, 2021

Revised March 2022

Submitted by:
Julliann Emmons Allison, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Bronwyn Leebaw, Associate Professor, Political Science
Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies

This proposal follows the guidelines of the Committee on Education Policy.
1. Name of the academic program and the department(s) or unit(s) that will administer the program.

   Name of the academic program: B.A in Environmental Studies

   Department that will administer the program: Society, Environment and Health Equity (proposed with this major)

2. A thorough justification, including the motivation for the creation of the program in terms of student interest and professional or academic importance.

   The proposed curriculum replaces the existing Sustainability Studies B.S. administered by the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies. The new program will be free from the disciplinary constraints established by the major’s current administering department, and significantly enhances it--theoretically and substantively--by increasing the breadth and interdisciplinarity of its course offerings. These improvements are reflected in a newly designed curriculum, which is better suited for intra- and cross-college cooperation, including an Environmental Studies minor designed to complement major programs across campus.

**Background**

The Sustainability Studies B.S. has grown from 12 majors in 2015 to consistently enrolling 100+ majors during the last few years. In addition to CHASS students who add Sustainability Studies as double major or switch majors entirely, the Sustainability Studies B.S. has been popular among CNAS students who move to CHASS and transfer students from community colleges. The breakdown of enrollments is shown in the table below:

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<th>Origin</th>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>44</td>
<td>38 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018–2019</td>
<td>Data for this period was not collected on enrollments &amp; place of origin</td>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>2019–2020</td>
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<td>2020–2021</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>29 51</td>
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Rationale for the new program
Since we established the Sustainability Studies B.S. major in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, social and political interest in sustainability and the urgency to address climate change and environmental degradation have both intensified. While students appreciate the major’s emphasis on race, class, gender and other aspects of social and environmental justice, they increasingly express interest in access to greater breadth in course offerings than we have been able to provide from our current home departments. During the Spring 2019 Sustainability Retreat, students publicly expressed a strong desire for a more comprehensive major and an increased cooperation between departments offering sustainability content in CHASS, CNAS, SPP, and Bourns College. Their request coincides with the informal discussions we had been having with colleagues and students in the department in recent years. Reestablishing an Environmental Studies Major in the new Department of Environmental, Sustainability, and Health Equity will enable faculty members to offer courses that are not restricted by the need to approach the subject from a gender or feminist lens. Faculty members will be able to develop new courses for the major that capitalize on a broad range of expertise that they possess and effectively dispense them through various pedagogical approaches. We will also be able to integrate related courses offered by faculty in other departments more centrally into our curriculum.

Our primary motivation for proposing a new curriculum is to meet growing demand and serve the students’ needs. The goal of the Environmental Studies program is to equip students with knowledge, theory, and skills necessary to engage and contribute to a world in which environmental degradation occupies an increasingly significant place in human health and well-being, economics, politics, and governance, ethics, and society in general. The major exposes students to the complex relations between a range of sustainability-related challenges, including climate change, air and water pollution, toxic contamination, energy demands, deforestation and desertification, agriculture, and food and water scarcity, and the broader issues of economic growth and governance, globalization, hunger and poverty, social justice, structural racism, gender inequality, health equity, community resilience, and human/non-human coexistence.

The U.S. government has recently announced a more aggressive plan to counter climate change while acknowledging the importance of incorporating social and environmental justice into its ongoing policy and planning. Demand for employees with relevant backgrounds is more than likely to increase as organizations create dedicated positions related to sustainability and climate resilience. More sustainability-related job opportunities are slated to open up in green buildings, climate adaptation, sustainable energy, transportation, education, waste management, food and agriculture, business and purchasing, and outdoor recreation. Our students will receive interdisciplinary education that will prepare them for a wide range of careers, including public service, urban and environmental planning,
policy advocacy, education, health care, green industry, consulting, research, international development, and non-profit organizations focused on the environment, sustainability, and social justice. Above all, through in-depth, engaged learning experiences, this major nurtures community leaders and global citizens who can meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The Environmental Studies Major will also help attract more students to UCR. The visibility of the current Sustainability Studies program has been limited by the fact that it is embedded in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department, which has made it difficult to “find” and caused some confusion about the program’s content and aims. While our freshmen enrollment has, consequently, been relatively low, transfer students from community colleges actively seek out our program. We are aware that this same pool of students are considering other programs related to environmental studies and sustainability in California and beyond before they decide to come to UCR. We expect that with a renewed and more robust curriculum, UCR’s major and minor programs in Environmental Studies will be more competitive against comparable programs offered by other UCs and CSUs, including those at UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, and UC Irvine as well as CSUs in San Bernardino, East Bay, Humboldt, San Marcos, Monterey Bay, and San Jose.

UCR is currently developing a campus-wide task force on academic programming in sustainability led by the faculty director of sustainability. All colleges are working to strengthen their undergraduate and graduate degree offerings that pertain to sustainability. The ESST major and the graduate degrees that SEHE can develop in the future will become the flagship programs for CHASS in this area and contribute to the robust education that UCR offers in inland southern California.

3. Relationship of the new program to existing programs.

The B.A. in Environmental Studies (ESST) will replace the B.S. in Sustainability Studies (SUST) currently administered by the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies. SUST will stop accepting new students once the new Department is approved and the new major is ready to accept students. SUST major will be gradually phased out as all the students graduate. We will cross-list SUST courses offered by the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department with corresponding ESST courses to be offered in the new Society, Environment and Health Equity Department so that SEHE faculty transferring from GSST to the new department will be able to administer and teach required courses for both programs during the transition period. Although the SUST major remains in the Department of GSST until Spring 2025 when all students are expected to graduate, GSST faculty will not have to teach courses that are uniquely required for SUST majors.

The existing SUST program currently receives 25–30% of its 100+ majors as transfers from CNAS. While most of these transfers are students who were unable to meet the requirements of the college and were required to transfer to a major program in CHASS,
some actively desire a social focus or application for their extant training in the natural or physical sciences. The new major is expected to continue to attract CNAS transfers and more importantly take the pressure off of impacted CHASS programs, especially in the social sciences.

As a program that mostly focuses on social science and humanities, ESST in CHASS is distinct from the Environmental Sciences (ENSC) major in CNAS. ENSC and ESST are complementary, rather than competing or overlapping, programs.

The B.A. in Public Policy degree offers an Urban and Environmental Policy Track. There are few overlapping required courses between ESST and PBPL and the faculty members’ research and theoretical approaches are significantly different. We recognize that there is some concern that ESST and PBPL might compete for students interested in environmental issues. Students will likely choose between the two learning experiences based on their various needs. However, it is unlikely that ESST will make a significant impact on PBPL, which is a strong program housed in a professional school that has five other tracks in various policy areas that students can also select from. If anything, ESST would increase student interest in environmental policy and draw more students to PBPL. We are hoping that we will draw more students to UCR to pursue studies in the environment and sustainability rather than divide a finite number of students.

A major advantage of the proposed department is that it will complement and enhance available offerings for students who pursue the global health and sustainability track through the global studies major. Three faculty members who are affiliated with the proposed department played leadership roles in developing the health and sustainability track for GBST majors, including former GBST chair, Bronwyn Leebaw, current GBST chair, Juliann Allison, and POSC professor, Kim Yi Dionne. As faculty members gathered informally to discuss the best way to develop the GBST tracks, it became very clear to us that there is a significant demand for broader offerings and opportunities for a deeper level of engagement on these themes—well beyond what could be accommodated under the umbrella of Global Studies. The proposed department will extend course offerings available to the subset of GBST majors who wish to concentrate on health and sustainability (one of four recommended concentrations within the global studies major) while expanding opportunities for faculty collaboration on grants that will enable us to expand other avenues of opportunity to students at every level. It will provide an alternative pathway for the many UCR undergraduates who wish to pursue a concentration in environmental studies, sustainability, or health equity, yet do not wish to major in global studies. This is particularly important, given that we are in touch with many UCR alumni that have taken available courses on these themes in order to pursue career paths with a local or regional focus. These, and many other students could have benefited from the opportunity to pursue a major in the proposed department. However, they would not have been well served by the global studies curriculum.

The ESST Minor will facilitate an undergraduate emphasis in Environmental Studies for majors across campus. Environmental issues are increasingly pertinent within a wide range of academic disciplines; however, not all of UCR’s departments are interested in
and/or equipped to support programming in environmental studies, sustainability and/or climate resilience. We anticipate that the new minor will be particularly attractive to students who are satisfied with their majors, but seek education and training in social and/or humanistic approaches to environmental issues which will be particularly useful for work in public policy, health care, and social action—all areas of high interest among young adults, and high growth in the workplace—as well as compliment the science and engineering training students receive in CNAS and BCOE.

4. The proposed curriculum. Great care should be given in this area, correct rubrics should be listed for courses, all cross listings should be listed, unit total considerations should be taken into account and totals should be verified by program staff, faculty, and appropriate Executive Committee personnel. A copy of the proposed program change should be provided for inclusion in the Catalog.

The full proposed curriculum is presented in section #13.

The standard **B.A. major** consists of lower-division, methods, and upper-division, and capstone requirements. Total required units are 52 units.

**Lower-division** requirements (16 units) include: a) introductory course on Health equity and Environmental Justice movements taught by core faculty, b) introductory course to environmental humanities and social sciences, and c) two courses for building scientific literacy chosen from a list of CNAS courses related to sustainability and the environment.

**Upper-division** requirements (36 units) consist of three core areas, one research methods or senior practicum course and 2 electives.

The three core areas -- a) climate change and society, b) environmental justice, and c) environmental politics, policy, and governance -- represent the fundamental topics all majors need to be informed about. Our students will be able to lead informed discussions on climate change and environmental justice, which are at the forefront of the public discourse. Knowledge of politics, policy, and governance will aid them in analyzing environmental issues, identifying obstacles, and devising solutions.

Two additional SEHE courses (requirement d) students may choose from the entire departmental and cross-listed offerings.

Students can choose two electives (requirement e), which are grouped into seven areas that approach environmental studies from different angles. The seven areas are: i) gender, race, and structural inequity; ii) Native American and non-Western perspectives; iii) space, the built environment, and design; (iv) policy, economics, and development; (v) social movement, change, and activism; (vi) health and well-being; and (vii) science and technology studies.

e) Research methods or senior practicum course
The **Minor** requires 20 units total, including the lower-division ESST introductory course and four upper-division ESST courses, which consist of the three core areas and one elective.

5. A list of faculty who will be involved in the program, including those teaching, advising, and administering.

Teaching will be distributed among core and affiliated faculty, who will teach elective courses from their home departments. Administration of the major will be conducted by FTE faculty who will be the first to transfer their lines to the new department. Advising will be done in coordination with the undergraduate advisors in the assigned unit.

**Affiliated faculty**

Juliann Emmons Allison, Associate Professor, GSST, (critical and feminist theory, community-based and participatory research, global environmental politics, environmental policy, sustainable design, social science research methods)

Matthew Barth, Yeager Families Professor of Engineering, Director of Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) (SEHE 172/ENGR 172/CNAS 172/PBPL 172)

Derick Fay, Associate Professor, ANTH (ANTH 132)

Farah Godrej, Associate Professor, POSC (POSC 106)

Tabassum Ruhi Khan, Associate Professor, MCS (MCS 122)

Gloria Kim, Assistant Professor, MCS, (MCS 108, MCS 117, MCS 118)

Bronwyn Leebaw, Associate Professor, POSC, (human rights, environmental justice, political theory)

Keith Miyake, Assistant Professor, ETST, (ETST 179)

Patricia Morton, Associate Professor, MCS (MCS 159)

Michelle Raheja, Associate Professor, ENGL (ENGL 22, ENGL 120A, and ENGL 120T)

Ellen Reese, Professor of Sociology, SEHE 002, SEHE 141, SEHE 190, SEHE 195, SEHE 191E, SEHE 198G, SOC 112/112S, SOC 122, SOC 135

Judith Rodenbeck, Associate Professor, MCS (MCS 163)

Freya Schiwy, Professor, MCS (MCS 1XX)
Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, GSST (climate justice, environmental health, environmental activism, international development, science and technology studies, intersectional feminist theory)

Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, GSST, (environmental discourse, environmental justice, science and technology studies, feminist theory, posthumanism)

Other

Faculty across CHASS, CNAS, SPP, and BCOE who offer courses that count toward the B.A. and B.S. in Environmental Studies.

6. For interdisciplinary programs, the degree of participation and the role of each department must be explicitly described. The chairs of all participating departments must provide written approval for the creation of the program and indicate their commitment to provide necessary resources including faculty release.

This program will be administered by the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity. (proposed with this undergraduate program)

7. Projected enrollment in the program.

The current enrollment for Sustainability Studies is 100~110. By moving the major to a new department and expanding the range of course offerings, we anticipate that enrollment in the program will, at least, double--increasing to 200+ undergraduate students within the first 2-5 years. Our rapid growth scenario projects the number of majors to reach 300+

From our experience with the Sustainability Studies major, the majority of our students will initially be third and fourth year students as we receive undeclared students, CNAS transfers and transfer students joining the major as a junior. As visibility of the program improves, we anticipate enrolling more freshmen.

8. Name of degree, if applicable, and the anticipated number of degrees to be granted when the program reaches steady state.

B.A. in Environmental Studies

Anticipated number of degrees to be granted when the program reaches steady state in 6 years: Approximately 100 per year.

9. Potential impact of the new program on existing programs. If the proposed program includes required courses from a department other than the administering department, the proposal must include a statement from the department indicating that it has been consulted and that it will provide access to the required courses.
ESST is anticipated to relieve pressure on impacted departments, particularly in the social sciences. Concerning the many departments in which ESST students will take courses, none is likely to be significantly impacted. Students have a wide range of choices in fulfilling the degree requirements; thus, no one course is likely to enroll more than a handful. The core and elective courses in ESST offered by the department, conversely, are likely to attract students from across campus. Approvals from the department listed under item #12 are included in a separate file.

10. A full listing of resources required for start-up and for operations. In cases where no additional resources will be needed, this must be explicitly stated. This listing may include: personnel (faculty FTE or temporary positions, Teaching Assistants or Readers, administrative staff, technical support); support services including computer facilities and library resources; space requirements. A plan indicating how the resources will be obtained would also be helpful to the committee in reviewing the proposal. A letter of support from the College Dean and/or Executive Vice Chancellor-Provost indicating endorsement as well as a promise of support for the proposal also would be extremely helpful.

A. One new faculty member through the UC Presidents and Chancellors Postdoc Fellowship Program is highly desirable.

Since the start of the Sustainability Studies B.S. Program 7 years ago, we lost Dr. Margie Waller to retirement. We never received a replacement for Dr. Waller. Three core GSST faculty members have administered the program with assistance from other GSST faculty who taught courses that SUST majors can take to fulfill their requirements.

The three core faculty who are moving their full lines to the new Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity will be able to cover all the ESST courses initially. As the department gradually grows to nine FTEs, we will build the capacity necessary to accommodate the growth in the major. However, additional faculty members are desired in order to broaden the curriculum and alternate administrative and advisory responsibilities across sabbaticals.

We currently have an opportunity to hire a Chancellor’s Postdoctoral fellow mentored by one of our core ESST faculty. This person’s teaching experience and research expertise not only coincide with the new department’s academic needs, but will also bolster its overall research profile.

B. Two TA positions per year are desired.

Currently GSST 021: Gender & Sustainability, a required course for Sustainability Studies majors, is currently taught twice a year with 75 students, utilizing two TAs. This requirement will be replaced by ESST 002: Culture, Society, and the Environment. ESST 002 will also be our recruiting course from undeclared freshmen and is likely to draw even more students due to its subject matter. We would need two TA-ships to continue teaching our introductory course twice a year with 75 students. In four years, the number of TAs required will grow to three for ESST 002. In the event that the
department has its Masters and Ph.D. programs in place, these TA ships would logically be drawn from among its own graduate students.

C. Staff

Staff requirements will be in accordance with that of establishing the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity.

D. Computers

No additional computer facilities are required for the new curriculum.

E. Library

Tiffany Moxham, Associate University Librarian has been consulted. The UCR library maintains an extensive database, e-journal, and textbook collection that will support the ESST major. This includes diverse subjects in journals from major publishers and societies and specialized databases such as GreenFILE and AGRICOLA. All subject areas also have options to choose monographs that reflect their specific topics through Patron Driven acquisitions and have access to fast interlibrary loan services for unique journal content. As such, the additional costs to the library will be minimal and in line with existing majors needs i.e. supplementing current collections.

F. Space

Since SEHE founding core faculty are all current faculty members, we anticipate that the new department will not create additional need for office space. However, it would be preferable to move faculty offices over time in order to consolidate SEHE faculty in the same building and floor. SEHE would also require access to a meeting space, which could be shared with other programs or units. We also wish to request a dedicated space for the Department of SEHE for the chair and department material.

G. Plans for obtaining resources

We are trying to maximize our capacity through collaboration among all the faculty involved in the departmentalization process.

If and when endowed, we will be able to provide awards to exceptional Environmental Studies undergraduate students from our late colleague Margie Waller’s Memorial Fund. About $1000 per year will be available to grant as scholarships to our undergraduate majors.

Professors Juliann Allison, Jade Sasser, and Chikako Takeshita have jointly been awarded a Remote Course Conversion grant (total $13,000 including training for Online Learning Certificates) from UCOP’s Instructional Technology project. With this, we will first be converting GSST 021 into a high quality online course offered system-wide.
With the skills earned, we will create a remote version of SEHE 002: Society, Culture, and the Environment.

We will work with the UCR Foundation to develop a departmental fund into which donations can be made over time by alumni of the program as well as by other donors interested in supporting the department, its students, and faculty.

We will receive 52% of the income from Summer ESST offerings.

Utilizing university resources such as the Academic Senate and Office of Research and Academic Development, and CHASS grants support, the department faculty will pursue internal and external funding to support their research. They will also encourage students to avail themselves of internal and external funding opportunities (e.g., Chancellor’s Research Fellowship, National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Research Grant) to support their academic work.

We are working with the Office of Development to solicit donors for the Department of SEHE.

11. Both internal and external letters of support should be provided with the proposal. Internal letters of support are often from UCR department chairs and faculty of related programs. The external letters should be from other UC campuses or other peer institutions. Letters from off-campus help to establish the quality of the program and its fit within the context of related programs at other universities. Upon consultation with the CEP the demand for external letters may be waived.

Letters of support have been requested for the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity, which includes this proposal for the new undergraduate program. Please see the SEHE Department Proposal for details.

12. Approvals from program faculty, College faculty (if the new proposal affects a college regulation), and the appropriate Executive Committee should be obtained before forwarding the new program to the attention of the Senate Analyst for CEP.

Approvals:

a. Program faculty

The following faculty approve this proposal:

Juliann Emmons Allison, Associate Professor, GSST
Bronwyn Leebaw, Associate Professor, POSC
Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, GSST
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, GSST
b. Chairs’ approval to include their courses in the new curriculum as listed

**CHASS**
Juliani Allison, Program Director, Global Studies [approved]
Derrick Fay, Chair, Anthropology [approved]
Sherine Hafez, Chair, Gender and Sexuality Studies [approved]
Steven Helfand, Chair, Economics [approved]
David Lloyd, Chair, English [approved]
Anne McKibben, Program Director, Japan Studies [approved]
John Medearis, Chair, Political Science [approved]
Jennifer Najera, Chair, Ethnic Studies [approved]
Andrews Reath, Chair, Philosophy [approved]
Ellen Reese, Chair, Sociology [approved]
Judith Rodnbeck, Chair, Media and Cultural Studies [approved]
Jeffrey Sacks, Chair, Comparative Literature [approved]
Michele Salzman, Chair, History [approved]
Melissa Wilcox, Chair, Religious Studies [approved]

**CNAS**
Kenneth Barish, Chair, Physics [approved]
James Borneman, Chair, Microbiology [approved]
Xinping Cui, Chair, Statistics [approved]
Michael McKibben, Chair, Earth and Planetary Sciences [approved]
Leonard Nunney, Chair, Biology [no objections]
Richard Redak, Chair Entomology [approved]
Patricia Springer, Chair, Botany and Plant Science [approved]
David Volz, Chair, Environmental Science [approved]

c. Executive Committee
   Approved: May 19th, 2021

d. Dean of CHASS
   Approved: June 21, 2021

13. Proposed Curriculum

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**
**COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION**
(insert date)

To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to Environmental Studies

**PRESENT: PROPOSED:**
Program Description

Through humanities and social sciences education, this program equips students with knowledge, theory, and skills that advance their contribution to a world in which environmental degradation has become an increasingly significant societal subject of concern. In order to gain a deeper understanding of the complex interactions between the workings of human societies and ecological changes, the major engages a range of environmental challenges including climate change, air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, energy demands, toxic accumulations, waste management, deforestation and desertification, food security, and water scarcity as *social phenomena* and examines how they intersect with broader societal issues such as environmental justice, policy and governance, history of colonialism, global capitalism, hunger and poverty, structural racism, gender inequality, health inequity, and community resilience. The major also introduces humanities approaches such as critical theory, environmental philosophy, regional history, storytelling, and other creative expressions to enrich students’ intellectual relationships with nature and non-human elements. The interdisciplinary education will prepare students to make career choices that involve: promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; and continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education in sustainability, public policy, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.

The degree consists of 52 units and focuses on humanist and social science studies of the environment and sustainability, supplemented by related lower-division CNAS courses that support the development of scientific literacy and understanding of STEM approaches to sustainability.

The program also offers a 20 unit Minor, consisting of 1 lower-division and 4 upper-division core courses. The minor is designed to accommodate CHASS majors as well as UCR students pursuing majors in all colleges and schools who are motivated to complement their STEM, Public Policy, or Business and Finance training with studies of the natural
environment and sustainability from humanist and/or social science perspectives.

**Major Requirements (B.A)**
The major requirements for the general B.A. degree in Environmental Studies are as follows (48 units total):

1) Lower-Division Requirement (4 courses, 16~17 units)

   a) SEHE 001
   
   b) SEHE 002
   
   c) Two courses from the following list of courses in natural, earth, and environmental Sciences.
      (Cannot double count with the CHASS math and science 20 unit requirement): BIOL 003, BPSC 011, BPSC 021, ENGR/NAS/HASS 096, ENSC 001, ENSC 002, ENSC 003, ENSC 006/ECON 006, GEO 002, GEO 003, GEO 004, GEO 005, GEO 007, GEO 008, GEO 009 or GEO 009H, GEO 010, GEO 011 or GEO 011H, GEO 012, PHYS 018

2) Upper-Division Requirements (9 courses, 36 units)

   a) One course in climate change and society chosen from: SEHE 113, SEHE 123, SEHE 153, SEHE 172, GSST 173

   b) One course in environmental justice chosen from: SEHE 135, SEHE 141, ETST 179, GSST 171, POSC 137

   c) One course in environmental politics, policy, and governance chosen from: ANTH 132, SEHE 115, SEHE 136, SEHE 153, SEHE 155, POSC 106 or POSC 106S, POSC 127 or POSC 127S, POSC 139 or POSC 139S

   d) Three additional SEHE courses

   e) Two courses from the following list (i ~ vii)

      i) Gender, race, and structural inequality; ANTH 114, ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S, ANTH 174, ANTH 182, SEHE 124, ETST 102, ETST 111,
ii) Native American and non-Western perspectives; ANTH 140E, ANTH 140G, ANTH 140I, ANTH 140P, ANTH 162, AST 120/RLST 120, AST 133/CPLT 144/RLST 144, ENGL 120A, ENGL 120B, ENGL 120T, ENGL 140M, ETST 121, ETST 158, ETST 185, ETST 187, ETST 188, HISA 128, HISA 140/ETST 180, HISA 141/ETST 181, HISA 142/ETST 182, HISA 144, HISA 146, MCS 177

iii) Space, the built environment, and design; ANTH 117, ANTH 118, ANTH 173, GEO 157, GSST 145, GSST 148, MCS 116, MCS 159, SOC 182

iv) Policy, economics, and development; ANTH 122, ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S, ANTH 132, ANTH 133, ANTH 139, ECON 119, ECON 125, ECON 143, ECON 146/URST 146, ECON 148, ECON 173 or ECON 173S, ECON 175, ECON 181, ECON 182, ECON 187/LNST 187, GSST 131, HISA 119, PHIL 116, POSC 116 or POSC 116S, POSC 160, POSC 173 or POSC 173S

v) Social movement, change, and activism; ANTH 182, ENGL 142N, ETST 113, ETST 163E, GSST 109, GSST 134/LGBS 134, GSST 136, GSST 169, GSST 181, MCS 106, MCS 119A, MCS 122, MCS 134, MCS 140, MCS 165, MCS 180/JPN 180/AST 180, POSC 141, SOC 112 or SOC 112S, SOC 122, SOC 135 or 135S, SOC 184

vi) Health and well-being; ANTH 144F/GSST 185, ANTH 144O, ANTH 147, ANTH 156, ANTH 158, ANTH 159, ANTH 160, ANTH 162, ANTH 166, ANTH 175, ANTH 187, SEHE 126, SEHE 154, SEHE 157, ETST 116/HISA 147, GBST 103, GSST 183, HIST 107, POSC 180 or POSC 180S, SOC 127, SOC 120, RLST 122, SOC 167

vii) Science and Technology Studies/Multi-species Studies; ENGL 179A, ENGL 179C, SEHE 177, GSST 104, GSST 161, HIST 104, HIST 105, HIST 106, HIST 107, HIST 109, MCS 108, MCS 109, MCS 117, MCS 146F/ENGL 146F, MCS 163 PHIL 109, PHIL 137

f) One research method or senior practicum (4
Minor Requirements (20 units)

1) Lower-division requirement (1 course, 4 units)
   SEHE 002

2) Upper-division requirement (4 courses, 16 units)
   a) One course in climate change and society chosen from: SEHE 113, SEHE 123, SEHE 153, SEHE 172, GSST 173
   b) One course in environmental justice chosen from: SEHE 135, SEHE 141, ETST 179, GSST 171, POSC 137
   c) One course in environmental politics, policy, and governance chosen from: ANTH 132, SEHE 115, SEHE 136, SEHE 153, SEHE 155, POSC 106 or POSC 106S, POSC 127 or POSC 127S, POSC 139 or POSC 139S
   d) One additional SEHE course on the environment and sustainability or 4 units of SEHE 197.

Justification:
Include justifications for EVERY change/addition/deletion that is made.

Approvals:
Approved by the faculty of the Department of ___SEHE______: (4/21/21)
Approved by the faculty of the College of ____________: (insert date)
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of ___Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences______: (5/19/21)
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: (insert date)
1a)

SEHE 001 Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change 4 Lecture 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. This class provides an overview of contemporary, comparative, and historical research on social and political movements, including legal and policy advocacy, that focus on health equity, sustainability, and/or environmental justice. It examines the motivations for, visions, and context shaping these movements as well as the interconnections among these movements. It also examines movement and advocacy outcomes as well as current and future challenges and opportunities for promoting Health equity and Environmental Justice.

1b)

SEHE 002: Society, Culture, and the Environment 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; individual work 2 hours. Explores the relationship between human society and the natural environment; case studies focus on economic development, population, energy, resource use and management, technology, and environmental social movements. Course also introduces the roles of race, class, and gender in shaping environmental burdens, benefits, and activism.

1c)

BIOL 003 Organisms in Their Environment 4 Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the physiology, ecology, and evolution of living organisms with emphasis on humans. Not recommended for natural science majors. Either BIOL 002 or BIOL 003 may be taken as a breadth requirement in biology; together they provide a general introduction to the field of biology. Credit is not allowed for both BIOL 003 and BIOL 005B.

BPSC 011 Plants and Human Affairs 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction for non-science and non-Botany majors to the importance of plants and plant products in the shaping of human affairs and civilization. Covers the origin and practice of agriculture; the utilization of plant products; the latest agricultural advances, including genetic engineering; and the current agricultural and social issues. Plants and plant products are examined during class demonstrations and exercises.

BPSC 021 California’s Cornucopia: Food From the Field to Your Table 5 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; outside activities, 30 hours per quarter. Prerequisite(s): none Examines California’s diverse agricultural products. Addresses related contemporary issues such as crop improvement by biotechnology, climate change, pollution, resource use, and nutrition. Also examines how the interplay of geography, history, and culture shapes the cuisine of a region.

ENGR 096 Environment and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours, discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): lower-division standing or consent of instructor. Presents major environmental issues facing society from an interdisciplinary perspective. Topics may include water, energy, climate change, and urbanization. Cross-listed with NASC 096, and HASS 096.

ENSC 001 Introduction to Environmental Science: Natural Resources 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to environmental science, focusing on natural resource description, management, and conservation. Covers ecosystem characteristics and function; material and energy flows; population dynamics and influence of population on the environment; energy resources and conservation; and mineral and soil resources and their management.

ENSC 002 Introduction to Environmental Science: Environmental Quality 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to environmental science, focusing on the impact of human
development and technology on the quality of natural resources and living organisms. Topics include soil, water, and air pollution; water, land, and food resources; wildlife management and species endangerment; toxicology and risk management; and solid and hazardous waste management.

ENSC 003 Contemporary Issues in the Environmental Sciences 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An issue-oriented approach to understanding the scientific principles behind environmental issues. Case studies of environmental issues appearing in the mass media provide the context for assessing the status of scientific knowledge and its role in human decision making.

ENSC 006 Introduction to Environmental Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the basic principles of economics and their application to problems of environmental quality and natural resource utilization. Emphasis is on the failure of markets as a cause of environmental degradation and the role of government in resolving problems of resource scarcity. Does not satisfy the Natural Science breadth requirement for the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences. Crosslisted with ECON 006.

GEO 002 Earth’s Climate Through Time 4 Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours; one 2-day field trip. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the history of Earth’s changing climate and its relationship to the evolution of life on human to geologic time scales. Topics include the interrelationships among short- and long-term carbon cycling; plate tectonics; ocean and atmosphere circulation; and greenhouse gases through time.

GEO 003 Headlines in the History of Life 4 Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. Evolution of life beginning with precellular life. Topics include the origin of sex, multicellularity, vertebrate classes, morphological specializations, adaptive radiations, extinction dynamics, and the biology of dinosaurs. Cross-listed with BIOL 010.

GEO 004 Natural Hazards and Disasters 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): ENGL 001A or equivalent (may be taken concurrently). Application of basic principles of climate and geology to recognition of natural hazards and their mitigation. Topics include fires, freezes, floods, winds, landslides, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis. Emphasis is on confronting hazards of concern to home-buyers, planners, and conservationists in the western United States, especially southern California.

GEO 005 Geoscience in Movies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Introduction to Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences using movies as support for visual learning. Topics include: Earth structure and tectonic processes, climate change, impact craters and space exploration. Lectures: Earth science concepts and their portrayal in movies. Weekly assignments: reading from the class textbook, scientific magazines and journals; viewing films.

GEO 007 Minerals and Human Health 4 Lecture, 2 hours; discussion, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. Overview of the role of minerals in human life and industrial activities. Topics include the impact of minerals on human health, the role of minerals in modern technologies, asbestos and silica problems, occupational diseases caused by inhalation of mineral dust, and environmental protection in California. May include a field trip.

GEO 008 Earthquake Country 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the study of earthquakes and the problems of living in earthquake country. Why earthquakes occur, how they are recorded, and what the effects are on man and his structures. The scientific and social consequences of earthquake prediction.

GEO 009 Oceanography 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. A general introduction to the geological, physical, chemical, and biological processes related to the characteristics and evolution of the ocean system. Explores the role oceans play in regulating climate and the cycling of elements on the Earth’s surface. Illustrates how the ocean system has been, and continues to be, one of the most important influences...
on life. Credit is awarded for only one of GEO 009 or GEO 009H

GEO 010 Earth Resources and Sustainability 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the occurrence, availability, marketing, and usage of metals, minerals, fossil fuels, nuclear fuels and other geologic resources, including both historic and recent trends. Addresses conflicts between modern society’s need for increasingly scarce resources and mounting environmental problems. Also covers achieving sustainability through conservation, recycling, and substitution

GEO 011 Global Climate Change 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Provides an understanding of Earth’s feedback systems that regulate the climate over long- and short-term time scales. Includes oceanic and atmospheric circulation patterns, the major reservoirs and global carbon cycle, and the influence and origin of greenhouse gases. Investigates sustainability, climate change policies, adaptation, and mitigation. Credit is awarded for only one of GEO 011 or GEO 011H.

GEO 012 At Home in the Universe 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Considers the place of humans in space and time and the means by which this is discerned. Presents a synopsis of the history of the cosmos, Earth, life, and humanity from a science-based perspective. Discuss the implications of such knowledge for how responsible individuals choose to conduct themselves.

PHYS 018 Energy and the Environment 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Covers the physics of energy (thermal, kinetic, potential, chemical, nuclear), its storage and use, primary sources of energy (fossil fuel, nuclear, wind, solar) and their relative effects on the environment. Particular emphasis on determining individual carbon footprints, physical models of global climate change and identifying pathways toward a sustainable infrastructure

2a)

SEHE 113 Climate Justice 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Develops approaches to understanding climate change from a social, ethical, legal, and political perspective. Explores the history and contemporary work of climate justice organizing in global, regional, and local contexts. Explores how theories and concepts in environmental justice, intersectionality, and social movements apply to climate justice theorizing and activism. Addresses the ways activists draw from arguments based on race, gender, class, citizenship, and generational vulnerability to prioritize marginalized groups in climate policy and planning.

SEHE 123 Climate Change and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Interdisciplinary, critical examination of the social dimensions of climate change. Focuses on global and subnational variation in contemporary societies’ vulnerabilities and capacities to adapt to climate change. Topics include: gender and agricultural production; employment and social income support; migration and human settlement assistance; population policy; poverty and socio-economic inequality; intersectionality and disaster relief; determinants of human health.

SEHE 153 Global Climate Politics and Policy 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Interdisciplinary examination of the relationship between politics and climate change and policy responses designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve and enhance greenhouse sinks to stabilize the climate and its impacts on human societies. Topics include: relationship between climate science and politics; United Nations
Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) history and progress; critique of neoliberal climate policies; the politics of climate justice; significance of the Paris Agreement; international and subnational low carbon challenges and opportunities; constraints on capacity of individual behavioral choices to address climate change.

**SEHE 172 Climate Change Solutions** 4 Lecture, 3 hours, Discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Focuses on scalable solutions for carbon neutrality and climate stability drawing on knowledge and insights from climate scholars across the UC system. Covers many aspects of climate change and potential solutions ranging from climate science, social science, societal transformation, technology, ecosystem management, governance, economics and market incentives. Cross listed with ENGR172, PBPL172, NASC172.

**GSST 173 Gender and Climate Change** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021. Examines the global social impacts of climate change that are magnified based on existing inequalities. Focuses on the disparity between men and women in their vulnerability and ability to cope with the global phenomenon. Investigates both women as “victims” of global warming and their positive roles in climate change mitigation.

2b) **SEHE 135: Environmental War Crimes** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading 2 hours; term paper 1 hour. Examines causes and consequences of wartime environmental destruction in local and global context. Surveys legal frameworks designed to limit environmental harms associated with war, with attention to their significance for debates on climate change, food justice, reproductive justice, and Indigenous self-determination. Focuses on the role of frontline communities in exposing and mitigating threats associated with environmental legacies of war.

**SEHE 141: Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change** 4 Lecture 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. This class provides an overview of contemporary, comparative, and historical research on social and political movements, including legal and policy advocacy, that focus on health equity, sustainability, and/or environmental justice. It examines the motivations for, visions, and context shaping these movements as well as the interconnections among these movements. It also examines movement and advocacy outcomes as well as current and future challenges and opportunities for promoting Health equity and Environmental Justice.

**ETST 179 Race and the Environment: Nature, Colonialism, and Justice** 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hours; term paper 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the interdependent relationships between race and environment through law, policy, culture, geography, (settler) colonialism, and (racial) capitalism, focused on the US. Topics include environmental and climate justice, decolonial and abolitionist thought, urban political ecology, and the social constructions of human, nonhuman, and "nature".

**GSST 171 Environmental Health and Social Justice** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021; or consent of instructor. Interdisciplinary examination of the relationship between environmental health and social justice emphasizing gender, race, class, and globalization as analytical lenses. Topics include urban pollution, workplace exposure, industrial catastrophe, invisible environmental hazards, community activism, reproductive health, global capitalism, and new health challenges imposed by climate change.
POSC 137 Environmental Justice and Human Rights 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines how notions of justice and human rights have been brought to bear on environmental and sustainability debates. Also examines the theoretical and historical basis of the environmental justice and human rights movements. Topics include local concerns (including “food deserts”) and air pollution, as well as global problems. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 137 or POSC 137S.

2c)

ANTH 132 Cultural Ecology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Introduces people’s relationships to their total environment. Explores strategies for managing the environment and its resources, the effects of the environment on culture and society, the impact of human management on the ecosystem, and ways in which human groups view their surroundings.

SEHE 115 Political Ecology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Course addresses the relationships between political economy and ecological change. Addresses the ways people interact with nature/the environment, and the power relations that shape these interactions in political, social, economic, and gendered context. Topics include resource conservation, environmental management and surveillance, environmental conflict, and environmental social movements.

SEHE 136 Population, Environment, and Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course addresses theories and concepts linking population growth to environmental change, and the development interventions and social movements that have arisen from them. Specifically, it explores neo-Malthusianism and anti-Malthusianism, population control, transnational sexual and reproductive health and rights organizing, reproductive justice, population-health-environment programs, international family planning policies, and the role of contemporary youth advocacy.

SEHE 155 Environmental Governance 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Introduces the roles of governments, markets, and civil society in the development, adoption and implementation of environmental rules and norms. Focuses on central strategies of environmental policy: traditional public regulation; market-based incentives; corporate social responsibility and other private forms of regulation; and community based resource management. Substantive emphases include: agriculture, air quality, climate change, (renewable) energy, fisheries, and forestry.

POSC 106 Environmental Political Thought 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Addresses various philosophical aspects of the human relationship to the environment from social, political, and economic perspectives. Includes debates related to issues such as how should human beings interact with their environment, as well as the relationship of environmental practice to liberalism, democracy, and capitalism. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 106 or POSC 106S.

POSC 127 Global Environmental Politics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; field, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): POSC 020 or POSC 020H. Introduces the study and practice of global environmental politics. Explores major developments in the evolution of international
environmental law and policy. Covers ozone depletion, acid rain, marine pollution and whaling, tropical
deforestation, overpopulation, and the impact of environmental degradation. Credit is awarded for only
one of POSC 127 or POSC 127S.

**POSC 139 Environment, Sustainability, and Society**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): POSC 017 or POSC 020 (or POSC 020H) or SOC 020; or consent of instructor. Examines the relationship of human society to the natural environment from a multi-disciplinary approach. Considers ways in which values, paradigms, policies, technologies, and their interactions have determined humans’ current unsustainable relationship with the earth. Explores challenges inherent in moving society toward a more environmentally sustainable future. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 139 or POSC 139S.

2d)

2e-i)

**ANTH 114 Blackness and Mass Incarceration**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent by instructor. Introduction to the data, policy, political debates, and grassroots initiatives addressing unprecedented current incarceration in the United States. Critically investigates role of race and blackness in incarceration trends, new trends in policy, and alternatives to incarceration.

**ANTH 127 Political Anthropology**

4 Lecture, | 114 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Examines different overt and covert means by which power and social differentiation are produced, perpetuated, and challenged in societies across the world. Studies the politics of culture, ethnicity, nationalism, and gender. Credit is awarded for only one of ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S.

**ANTH 174 Afro-American Experience in the U.S.**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or consent of Instructor. Explores the racial politics of African American cultures and identities in juxtaposition with the making of the American nationhood and global capitalism. Critically examines the various anthropological discourses about African Americanness and portrays African Americans as nation-builders.

**ANTH 182 Anthropology of Human Rights**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines debates in the study of human rights and social injustice. Uses case studies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to explore legal, cultural, and political practices and representations of rights and reconciliation in postconflict settings. Includes globalization of rights; cultural relativism; indigenous rights movements; advocacy; and gender and health rights.

**SEHE 124 Queer & Trans Ecologies**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Course takes an intersectional approach to exploring how race, gender (including trans, genderqueer, and nonbinary folx), sexuality, disability, and class shape experiences of environmental and climate-based impacts, as well as approaches to activism.

**ETST 102 The Political Economy of Race and Class**

4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. This course explores the
interrelationships among race, class, ethnicity, and the operation of market processes. Readings for this course will center on the comparative economic well-being of African Americans, Chicanos, Asian Americans, and Native Americans.

ETST 111 Ethnic Politics: Practicum in Political Change 4 Lecture, 3 hours; practicum, 3 hours.
Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Studies theories and practices of comparative ethnic political change. Examines topics intrinsic to the understanding of how to effect political change within the Chicano, African American, Asian American, Native American, and other ethnic communities, as well as the dominant societies.

GSST 107 Feminisms, Race, and Antiracisms: Critical Theories and Intersectional Perspectives 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines how pathbreaking scholarship by women of color in the United States and developing countries has been central to rethinking theoretical foundations and developing new ways of knowing, understanding, and practicing politics. Focuses on scholarship that critiques and analyzes issues concerning race, antiracism, human rights, citizenship, empire, globalization, and social justice.

GSST 113 Queer Theory 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour.
Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001S or GSST 001H or LGBS 001. Examines queer theory’s origins and relation to gender and sexuality studies. Critically explores queer of color critique and the intersections of race, class, and gender with sexuality. Looks at other interventions into the field of queer theory and key concepts and current debates.

GSST 147 Feminist Animal Studies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours; written work, 3 hours.
Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001S or LGBS 001; GSST 011 or GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021 or GSST 022A or GSST 022B or GSST 030 or GSST 030H or GSST 031H or GSST 040 or GSST 010 or GSST 030S or GSST 010S. Examines human-animal relationships from a feminist perspective. Explores the use of animals as pets, subjects and objects of scientific research, and food sources. Analyzes how these uses relate to the exploitation of women and to feminist ethics. Considers the connections between sexism and speciesism.

GSST 176 Gender, Human Rights, and Transnationalism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 2 hours, written work, 1 hour.
Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores dynamics of gender and power in human rights activism. Examines the history and evolution of human rights discourse, discourses of liberation, and critical responses to the strategy of framing women’s rights as human rights in a comparative, transnational framework.

MCS 160 Race, State Violence, and Incarceration in the U.S. 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 6 hours; research, 1 hour; term paper, 2 hours.
Prerequisite(s): MCS 010 with a grade of C- or better; or consent of instructor. Course offers a historical, analytical, and theoretical examination of the cultural formation of criminalization and incarceration in the United States. Contextualizes the US carceral regime’s roots in the cultural-political structures of racial chattel slavery, land conquest, settler colonization, and the statecraft of anti-Black violence.

MCS 188 Media & Militarism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours.
Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Studies the function and effects of militarism and media. Includes how militarism is represented through various media genres such as cinema, television, advertising, documentary films, video games, digital, and new media. Explores its intersection with gender, race, class, religion, and nation. Fulfills the Humanities requirement for the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.
MCS 189 Political Culture of Race and Policing 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): MCS 010; Or the consent of instructor; Offers a critical historical and theoretical approach to the politics and culture of United States police and policing. Course will focus on how racist state violence articulates through discourses of personal/community safety, peacekeeping, “law and order,” and (declared and undeclared) domestic warfare.

PHIL 117 Environmental Ethics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one course in philosophy or consent of instructor. A philosophic consideration of ethical problems that arise from the use and exploitation of the environment. Topics covered include workplace pollution hazards; environmental pollution and protection of collective natural resources; the rights of future generations; the rights of animals; the protection of endangered species.

SOC 161 Immigration and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 or SOC 001H. Analyzes the origins of immigration and its nature, patterns, and trends in the twentieth century in Western societies, with special emphasis on the United States. Topics include theories of immigration, causes of immigration, sources of immigrants, immigration laws, reactions to immigrants, and the effects of immigration on the host society.

2e-ii)

ANTH 140E Ethnology of the Greater Southwest 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An introduction to the many varied native cultures of the Greater Southwest. Major differences as well as similarities in the forms of language, social organization, religion, and material culture occurring in the Greater Southwest will be defined and described. The peoples of the Greater Southwest are considered, not only in terms of the ethnographic present, but also through a diachronic perspective, from the prehistoric past through the Spanish colonial era to the present.

ANTH 140G Anthropological Perspectives in Africa 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A number of African cultures are carefully examined in terms of three or four anthropological topics, such as: subsistence patterns, social organization, and religious

ANTH 140I Cultures of Southeast Asia 4 Lecture, 3 hours; consultation, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or equivalent. Anthropological interpretations of culture and society in southeast Asia including Indonesia. Topics include prehistory, ethnic groups, social organization and structure, human ecology, and folk and high culture.

ANTH 140P Cultures of the Pacific 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Overview of the cultures and contemporary issues facing the people of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. Examines the contribution of Oceanic studies to anthropological theories of kinship and exchange, gender, development studies, and indigenous knowledge systems. Emphasizes how Pacific Islanders draw on their cultural heritage in emerging from formal colonialism to establish new island nations.

ANTH 140S The Peoples of Mexico in 115 | Historical and Global Perspective 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Survey of the cultures and societies of Mexico in historical and global perspective. Emphasis on agrarian communities and the contributions of Mesoamerican ethnography to general anthropological theory systems. The treatment of these cultures follows a brief overview of the geography, history, and linguistic patterns of Africa.
ANTH 162 Culture and Medicine 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Interrelations of health, disease and culture; cross-cultural comparisons of “health,” “disease” and “curing” concepts; effects of cultural behavior on health and illness. Special focus on traditional societies and their belief systems, and on the effects of cultural change (historical and modern) on illness and curing.

AST 133 Buddhist Literature 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Readings in canonical and non-canonical Buddhist texts. Includes Buddhist-influenced literature written by Asian, European, and American authors. Examines themes of emptiness, impermanence, and no-self. Crosslisted with CPLT 144, and RLST 144.

ENGL 22 Writing Red 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Indigenous perspectives on the more-than-human world that focuses on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), animal studies, Indigenous sustainability practices and epistemologies, health disparities, and climate change through the lens of literary and visual culture studies and theories.

ENGL 120A Native American Literature to 1900 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. A critical study of Native American literature from the era of oral narrative to 1900, with special attention to environmental humanities, the anthropocene, impacts of settler colonialism on the environment, autobiography, fiction, criticism, and theory.

ENGL 120B Native American Literature After 1900 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. A critical study of Native American literature from 1900 to the present, with special attention to poetry, visual culture, fiction, and self-life-narration, as well as criticism and theory.

ENGL 120T Studies in Native American Literature 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. A focused study of a topic, genre, period, or author in Native American literature. Examples might include visual culture, oral narrative, collaborative autobiography, TEK, ethnography, or poetry.

ENGL 140M California Literature and Culture 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower-division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. Explores California—the idea, the history, the myth, the legend, the reality—through its writing. Discusses issues of mapping, community, and place as they relate to the central themes in California’s literary and cultural history, with some focus on Los Angeles.

ETST 121 California Native Cultures 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Introduces the culture and history of the diverse Indigenous peoples of California. Topics explored include oral histories, traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), material culture, and kinship practices. Discusses contemporary activities of cultural preservation and resistance to assimilation.

ETST 158 American Indian Intellectual Traditions 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Analyzes selected spiritual beliefs of America’s native peoples. Examines sacred beliefs, oral histories, ceremonies, customs, and the historical significance of selected tribes and bands. Explores the conditions and forces which shaped American Indians and influence them today.
ETST 185 Native American Law 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Emphasis on traditional law, civil and criminal rights, water rights, First Amendment religious freedom, and gaming on reservations.

ETST 187 Anticolonialist Thought 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the political-intellectual work of anticolonialist struggle and independence movements.

ETST 188 Native American Women 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An introduction to Native American gender systems and the changing roles of women. Examines the cultural productions of indigenous women that make important interventions in our understanding of gender and social justice in contemporary Native America. Materials include testimonial literature, autobiographies, films, novels, and popular culture.

HISA 128 American Nature Writing, Thoreau - Present 4 Lecture, 3 hours; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Investigates a broad range of ideas about nature and the place of humans in the natural world through a survey of novels, poetry, essays, and polemics written by Americans since the mid-19th century. Topics include conservation, ecology, environmental activism, and the sanctity of the natural world.

HISA 140 California Indian History 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Provides students with a broad understanding of the rich and varied heritage and history of California Indians from the invasion of the Spanish to the twentieth century. Examines geographically and culturally diverse groups as a means of illustrating the various Euro-American Indian policies that affected native Californians. Course is comparative and thematic. Cross-listed with ETST 180.

HISA 141 Southwestern Indian History 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Presents a historical examination of selected Native American groups in the Southwest. Examines the relationship of Southwestern Indians to the Spanish, Mexican, and United States governments. Focuses on Quechans, Tohono O’Doms, Yavapai, Chiracahuas, Navajos, Zunis, Hopis, Comanches, and selected Pueblos along the Rio Grande. Cross-listed with ETST 181.

HISA 142 Northwestern Indian History 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines selected aspects of Northwestern Indian History, from approximately the 1750s to the twentieth century. Deals with several native groups along the Northwest coast from Alaska to Oregon. Compares policies of the Russian, Spanish, English, and United States governments. Particular emphasis on the 1850s when the U.S. negotiated a number of treaties with Native Americans in the Washington and Oregon territories. Cross-listed with ETST 182.

HISA 144 (E-Z) Topics in Native American History 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Selected topics addressing the issues of the Native American. Includes reading, research, and discussion on the Native American experience. F. Erly Amer:emergi Interpretatns. Cross-listed with ETST 115 (E-Z).

HISA 146 History of Native American Women 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines selected important aspects of the lives of Native North American women including their political, economic, and religious participation in their societies. Further traces historic changes in Native women’s lives as a result of the colonization of the
New World and examines the complex imagery of Native women that developed from colonial contact. Cross-listed with GSST 146.

MCS 177 Indigenous Media 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines and compares the strategies indigenous videomakers use to counter the imperial gaze of cinema. Discusses possibilities for turning the art form of capitalism and colonialism into a tool for decolonization.

ANTH 117 Anthropology of Cities 4 Lecture, 3 hours; field, 1 hour; extra reading, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of the instructor. Examines theoretical and methodological debates in the anthropological study of cities and urban life. Uses ethnographic case studies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to explore cultural practices and representations of urban space, and struggles over rights to the city. Topics include urban inequality, ecology, housing, planning, and redevelopment.

ANTH 118 Origins of Cities 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or ANTH 003 or ANTH 005 or consent of instructor. Explores new forms of social, economic, and political organization that developed with the advent of cities. Examines case studies of the rise of urbanism in both the Old and New Worlds to investigate how and why cities emerged and consolidated.

ANTH 173 Social Meanings of Space 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the range of meanings attached to spaces and places, from small-scale expressions such as houses to larger ones such as cities and landscapes. Explores how spaces can reflect and foster social conflict or social unity. Through a study of diverse cultural traditions, considers both the architecture and occupied but “unbuilt” spaces in ancient and current societies.

GEO 157 Introduction to Geographical Information Science 4 Lecture, 3 hours; laboratory, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upperdivision standing. Introduces the fundamental theory and application of geographical information science. Topics include geographic information systems, data structures, databases, and spatial data models. Explores various spatial data, including their coordinate systems, data acquisition, and associated errors. Introduces data analysis methods within geographical information systems.

GSST 145 Intersectionality, Ecology, and Community Design 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; research, 4 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 021. Introduces theoretical underpinnings of ecological utopias and ecotopias. Examines practical aspects of designing these intentional communities focused on sustainability. Includes discussion and critique of proposed ecotopias, analysis of egalitarian economic systems, inclusive and participatory political institutions, and social mores adopted by existing ecovillages and other sustainable intentional communities.

GSST 148 Intersectionality, Ecology, and Design Science 4 Lecture, 3 hours; practicum, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; field, 2 hours; written work, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 145 (GSST 145 may be taken concurrently). Introduces regenerative design. Emphasizes stability and resiliency of natural systems and intersectional praxis of environmental justice in agricultural and social design. Recognizes sustainable food, water, and shelter requires understanding structures of power that shape and maintain discrimination. Includes: agroecology; climate; health; permaculture; intentional communities; social activism; sustainability.
MCS 116 On Networks: Digital Culture, Media, Technology 4 Seminar, 3 hours; workshop, 1 hour; research, 1 hour; individual study, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 005. Examines theories, histories, forms, aesthetics, and cultures of the network. Establishes touchpoints of network theory and history and uncovers key topic areas. Addresses how networked life transforms understandings of individuality and concepts of agency and helps foster collective units, propagate contagious affect, and re-organize space and place.

MCS 159 Race, Space, and Identity 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Examines the intersection of race, space and identity in modern and contemporary culture. Explores the critical and constitutive importance of race in the built environment. Topics include the racialization of space; colonialism and colonial cities; expositions and world’s fairs; segregation; race and the canon, decolonization; and urban renewal.

SOC 182 Urban Problems 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upperdivision standing or consent of instructor. An interdisciplinary examination of selected urban problems such as civil disorders, transportation, housing, welfare, and planning. Cross-listed with URST 182.

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ANTH 122 Economic Anthropology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W; or consent of instructor. Examines the social and cultural dimensions of production, exchange, saving, borrowing, and consumption. Topics covered include rationality and economizing, reciprocity, gender and household decisionmaking, and neoliberalism.

ANTH 127 Political Anthropology 4 Lecture, 114 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Examines different overt and covert means by which power and social differentiation are produced, perpetuated, and challenged in societies across the world. Studies the politics of culture, ethnicity, nationalism, and gender. Credit is awarded for only one of ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S.

ANTH 133 Anthropology and International Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Analyzes the concept of development by examining major theories and approaches in the anthropological study of international development. Focuses on the relationship between anthropology and the development industry. Topics include ethical issues in development anthropology, causes of failure and success in development interventions, and transformations in development theory and practice.

ANTH 139 Change and Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or ANTH 003 or ANTH 005; upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines alternative theories of society, change, and development, as well as the assumptions and premises on which they are based. Considers how they are used to explain capitalist development, imperialism, colonial encounters, nationalism, decolonization, socialist revolution, modernization, unequal exchange, uneven development, globalization, and postcolonialism.

ECON 119 Law and Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 003 or ECON 003H; or consent of instructor. Examines issues at the intersection of law and economics. Presents the tools needed for an economic analysis of law. Applies the tools to understand the economic logic of the law, especially property, contract, tort, and antitrust law.
ECON 125 History of Economic Thought 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 002 or ECON 002H; ECON 003 or ECON 003H. Study of the development of major economic theories, including those of Adam Smith, Karl Marx, and John Maynard Keynes. Focus is on how alternative theories define and address economic problems differently and the policy implications that follow.

ECON 143 Environmental Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 003 or ECON 003H; or equivalent; or consent of instructor. An introduction to economic analysis of natural resources, the environment, and environmental quality. Topics include interactions between the environment and the economy, social choice theory, source control costs, damage valuation, efficient pollution control, and design of efficient and equitable environmental policy.

ECON 146 Urban Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 102 or ECON 104A. Applies basic microeconomic principles to the spatial concentration of economic activity, the operation of the urban land, housing, transportation, and labor markets, the role of government in the urban economy, and urban economic problems, including pollution, crime, and homelessness. Cross-listed with URST 146.

ECON 148 Land and Resource Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 102 or ECON 104A. Explores distinctive qualities of land and its rent, as well as valuation of land as an investment. Addresses assembly, division, and development of land, efficiency of the land market and the effects of taxation. Covers concentrated ownership, separation of ownership and management, rent and taxable surplus, and origins and kinds of tenure.

ECON 173 Global Poverty 4 Lecture, 3 hours; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 002 or ECON 002H; ECON 003 or ECON 003H. Examines poverty around the world in a comparative perspective. Topics include concepts of poverty, measurement of poverty, and policies intended to reduce poverty. The regions studied include the U.S., other developed countries, and developing countries. Credit is awarded for one of ECON 173 or ECON 173S.

ECON 175 Comparative Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the roles of different economic, political, legal, financial, fiscal, and informal institutions in the economy. Topics also include the theoretical traditions of the debate between market and plan and of the boundaries of market and hierarchy.

ECON 181 Economic Development: Theory and Policy 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 002 or ECON 002H; ECON 003 or ECON 003H. A survey of the main theories of economic development and an analysis of the major development strategies and policies.

ECON 182 Trade, Globalization, and Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 002 or ECON 002H; ECON 003 or ECON 003H. Explores global development with an emphasis on empirical results regarding the effectiveness of foreign aid, trade, property rights, and other institutions that can influence economic growth. Analyzes the nature and consequences of globalization on individuals, countries, and the world economy.

ECON 187 Contemporary Public Policy Challenges in Latin America 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 002 or ECON 002H; ECON 003 or ECON 003H; consent of instructor. A survey of the wide-sweeping policy reforms since the 1980s and of contemporary public policy challenges in Latin America. Challenges discussed include extremely high levels of poverty and inequality; inadequate educational and healthcare systems; pressures for land reform; problems of
trade competitiveness; and recurring currency crises. Cross-listed with LNST 187.

GSST 131 Sustainability, Gender and Development in the Global South 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021. Investigates the intersection of sustainable practices, development pressures, and gender in the Global South. Explores nonwestern concepts of sex/gender and nature as epistemological resources in addressing the impact of climate change on livelihoods and social organization. Asks how sustainability theory and practice can be transnational and socially inclusive.

HISA 119 Modern U.S. Consumer Culture 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the history and culture of mass consumerism in the United States. Includes the shift from mass production to mass consumption; the growth of advertising and product marketing; the rise of the department store and shopping mall; the relationship of race, ethnicity, and gender to the market; globalization; and anticonsumerism. Credit is awarded for only one of HISA 119 or HISA 119S.

PHIL 116 Business Ethics 4 Lecture, 3 hours, discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An inquiry into some of the moral issues arising from business life, such as conflicts of interest, responsibility to consumers, corporate culture and character, and the morality of competition. Also considers the history of ethics and the history business as an institution.

POSC 116 Capitalism, Socialism, and Political Theory 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines debates about economic life. Focuses on issues such as markets and marketization, labor, globalization, freedom, class, corporations, democracy, the welfare state, and power. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 116 or POSC 116S.

POSC 160 Globalization and Underdevelopment Focuses on the political causes and consequences of the spread of the modern state, the competitive market, and political democracy. Examines how these political institutions interact with one another and shape the possibility of development.

POSC 173 Government and Politics of California 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour; term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the political process of California. Focuses on both the electoral and legislative politics and the contribution they make to democratic governance under conditions of social diversity. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 173 or POSC 173S.

2e-v)

ANTH 182 Anthropology of Human Rights 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines debates in the study of human rights and social injustice. Uses case studies in Asia, Africa, and Latin America to explore legal, cultural, and political practices and representations of rights and reconciliation in postconflict settings. Includes globalization of rights; cultural relativism; indigenous rights movements; advocacy; and gender and health rights.

ENGL 142N The Politics of Visual Culture 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower-division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. Intensive review of critical approaches to the politics of visual representation in art, activism, advertisement, and popular culture. Emphasis is on debates about the ethics of visual representation and on the strategic use of visual images to raise awareness about political issues.
ETST 113 Black Feminist Theory and Activism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Considers the writings and collective organizational strategies of African American women intellectuals and activists developed in response to the ways racial, sexual, and economic oppression work interdependently and are institutionalized.

ETST 163E Introduction to Queer Studies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the intersections between the social construction of sexuality and the political economy of capitalism. Focuses on the United States. Includes the legacies of queer social movement and coalition building as well as the role of the contemporary United States where capital circulates and sexual identities are produced, contested, and negotiated.

GSST 109 Women, Politics, and Social Movements: Global Perspectives 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001S or GSST 001H or GSST 020 or GSST 020H; or consent of instructor. Introduction to Third World women’s politics. Covers women’s politics from a global perspective emphasizing South Asia, subSaharan Africa, and the Caribbean.

GSST 134 Queer Identities and Movements in the United States 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines important twentieth- and twenty-first century developments in queer culture and activism in the United States. Focuses on the origins of sexual identity; the relationship between sexuality, race, and gender; queer representation in art and media; and central issues in queer theory. Cross-listed with LGBS 134.

GSST 136 Women and Grassroots Organizing 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S or GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S. Examines women’s grassroots activism and organizing within the context of political and social structures, culture, and history at the local and global levels. Employs comparative and global perspectives to understand the diversity of women’s issues and women’s activism.

GSST 169 Gendering Revolution: Gender and Sexuality in “The Arab Spring 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 167 or GSST 168 or GSST 193; restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior. Addresses the gender politics of The Arab Spring focusing on revolutionary gender activism. Explores a world of dissent, chaos, and violence, but also one of beauty, ethics, and artistic expression as individuals come together to fight for “bread, freedom, and social justice.”

GSST 181 Feminisms and Environmentalisms 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021. Explores women’s and feminist involvement in environmental movements. Examines how gender shapes our relationships with and approaches to environmental problems in the United States and globally. Investigates intersections between feminist concerns (health, reproduction, mothering, gender equity, and social justice) and environmental issues (conservation, pollution and global warming, and sustainability).

MCS 106 Disability Culture and Media 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hours; written work, 1 hours; activity, 1 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines disability rights politics and activism through cultural production. Explores access to art production, aesthetics and disability, and the role of art in social change. Surveys several genres of art production including dance.
theatre, language and visual arts, and film and video.

MCS 119A Topics in Memory and Resistance I 4 Lecture, 1 hour; seminar, 1 hour; workshop, 1 hour; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of sophomore, junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Introduces the theory, methods, ethics, and political stakes of Memory and Resistance work. Offers training in and application of needed media skills including the production of short form media. Course is repeatable as content or topic changes to a maximum of 8 units.

MCS 122 Sustainability as the Future of Democracy 5 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours; activity, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of instructor. A critical cultural analysis of the discourses underlining and validating the degradation and destruction of our natural environments, engendering vast income inequalities.

MCS 134 Transmedia: Demonstration Project 4 Lecture, 2 hours; workshop, 1 hour; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces strategies for organizing and presenting materials, ideas, and arguments in various media. Includes visual, written, and audio texts; the spoken word; and performance.

MCS 140 Alternative Media Production and Social Movements 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the history, theory, and practice of alternative forms of media production. Focuses on how various media forms were used to disseminate information in order to motivate audiences to take action for social change. Provides opportunities to learn documentary making, experiment with media forms, and produce alternative media projects. Course is repeatable as topics change to a maximum of 12 units.

MCS 165 The Queer 1980s 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 001. An examination of film, video, print media, music, and other expressive forms from the U.S. and the United Kingdom during the 1980s. Considers how the Reagan/Thatcher era and the emergence of the AIDS pandemic gave rise to various forms of activism leading to the development of queer studies.

MCS 180 Japanese Documentary 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Studies the history of Japanese documentary cinema. Teaches strategies for reading nonfiction visual narrative. Explores other forms of documentation controversial in modern Japanese history including oral testimony, photography, and internet activism. Topics may include war, war protest, peace activism, environmental activism, nuclear politics, and green energy. Course is repeatable as topics and instructor change to a maximum of 8 units. Cross-listed with JPN 180, and AST 180.

POSC 141 Women and the American Political Process 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 1 hour; term paper, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. A general introduction to the field of women and politics. Explores the ways in which gender enters and shapes politics, primarily in the U.S. context. Topics include women’s activism, voting behavior, and opinions. Also addresses women as candidates and in government.

SOC 112 Sociology of the Labor Movement 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 or SOC 001. Introduces sociological literature related to the labor movement. Provides a comparative and historical overview of research on unions, workers’ centers, and other organizational forms and collective actions through which working-class people have sought to improve their working
and living conditions. Credit is awarded for only one of SOC 112 or SOC 112S.

SOC 122 Social Change 5 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 003 with a grade of “C-” or better or consent of instructor. A study of patterns of social change, resistance to change, and change-producing processes and agencies.

SOC 135 Conflict 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 or SOC 001H. Analysis of the sources of social conflict, especially class conflict. Studies social movements arising out of such conflicts, which attempt to bring about fundamental social change. Credit is awarded for only one of SOC 135 or SOC 135S.

SOC 184 Environmental Sociology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 (or SOC 001H) and SOC 004 and SOC 005 with grades of “C” or better, or consent of instructor. A sociological approach to the study of mainstream environmentalism. Addresses societal implications of environmental reform; the nature of distributive impacts (costs and benefits); environmental conflict resolution; land-use decision making; and the placement of noxious facilities in minority, working class, and poor communities.

2e-vi)

ANTH 144F Gender, Race, and Medicine 4 Lecture, 3 hours; written work, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the relationship between Western medicine and women, racial minorities, and non-Western citizens. Investigates how gender ideology, racial inequity, and colonialism shape the medical representation of bodies, sexuality, and pathology. Examines how patients have renegotiated their relationships with medicine through health movements and alternative healing practices. Cross-listed with GSST 185.

ANTH 144O - ANTHROPOLOGY OF BODIES
4 Units, Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Explores various anthropological discourses about the constitution of bodies focusing on how bodies differ across cultures and historical moments.

ANTH 147 Reproduction: Policies, Politics, and Practices 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines reproductive policies, politics, and practices from a cross-cultural and historical perspective. Discusses political and economic processes and sociocultural dynamics; population control; sex preference; infanticide and neonatal neglect; adoption and foster parenting; abortion; technologically assisted conception; and gestational surrogacy. Cross-listed with GSST 140.

ANTH 156 Anthropology of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Cross-cultural examination of the global Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic from an anthropological perspective.

ANTH 158 Biological Approaches to Medical Anthropology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 002 or consent of instructor. Introduces medical anthropology from the biological perspective. Explores topics on evolution, health, and medicine; human biological variation in relation to disease; bioarchaeology; and the history of health. Takes the integrative and multidisciplinary approach.

ANTH 159 Drugs and Culture 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class
level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. A cross-cultural examination of drug use and its relation to race, class, gender, morality, laws, and health policy.

ANTH 160 Political Economy of Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Examines critical medical anthropology. Focuses on the linkages between political economy, health, and healthcare systems in modern societies. Considers the effects of poverty, occupation, and environmental transformation in particular social contexts. Reviews four case studies: the political economy of HIV/AIDS, poverty, famine, and nuclear regulation.

ANTH 162 Culture and Medicine 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Interrelations of health, disease and culture; cross-cultural comparisons of “health,” “disease” and “curing” concepts; effects of cultural behavior on health and illness. Special focus on traditional societies and their belief systems, and on the effects of cultural change (historical and modern) on illness and curing.

ANTH 166 Anthropology of Global Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Examines the overlaps, debates, and potential of medical anthropology to address contemporary issues in global health. Focuses on how the historical development, theoretical frameworks, methodological approaches, and ethical debates within medical anthropology can contribute to a just and inclusive version of “global health.”

ANTH 175 Public Health, Media, and Risk Management 4 Seminar, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines media and politics in public health and risk management. Focuses on the role that effective communication, public relations, media, and crisis management can play in both informing the public and reducing and preventing serious threats to human health.

ANTH 187 Anthropology of Risk 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; research, 1 hour; term paper, 10 hours per quarter. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W; upper-division standing; or consent of instructor. Examines theoretical and ethnographic works related to the perception of risk. Focuses on a range of arguments that view risk as an objective hazard, a symbolic construction, or as historically, politically, and socially contingent. Topics include law, health, pollution, and migration.

SEHE 126 Toxic Bodies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course explores the embodied effects of various kinds of toxic environmental exposures in local, national, and transnational contexts. It addresses the effects of exposure to radiation, polluted air, water, soil, and food. It also surveys the history and current manifestations of community based and policy oriented responses.

SEHE 154 The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Scientific Research on Inequalities and Well-being 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Investigates scientific approaches to the study of inequalities, well-being and their relationship. The course is organized into two sections. The first half focuses on social inequalities and various implicit and explicit biases. The second half covers the brighter side of human relationships including happiness, diversity and sustainable living practices.

SEHE 157 Global Environmental Change and Mental Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Introduces
mental health concepts of disorder, distress, well-being, and resilience in the context of global environmental change. Focuses on research and public health policy related to: climate change impacts on mental health and well-being; social and environmental justice challenges associated with mental health; individual and community resilience and psychosocial adaptation to climate-related environmental change. Topics include: the psychology of climate change denial; ecological grief and mourning; mindful response to extreme weather events and natural disasters; and best practices for coping with environmental change.

ETST 116 Medicine Ways of Native Americans 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the medical history of Native Americans. Focuses on traditional Native American medicine and how Western diseases, medical practices, health care, and policies influenced American Indian health. Topics include medicine people, rituals, ceremonies, smallpox, measles, influenza, anomie, accidents, diabetes, suicides, mental illness, and murders. Cross-listed with HISA 147.

GBST 103 Food and Globalization 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours; research, 3 hours; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GBST 001; GBST 002. Investigates globalization through the lens of food. Topics include world hunger, food security, agribusiness and health, genetically modified foods, sustainability, labor, migration, fast food, and “slow food.” Introduces various research methods including analysis of statistics, semiotics, and the study of social interaction.

GSST 183 Feminist Politics of Food 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021; or consent of instructor. Explores politics of food using gender, race, class, and globalization as analytical lenses. Examines expressions of gender and sexuality in food consumption. Investigates relationships between diet and structural racism and between feminist politics and food movements. Topics include food and advertisement, industrial and sustainable agriculture, food security, health, and bioengineering.

HIST 107 Disease and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Covers a world history of disease and how it relates to massive population change, cultural shocks, and globalization. Evaluates the complex and reciprocal relationship between illness and society. Analyzes how cultures, states, and individuals shape the spread of contagious disease, as well as how disease affects societies.

POSC 180 The Politics of Public Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Focuses on the social, environmental, and political factors that shape population health. Utilizes public health topics to illustrate the fundamental problems of the politics of regulation and social policy. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 180 or POSC 180S.

SOC 127 Sociological Determinants of Health 4 Units, Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 5 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 with a grade of C- or better or SOC 001H with a grade of C- or better; or consent of instructor. Introduces the role that social factors play in shaping the occurrence and distribution of disease and death in populations with an emphasis on socioeconomic status, racism, social relationships and social stress. A particular emphasis is placed on sociological origins of health inequalities.

RLST 122 Medicine and Asian Religions in Global Circulation 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individualized study, 6 hours; research, 1 hour; term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of Sophomore, Junior, or Senior. Considers the relationship between religious cosmologies, the organization
of knowledge, and the practices for managing bodily and natural order that underpin three major medical traditions of Asia in premodern and modern periods: Ayurveda, Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Tibet’s Four Tantra Tradition.

SOC 167 Medical Sociology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s) upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces key concepts and theories in medical sociology and their application to a variety of health issues. Exemplar topics include social construction of health and illness, medicalization, stigma and labeling, patient-provider interaction, sociology of medical professionals, social determinants of health, and political economy of health.

ENGL 179A History of Science Fiction 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower-division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. A historical survey of science fiction literature from the nineteenth century to the present. Covers major works by H.G. Wells, Arthur C. Clarke, Stanislaw Lem, Ursula K. Le Guin, and William Gibson.

ENGL 179C Science and Science Fiction 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or lower-division English course (other than composition) or consent of instructor. Investigates the relationship between science and science fiction and the role of culture in producing scientific knowledge. Readings include novels and scholarship in the history and sociology of science. Covers work by Nancy Kress, Greg Bear, Greg Egan, Thomas Kuhn, Donna Haraway, and Bruno Latour.

SEHE 177: Non-human Agents and the Environment 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing. Develops methods for thinking about non-human organisms and non-living environmental elements as actants. Examines the interactions between human and non-human agents and their implications for ecological thinking. Topics include: political artifacts, trans-species becoming, trans-corporeality, human microbiome and microvirome, micorrhizal network, symbiosis, symbiogenesis, and human/non-human coexistence.

GSST 104 Witches, Magic, and Religion 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines magic and witchcraft as distinctive forms of epistemology articulated by women throughout history. Traces the position of religion and science versus these intellectual fields led by women in various settings around the world. Investigates how masculinization of the knowledge production process enabled male dominance.

GSST 161 Gender and Science 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021. Focuses on the intersections of Western constructions of gender and scientific knowledge since the sixteenth century. Considers the cultural and political roles of the scientist in terms of gender; the structuring of objectivity and objects of study; the status of scientific knowledge; and the emergence of feminist science studies. Credit is awarded for one of the following GSST 161 or GSST 161S.

HIST 104 The Scientific Revolution 4 Lecture, 3 hours; online discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. History of the scientific revolution of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries from Copernicus through Newton, stressing the cultural interaction of science, philosophy, and religion, with secondary attention to the historical sociology of science.
HIST 105 Science in the Modern World 4 Lecture, 3 hours; online discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. History of science in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, stressing the rise of the Darwinian worldview, the genetic revolution and its social consequences, and the romantic rejection of science.

HIST 106 Science in Triumph and Crisis 4 Lecture, 3 hours; online discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. History of science in the twentieth century with attention to the revolutions in physics and biology, the role of scientists in the world wars, the social responsibility debate, and the rise of the United States as a scientific power.

HIST 109 Technology in Modern Europe and America, 1700-Present 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the emergence of modern Europe through the first and second industrial revolutions in Europe and America. Explores the development of device commodities as the typical form of consumer technology in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as well as addresses philosophical issues in understanding technology. Cross-listed with ENGR 109

MCS 108 Electric Earth: Media Ecology Theory Culture 4 Seminar, 3 hours; individualized study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 001 with a grade of C- or better. Introduces media ecology theory and history. Explores key topics, concepts, and issues at the upper-division level. Develops methods for thinking about contemporary media ecology, examining objects such as smart cities, animal technologies, and the media saturated planet. Outside class assignments include readings and conducting individual research and writing projects.

MCS 109 Algorithms and Everyday Life 4 Seminar, 3 hours; individualized study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 005 with a grade C- or better; Examines technologies including artificial intelligence, Tinder, and Uber to examine cultures of algorithms, data, and code. Explores the use of algorithms to shape futures, govern bodies, advance systemic violence, and conceal injustices. Also addresses the use of data to intervene in these unjust data scapes.

MCS 117 Posthuman Bodies in Science, Media, and Culture 4 Seminar, 3 hours; workshop, 1 hour; research, 1 hour; individual study, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 005. Introduces cultures and theories of posthuman media. Examines media technologies, representations, and representative practices in the sciences. Topics include biopolitics, posthumanism, ecosickness, and speculation. Approaches posthuman media studies with perspectives from queer theory, eco-feminist theory, and disability studies.

MCS 146F/ENGL 146F Special Topics in Technoculture and Digital Media 4 Lecture, 3 hours; screening, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior. Advanced study of theories and practices of reader and audience interaction with technologies of cultural production in general and digital media in particular. Includes praxis-oriented composition or research. F. Media, Materialism, and the Environment : While narratives of technological development. This course restores a materialist history and theorization of media, specifically exploring the entanglements between digital culture and the elemental world (eg conflict minerals in geology of media, ocean cables as internet infrastructures, the data bunkers of cloud storage.)

MCS 163 Special Topics in Art Criticism and Theory: The Anthropocene
PHIL 109 Philosophy of Technology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. An introduction to philosophical issues concerning technology. Includes the nature of technology; technical artifacts and design; technological knowledge; techno-science; the development of technology; ethical problems concerning technology; technology and gender; socio-technological systems and technocracy; anti-technology; technology and art; and technology and the environment.

PHIL 137 Philosophy of Science 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one course in philosophy or consent of instructor. Topics discussed include understanding scientific objectivity in the light of history and sociology of science; realism and anti-realism about scientific theories; scientific methodology and its logic; and the nature of scientific explanation. Credit is awarded for only one of PHIL 137 or PHIL 237.

2f)

SEHE 180 Quantitative Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Survey of quantitative methods frequently used in Environmental Studies, focusing on statistical methods and geospatial data analysis. Provides methodological foundation and tools needed to conduct and understand quantitative data and spatial analysis relevant to social scientific inquiry about the natural environment and sustainability.

SEHE 181 Qualitative Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Introduction to the epistemology of qualitative social science and survey of qualitative methods frequently used in Environmental Studies. Focuses on: historical and comparative case study analysis, ethnography, actor-network analysis, environmental narrative and discourse analysis. Provides methodological foundation and tools needed to conduct and understand qualitative data and analysis relevant to social scientific inquiry about the natural environment and sustainability.

SEHE 182 Community Based and Participatory Approaches to Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 5 Lecture, 3 hours, Discussion, 1 hour, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour, practicum, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Research seminar in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and Participatory Action Research (PAR), two related approaches to collaborative knowledge production and action designed to address environmental and/or health disparities at the community level. Students will apply community based, and participatory research strategies in a project that builds on community partnerships previously initiated by the instructor.

SEHE 193 Capstone Prerequisite(s): Upper division standing. Under the guidance of an SEHE faculty member, completion of a capstone project that synthesizes and integrates the knowledge and skills obtained throughout the program. Develops skills in the formulation and selection of research questions on topics in Society, Environment and Health Equity. Includes the identification of research questions and the use of primary or secondary data, and theory to seek answers. Addresses techniques in the organization and presentation of writing.
SEHE 197 Research for Undergraduates (1 to 4) variable hours, Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing with consent of instructor. Directed original research. Graded (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeatable.

SEHE 198I Individual Internship (1-12) laboratory, 4-36 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of instructor and upper-division standing. Individual interns will learn about the policies and operations of cooperating agencies, such as community organizations, social service agencies, clinics and hospitals. Students will become familiar with the on-going operations of these organizations, and will conduct relevant research under faculty supervision. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 16 units.

SEHE 199 Senior Research (1-5) Outside research, 3-12 hours. Prerequisite(s): SEHE 191 and consent of instructor; not open to students in the University Honors Program. Work individually with the instructor to continue and expand a research paper or project begun in an SEHE course. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units.

SEHE 199H Senior Honors Research (1-5) Outside research, 3-15 hours. Prerequisite(s): admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. Offers the opportunity for directed research at an honors level. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units.
Appendix C: Proposal for Undergraduate Major in Health Equity Studies

A Proposal for

Bachelor of Arts Degree Program in

Health Equity Studies

April 16, 2021

Revised March 2022

Submitted by:

Juliann Allison, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Kim Yi Dionne, Associate Professor, Political Science
Rengin Firat, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Tanya Nieri, Associate Professor, Sociology
Chioun Lee, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Dana Simmons, Associate Professor, History
Jennifer Syvertsen, Assistant Professor, Anthropology
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
This proposal follows the guidelines of the Committee on Education Policy.

1. Name of the academic program and the department(s) or unit(s) that will administer the program.

   Name of the academic program: B.A. in Health Equity Studies

   Department that will administer the program: Society, Environment and Health Equity

2. A thorough justification, including the motivation for the creation of the program in terms of student interest and professional or academic importance.

   Mounting disparities of health across racial, ethnic, socio-economic status and sexuality among other social characteristics are very well documented. However, evidence-based strategies and interventions to reduce or eliminate these disparities are limited, pushing the current research and public agenda towards health equity. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services defines health equity as “the attainment of the highest level of health for all people.” This shift in emphasizing health equity, just and fair ways of attaining the highest level of health for all people, are also evident in the recent federal efforts such as the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services’ Healthy People 2020 initiative (https://health.gov/healthypeople). This new research agenda for health equity studies requires a multi-dimensional and multi-level approach that integrates biological, behavioral, social, and humanistic approaches to be able to address complex and intersectional inequalities of health and health care.

   The proposed major responds to the vision statement in UCR’s Future Fluent Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability” through “inclusive excellence.” The Strategic Plan outlines four key areas of research strength at UCR, which the university will build upon in coming years, including social equity and health. The Health Equity Studies major responds directly to the intersection of health and social equity.

   Health and health care occupations are among the fastest growing occupational sectors. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, healthcare occupations are expected to “grow 15 percent from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations, adding about 2.4 million new jobs” (https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/home.htm). The course work our major provides will prepare students for health and health care related careers including health administration & management, health education, social work and health advocacy & policy in non-profits or government health organizations, hospitals, health or senior care centers, and educational settings or pursuing higher education in health sciences. With the Health Equity Studies major, UCR will offer undergraduates an innovative and timely degree, which prepares students for healthcare-related careers focusing on human, social, and environmental sustainability.
The Health Equity Studies major offers an excellent foundation for students entering professional schools of medicine, nursing, pharmacy or public health. For students who choose not to pursue postgraduate study, Health Equity Studies provides training and skills for work in community relations, community outreach, social services, administration and advocacy. Please see Appendix A below, “Careers in Health Care and Policy.” For example, Kaiser Permanente provides its members (including one in four Inland Empire residents) a “Thrive Local” program linking health and community social services; this is a staff-intensive program that also requires a robust network of community service providers, each with their own staff. In 2013, the California State Legislature established an Office of Health Equity within the California Department of Health. The OHE vision is that “everyone in California has equal opportunities for optimal health, mental health and well-being.”

2 The Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office of Minority Health and Health Equity (OMHHE) “supports internship opportunities for eligible undergraduate and graduate students to gain meaningful experiences in public health settings.” Such programs are currently expanding rapidly under the pressure of pandemic needs and increased state funding for community health research and interventions.

Furthermore, our major will address the pressing problems of a) health and healthcare workforce shortage within the Inland Empire and b) underrepresentation of Hispanic/Latinx and Black people among California health professions workforce. The Inland Empire has one of the lowest per capita ratios of behavioral health professionals. Compared with other California regions, the Inland Empire has fewer primary care and specialty physicians per person, yet Inland Empire residents report poorer health than other Californians. Health disparities in the Inland Empire are particularly pronounced in areas related to social inequities: metabolic disease (diabetes and obesity), asthma, mental distress, and suicide.

While the relatively newly formed UCR Medical School addresses these needs for the severe doctor shortage, the deficit of workforce in other health and health care professions in the Inland Empire are still unmet. Instituting a Health Equity Studies major in a Hispanic Serving Institution in the Inland Empire will both address the current demand for healthcare services workforce and contribute to the goal of diversifying health and health care workforce.

Many of us teaching health-related courses have observed that demand for these courses is very high; our courses fill quickly and students ask us for more. In particular, the HQST major is an excellent option for students transitioning from CNAS or BCOE to

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2 [About_OHE](#)
5 ibid.
CHASS, and who wish to build on prior data science, health or biomedical knowledge. The HQST minor allows students in biomedical or scientific degree programs to complement their curriculum with a social-scientific and humanities perspective. The HQST minor would also be appropriate for students in Public Policy or any CHASS major, who wishes to complement disciplinary study with more focused attention to health and health disparities and inequities.

The HQST program offers students an opportunity to focus their learning on inequities -- an issue that deeply matters to them -- in theoretically grounded scholarly literature that transcends disciplinary boundaries, includes innovative and community-engaged approaches, and prepares students to create and communicate evidence-based ideas and solutions to overcome these inequities. Our majors will gain methodological tools to grasp dynamic interactions of social, economic and political inequities, health, disability and disease. Majors will understand how to read statistical data and how to communicate it to broader audiences. They will be able to analyze relationships between the local, national and global scales, and to identify structural causes of individual phenomena. They will gain experience with community-based research and engagement. They will have training in ethnographic methods, sociological analysis and historical research. Majors will bring a humanist, social-scientific toolkit and a critical consciousness to work in health-related fields.

HQST will also well-prepare our undergraduate students with a strong foundation to transition right into health-related graduate, medical and clinical programs at UCR, including in the UCR School of Medicine, the proposed Masters of Public Health program currently under development, and other graduate and medical coursework that includes a Designated Emphasis in Medical and Health Humanities.

The proposed HQST major is part of a national trend, as witnessed by similar programs recently established at peer institutions. American University School of International Studies offers an undergraduate program in Environmental Sustainability and Global Health. American University’s program is less than seven years old and is growing rapidly, with faculty in fields from anthropology, geography, political science to public health and economics, and 65 undergraduate majors.

Vanderbilt University’s Medicine, Health and Society Department houses 18 FTE (including two Writers in Residence) organized in four research groups: Culture, Power and Science; Health Disparities and Policy; Critical Global Health and Health Humanities and Public Practice. The department offers an undergraduate BA and minor, a combined BA+MA, and an MA degree in Medicine, Health and Society.

The University of Arizona School of Sociology offers an undergraduate BS in Care, Health and Society, designed to complement training for health care professions. The curriculum trains students “to understand the social dimensions of health and health care to inform public health initiatives and the provision of individual health care.” All majors fulfill an internship requirement in a community or health care organization as part of their degree program. The internship requirement is an intriguing model, toward which
Several universities offer undergraduate degrees in Public Health as part of a school of medicine or public health. Johns Hopkins University, UC Berkeley and UC Merced, among others, offer a Public Health undergraduate major; UCLA has a Public Health minor. UC Berkeley also hosts the California Initiative for Health Equity and Action, which provides grants to undergraduate Health Equity Scholars from across California. While UC Merced and CSUs are highly represented among the 2020 Health Equity Scholar cohort, UC Riverside did not send a single student to this program. (This should change.) Mills College offers B.A. and B.S. degrees in Public Health and Health Equity. Cal State San Bernardino offers an undergraduate Certificate in Health Equity and Health Disparities.

Once established we expect the new major in Health Equity Studies to be in high demand as interest among young adults in health disparities are surging and demand for trained individuals in various segments of healthcare is growing. Establishing the Health Equity Studies major now will put UCR to be ahead of the game in capturing talented undergraduates from underrepresented communities who will play a significant role in fulfilling the healthcare needs of the state of California.

3. Relationship of the new program to existing programs.

This program responds to undergraduate interest and demand for coursework in public health, pre-medicine, and health equity studies without duplicating existing programs. The School of Public Policy (SPP) offers an undergraduate degree with a track in Health and Population Policy, which focuses on issues related to policy and public health. HQST courses would support SPP students in this track by providing more options to fulfill their major. Anthropology offers a concentration for its majors in Medical Anthropology; some of these courses will overlap with HQST because of shared faculty, but the anthropology degree has another set of unique requirements that go beyond the scope of health. In addition, there is an undergraduate minor in Medical and Health Humanities (MHH), which draws from diverse courses in the humanities, social sciences, literature, English, and related areas. Students pursue the MHH minor in conjunction with another degree program. Whereas MHH engages with a broad humanities field concerned with representations of the body, health and disability, HQST offers a more focused set of requirements specifically around health disparities and health inequities. That said, HQST classes would also support the MHH program and the HQST major is entirely compatible with an MHH minor.

A major advantage of the proposed department is that it will complement and enhance available offerings for students who pursue the global health and sustainability track through the global studies major. Three faculty members who are affiliated with the proposed department played leadership roles in developing the health and sustainability track for GBST majors, including former GBST chair, Bronwyn Leebaw, current GBST chair, Juliann Allison, and POSC professor, Kim Yi Dionne. As faculty members gathered informally to discuss the best way to develop the GBST tracks, it became very
clear to us that there is a significant demand for broader offerings and opportunities for a
deeper level of engagement on these themes—well beyond what could be accommodated
under the umbrella of Global Studies. The proposed department will extend course
offerings available to the subset of GBST majors who wish to concentrate on health and
sustainability (one of four recommended concentrations within the global studies major)
while expanding opportunities for faculty collaboration on grants that will enable us to
expand other avenues of opportunity to students at every level. It will provide an
alternative pathway for the many UCR undergraduates who wish to pursue a
concentration in environmental studies, sustainability, or health equity, yet do not wish to
major in global studies. This is particularly important, given that we are in touch with
many UCR alumni that have taken available courses on these themes in order to pursue
career paths with a local or regional focus. These, and many other students could have
benefited from the opportunity to pursue a major in the proposed department. However,
they would not have been well served by the global studies curriculum.

4. The proposed curriculum. Great care should be given in this area, correct rubrics should be
listed for courses, all cross listings should be listed, unit total considerations should be taken
into account and totals should be verified by program staff, faculty, and appropriate
Executive Committee personnel. A copy of the proposed program change should be
provided for inclusion in the Catalog.

The B.A. degree in Healthy Equity Studies consists of 48 units and focuses primarily on
humanities and social science studies of health inequity. See section 13 in this document
for full details.

**Lower-division requirements** include 4 courses (16 units):

a) SEHE 001: Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy
   for Social Change
b) SEHE 003: Introduction to Health Equity
c) One course in Data Science from among three course options
d) One course in Medical and Health Humanities from among eight course options

**Upper-division requirements** include 10 courses (40 units):

a) One course in climate change, environment and health from among 7 course
   options.
b) Three courses in HEALTH DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES from among 17
   course options.
c) Three courses in HEALTH PRACTICES, POLITICS AND POLICIES from
   among 18 course options.
d) One research methods course from among 3 course options
e)
The requirements for an undergraduate minor in Health Equity Studies consist of 20 units:

**Lower-division requirements** include 1 course (4 units):
SEHE 003 Introduction to Health Equity

**Upper-division requirements** include 4 courses (16 units):
Two courses from among the HEALTH DISPARITIES AND INEQUITIES course options.
Two courses from among the HEALTH PRACTICES, POLITICS AND POLICIES course options.

5. A list of faculty who will be involved in the program, including those teaching, advising, and administering.

Teaching will be distributed among affiliated faculty, some of who will teach elective courses from their home department. Administration of the major will be conducted by FTE faculty who will be the first to transfer their full lines to the new department. Advising will be done in coordination with the undergraduate advisors in MDU.

Juliann Allison, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, SEHE 191E

Cecilia Ayón, Professor, Public Policy

Kim Yi Dionne, Associate Professor, Political Science, SEHE 131, SEHE 191

Esra Kurum, Assistant Professor, Statistics

Chioun Lee, Assistant Professor, Sociology, SEHE 128, SOC 127, SOC 167, SOC 183H

Bruce Link, Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Public Policy, SOC 127, SOC 120

Tanya Nieri, Associate Professor, Sociology, SEHE 191, SOC 127, SOC 167

Ellen Reese, Professor, Sociology, SEHE 002, SEHE 141, SEHE 142, SEHE 143, SEHE 191E, SEHE 198I, SEHE 199/199H, SEHE 193Q

Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies, SEHE 010, SEHE 126, SEHE 136

Dana Simmons, Associate Professor, History, SEHE 001, HIST 042, HIST 107, SEHE 134, SEHE 140, SEHE 150

Jennifer Syvertsen, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, ANTH 020/ANTH 020S,
6. For interdisciplinary programs, the degree of participation and the role of each department must be explicitly described. The chairs of all participating departments must provide written approval for the creation of the program and indicate their commitment to provide necessary resources including faculty release.

This program will be administered by the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (proposed with this undergraduate program)

7. Projected enrollment in the program.

We anticipate that enrollment in the program will be about 140 undergraduate students in six years in our conservative estimate and 220 in our rapid growth estimate.

8. Name of degree, if applicable, and the anticipated number of degrees to be granted when the program reaches steady state.

Bachelor of Arts in Healthy Equity Studies.

Anticipated number of degrees to be granted when the program reaches steady state: 40 in the conservative estimate and 70 per year in the rapid growth estimate.

9. Potential impact of the new program on existing programs. If the proposed program includes required courses from a department other than the administering department, the proposal must include a statement from the department indicating that it has been consulted and that it will provide access to the required courses.

HQST is anticipated to relieve pressure on impacted departments, particularly in the social sciences. Concerning the many departments in which HQST students will take courses, no one of them is likely to be significantly impacted. Students have a wide range of choices in fulfilling the degree requirements, and no one course is likely to enroll more than a handful. The core and elective courses in HQST offered by the department, conversely, are likely to attract students from across campus. Approvals from the department listed under item #12 are included in a separate file.

10. A full listing of resources required for start-up and for operations. In cases where no additional resources will be needed, this must be explicitly stated. This listing may include: personnel (faculty FTE or temporary positions, Teaching Assistants or Readers, administrative staff, technical support); support services including computer facilities and library resources; space requirements. A plan indicating how the resources will be obtained.
would also be helpful to the committee in reviewing the proposal. A letter of support from the College Dean and/or Executive Vice Chancellor-Provost indicating endorsement as well as a promise of support for the proposal also would be extremely helpful.

A. Faculty

The Health Equity Studies major does not require new faculty hires in order to begin accepting students. Four core faculty members are already faculty in CHASS departments, as are six affiliated faculty. One affiliated faculty member is in the School of Medicine, one in the School of Public Policy and one is in CNAS. Most of the proposed courses for the HQST major will be cross-listed with faculty’s home departments and therefore can be taught without any additional cost.

We anticipate that faculty will be available within the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (proposal attached) to teach the HQST core courses. If the new department is not approved, we would require funds for a faculty to direct the major, and funds to buy out three courses each year for the HQST core curriculum.

B. Teaching Assistants

An additional two TA positions are desirable in order to support the new gateway course, SEHE 001: and SEHE 003: Introduction to Health Equity Studies. We anticipate that the gateway courses will easily attract 75 students or more, including non-majors. If TAs are not approved, the course will have to be smaller and taught without discussion sections. We plan to offer the gateway courses at least once a year.

C. Staff

Staff needs for the HQST major correspond to requirements for the SEHE department (proposal attached).

D. Computer facilities

No additional computer facilities are required for the new curriculum.

E. Library

Tiffany Moxham, Associate University Librarian has been consulted. The UCR library maintains an extensive database, e-journal, and textbook collection that will support the HQST major. UCR is home to a medical school and thus supports Health Equity topics through access to fulltext via PubMed, an extensive number of journals including those covered by the new Elsevier contract and specialty databases such as Access Medicine. All subject areas also have options to choose monographs that reflect their specific topics through Patron Driven acquisitions and have access to fast interlibrary loan services for unique journal content. As such, the additional costs to the library will be minimal and in line with existing majors needs i.e. supplementing current collections.
F. Space

Since SEHE founding core faculty are all current faculty members, we anticipate that the new department will not create additional need for office space. However, it would be preferable to move faculty offices over time in order to consolidate SEHE faculty in the same building and floor. SEHE would also require access to a meeting space, which could be shared with other programs or units. We also wish to request a dedicated space for the Department of SEHE for the chair and department material.

G. Plans for obtaining resources

We will maximize our capacity through collaboration among all the faculty involved in the departmentalization process. Foundation funding is expanding rapidly in this area, as the pandemic laid bare the power of structural inequities to drive unequal health outcomes. We are working with the UCR Foundation Development and CHASS Development officers to identify grant opportunities to fund course development, undergraduate community engagement, a teaching postdoctoral fellowship and research within the major.

We will work with the UCR Foundation to develop a departmental fund into which donations can be made over time by alumni of the program as well as by other donors interested in supporting the department, its students, and faculty.

As demand for SEHE 001 grows, we will teach it during the summer, which will bring in 52% of the revenue to the department.

Utilizing university resources such as the Academic Senate and Office of Research and Academic Development, and CHASS grants support, the department faculty will pursue internal and external funding to support their research. They will also encourage students to avail themselves of internal and external funding opportunities (e.g., Chancellor’s Research Fellowship, National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Research Grant) to support their academic work.

11. Letters of support are included for the Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity, which includes this proposal for the new undergraduate program.

12. Approvals from program faculty, College faculty (if the new proposal affects a college regulation), and the appropriate Executive Committee should be obtained before forwarding the new program to the attention of the Senate Analyst for CEP.

Approvals:

a. Program faculty
The following faculty approve this proposal:

Juliann Allison, Associate Professor, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Cecila Ayón, Professor, Public Policy
Kim Yi Dionne, Associate Professor, Political Science
Rengin Firat, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Esra Kurum, Assistant Professor, Statistics
Chioun Lee, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Bruce Link, Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Public Policy
Tanya Nieri, Associate Professor, Sociology
Jade Sasser, Associate Professor, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Dana Simmons, Associate Professor, History
Jennifer Syvertsen, Assistant Professor, Anthropology
Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor, Gender and Sexuality Studies

b. Chairs associated with the courses included in the new curriculum

List of chairs from whom approvals have been requested

CHASS

Derrick Fay, Chair, Anthropology [approved]
Sherine Hafez, Chair, Gender and Sexuality Studies [approved]
Steven Helfand, Chair, Economics [approved]
John Medearis, Chair, Political Science [approved]
Jennifer Najera, Chair, Ethnic Studies [approved]
Andrews Reath, Chair, Philosophy [approved]
Ellen Reese, Chair, Sociology [approved]
Judith Rodnbeck, Chair, Media and Cultural Studies [approved]
Michele Salzman, Chair, History [approved]
Melissa Wilcox, Chair, Religious Studies [approved]
Fuson Wang, Program Director, Medical and Health Humanities [approved]

CNAS

Xinping Cui, Chair, Statistics [approved]

c. Dean of CHASS

Approved June 21, 2021

d. Executive Committee

Approved May 19, 2021
13. Proposed Curriculum

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

REPORT TO THE RIVERSIDE DIVISION
(insert date)

To be adopted:

Proposed Changes to Health Equity Studies

PRESENT:  PROPOSED:

Program Description
The goal of the Health Equity Studies curriculum is to equip students with the knowledge, theory, and skills necessary to understand health disparities and promote the goal of health equity. Drawing on courses primarily in the humanities and social sciences with the explicit framework of delivering health justice—fair and just health opportunities to everyone—this interdisciplinary field transcends traditional biomedical approaches to provide a historically-grounded, multi-level understanding of health and illness, systems of healing, and evidence-based solutions to health inequities. Health Equity Studies students learn to think critically about complex issues that affect health, healthcare, and health policy. The major investigates how political, economic, demographic, cultural, social, and biological factors interact to produce health (in)equity. It prepares students for a wide range of careers, including public service in healthcare, public health, social work, policy advocacy, consulting, research, and non-profit organizations focused on health and equity. Through in-depth, engaged learning experiences, this major nurtures community leaders and global citizens who can meet the global health challenges of the 21st century.

The B.A. degree consists of 52 units and focuses primarily on humanities and social science studies of health inequity.

The program also offers a 20 unit Minor, consisting of 1 lower-division and 4 upper-division core courses. The minor is designed to accommodate CHASS majors as well as UCR
students pursuing majors in all colleges and schools who are motivated to complement their STEM, Public Policy, or Business and Finance training with studies of health equity from humanist and/or social science perspectives.

**Major Requirements**

1) Lower-Division Requirement (4 courses, 16 units)

   a) SEHE 001

   b) One course in Data Science: STAT 004 (may be substituted by a data science course taken in another major)

   c) One course in Medical and Health Humanities from the following: ANTH 20 or ANTH 20S, ENGL 022, GSST013 or GSST013S, SEHE 010, SEHE 015, HIST 042, MHHS 001, PHIL 009 or PHIL 009H

   Lower-division courses taken elsewhere may be counted toward the lower-division requirement; up to four advanced placement units earned in high school may count toward its fulfillment as well. Please consult with the academic advisors for further details.

2) Upper-Division Requirements (10 courses, 40 units)

   a) One course in climate change, environment and health from among the following: SEHE 123, SEHE 124, SEHE 126, SEHE 142, SEHE 157, ETST 179, GSST 171

   b) Three courses in health disparities and inequities from among the following: ANTH 144F, ANTH 144I, ANTH 144K, ECON 129, SEHE 111, SEHE 126, SEHE 128, SEHE 142, SEHE 143, SEHE 154, SEHE 157, HIST 107, MCS 160, SOC 127, SOC 120, SOC 167, SOC 183H,

   c) Three courses in health practices, politics, and policies from among the following: ANTH 144N, SEHE 110, SEHE 130, SEHE 131, SEHE 134, SEHE 136, SEHE 140, SEHE 141, SEHE 150, SEHE 189E, SEHE 189F, ETST116/HISA 147, GBST 103, MCS 106, PHIL 167, POSC180 or POSC 180S, RLST 110, RLST 122
d) One course in gender, race, and structural inequities from among the following: ANTH 114, ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S, ANTH 174, ANTH 182, ETST 102, ETST 111, ETST 113, ETST 163E, GSST 107, GSST 109, GSST 113, GSST 131, GSST 176, MCS 109, MCS 160, MCS 189, SOC 161

e) One research methods course from among the following: SEHE 180, SEHE 181, SEHE 182; or 4 units of SEHE 193, SEHE 197, SEHE 199/SEHE 199H, SEHE 198G or SEHE 198I

Minor requirements

1) Lower-division requirements (1 course, 4 units)

a) SEHE 003 Introduction to Health Equity

Upper-division requirements (4 courses, 16 units)

a) Two courses in health disparities and inequities from among the following: ANTH 144F, ANTH 144I, ANTH 144K, ECON 129, SEHE 111, SEHE 126, SEHE 128, SEHE 142, SEHE 143, SEHE 154, SEHE 157, HIST 107, MCS 160, SOC 127, SOC 120, SOC 167, SOC 183H,

b) Two courses in health practices, politics, and policies from among the following: ANTH 144N, SEHE 110, SEHE 130, SEHE 131, SEHE 134, SEHE 136, SEHE 140, SEHE 141, SEHE 150, SEHE 189E, SEHE 189F, ETST116/HISA 147, GBST 103, MCS 106, PHIL 167, POSC180 or POSC 180S, RLST 110, RLST 122

Justification:

Include justifications for EVERY change/addition/deletion that is made.

Approvals:
Approved by the faculty of the Department of ___SEHE_______: (4/16/21)
Approved by the faculty of the College of ___________: (insert date)
Approved by the Executive Committee of the College of _________: (insert date)
Approved by the Committee on Educational Policy: (insert date)
Course Descriptions for HQST B.A. Curriculum

1a) **SEHE 001 Health equity and Environmental Justice: Movements and Advocacy for Social Change** 4 Lecture 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. This class provides an overview of contemporary, comparative, and historical research on social and political movements, including legal and policy advocacy, that focus on health equity, sustainability, and/or environmental justice. It examines the motivations for, visions, and context shaping these movements as well as the interconnections among these movements. It also examines movement and advocacy outcomes as well as current and future challenges and opportunities for promoting Health equity and Environmental Justice.

1b) **SEHE 001 Introduction to Health Equity** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading 3 hours. Introduces theories and methodologies for the study of health equity and health disparities. Identifies health disparities trends, patterns and causes in the US and globally, including historical, social and structural factors. Considers policies and interventions addressing health disparities, including community-engaged research and patient-centeredness.

1c) **STAT 004 Elements of Data Science** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. With simulation and data visualization, exploring basic concepts, algorithms and techniques of data science. Topics include summarizing and visualizing data using R or Python; causality, randomness, decision making in the presence of uncertainty, prediction and classification.

1d) **ANTH 020 Culture, Health, and Healing** 4 Lecture, 3 hours; consultation, 1 hour. Surveys health, disease, curing, and nutrition in a cross-cultural perspective. Covers how different cultural groups consider disease, health maintenance, and healing; how traditional beliefs about health and nutrition arise; and what one can and cannot learn from traditional health seeking practices. Credit is awarded for one of the following ANTH 020 or ANTH 020S. Cross-listed with ANTH 020 (and 20S).

ENGL 022 Writing Red 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Indigenous perspectives on the more-than-human world that focuses on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), animal studies, Indigenous sustainability practices and epistemologies, health disparities, and climate change through the lens of literary and visual culture studies and theories.
GSST013/GSST 013S Gender and Disability 5 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour; extra reading, 2 hours. Examines gender and disability from a feminist perspective. Explores how gender and disability shape all aspects of social life: institutions, identities, bodies, discourses. Introduces feminist and queer theories of disability. Critically engages with societal responses to disability such as eugenics, exclusion, and institutionalization. Considers possibilities for feminist disability justice. Credit is awarded for one of the following GSST 013S or GSST 013.

HIST 042 Medical Racism, Eugenics and the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. Grapples with the history of racism, eugenics and medicine in 20th-century United States, through close study of the Tuskegee Study of Untreated Syphilis (1932-1972). Examines medical racism and healthcare activism before, during and after the Tuskegee Study.

SEHE 010 Climate Change and Health Equity 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Introduces the health impacts associated with climate change in local and global contexts. Addresses shifting temperatures, extreme weather events, sea level rise, and other climate effects, and related outcomes in respiratory, cardiovascular, reproductive, and mental health, as well as infectious diseases and injuries.

SEHE 015 Giving Birth 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hours; activity 1 hours; term paper 1 hours. Examines the history of childbirth methods from the medieval period to the present. Compares obstetrics to alternative models of maternity care including midwifery care, homebirth, and traditional birth attendants in the global South. Considers health equity in the context of maternal care and childbirth.

MHHS 001 Introduction to Medical and Health Humanities 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity, 2 hours; extra reading, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Introduces medical and health humanities. Explores the importance of humanities and arts to medicine, the diverse understandings of health and illness, and the complex social and economic forces that inform how people are cared for during times of illness. Mandatory course in the Medical and Health Humanities minor.

PHIL 009/PHIL 009H Biomedical Ethics 4 Lecture, 3 hours, discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Introduces the major camps in ethical theory - utilitarianism, deontology, virtue ethics, and feminist ethics. Applies these theories to critically examine contemporary issues in bioethics. Includes stem-cell research, assisted reproductive technologies, contract gestation, maternal-fetal conflicts, genetic and pharmacological enhancements, access to health care, and physician-assisted suicide. Credit is awarded for only one of PHIL 009 or PHIL 009H.
SEHE 123 Climate Change and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Interdisciplinary, critical examination of the social dimensions of climate change. Focuses on global and subnational variation in contemporary societies’ vulnerabilities and capacities to adapt to climate change. Topics include: gender and agricultural production; employment and social income support; migration and human settlement assistance; population policy; poverty and socio-economic inequality; intersectionality and disaster relief; determinants of human health.

SEHE 124 Queer & Trans Ecologies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Course takes an intersectional approach to exploring how race, gender (including trans, genderqueer, and nonbinary folx), sexuality, disability, and class shape experiences of environmental and climate-based impacts, as well as approaches to activism.

SEHE 126 Toxic Bodies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course explores the embodied effects of various kinds of toxic environmental exposures in local, national, and transnational contexts. It addresses the effects of exposure to radiation, polluted air, water, soil, and food. It also surveys the history and current manifestations of community based and policy oriented responses.

SEHE 136 Population, Environment, and Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course addresses theories and concepts linking population growth to environmental change, and the development interventions and social movements that have arisen from them. Specifically, it explores neo Malthusianism and anti-Malthusianism, population control, transnational sexual and reproductive health and rights organizing, reproductive justice, population-health-environment programs, international family planning policies, and the role of contemporary youth advocacy.

SEHE 142 Toxic Jobs and Healthier Futures: Health and Work in the United States 4 Lecture 3 hours; Extra reading 1 hour; Research 1 hour; Written work 1 hour. This class provides an overview of research on the interconnections between health and work in the contemporary United States, including comparative and historical perspectives on these topics. It also examines research on occupational health, how work and employment impact health outcomes and access to health care, and the work experiences of health care providers. It also considers research on the role of policies and organized efforts by workers and/or their allies and clients to improve health and well-being at work and in the community.

SEHE 157 Global Environmental Change and Mental Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the
instructor. Introduces mental health concepts of disorder, distress, well-being, and resilience in the context of global environmental change. Focuses on research and public health policy related to: climate change impacts on mental health and well-being; social and environmental justice challenges associated with mental health; individual and community resilience and psychosocial adaptation to climate-related environmental change. Topics include: the psychology of climate change denial; ecological grief and mourning; mindful response to extreme weather events and natural disasters; and best practices for coping with environmental change.

GSST 171 Environmental Health and Social Justice 4 Lecture, 3 hours; activity 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 021; or consent of instructor. Interdisciplinary examination of the relationship between environmental health and social justice emphasizing gender, race, class, and globalization as analytical lenses. Topics include urban pollution, workplace exposure, industrial catastrophe, invisible environmental hazards, community activism, reproductive health, global capitalism, and new health challenges imposed by climate change.

2b) ANTH 144F Gender, Race, and Medicine 4 Lecture, 3 hours; written work, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the relationship between Western medicine and women, racial minorities, and non-Western citizens. Investigates how gender ideology, racial inequity, and colonialism shape the medical representation of bodies, sexuality, and pathology. Examines how patients have renegotiated their relationships with medicine through health movements and alternative healing practices. Cross-listed with GSST 185.

ANTH 144I Anthropology of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (hiv) 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Crosscultural examination of the global Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) epidemic from an anthropological perspective.

ANTH 144K Drugs and Culture 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. A cross-cultural examination of drug use and its relation to race, class, gender, morality, laws, and health policy.

ECON 129 Health Economics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ECON 102 or ECON 104A. Analyzes the demand and supply of health care. Uses economic models to analyze health care choices of individuals. Covers the market for health insurance and the behavior of for-profit and not-for-profit health care providers regarding price, quantity, and service quality under various market structures.
SEHE 111 Political History of Birth Control Technologies 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hours; activity 1 hours; term paper 1 hours. Examines the relationship between reproductive politics and the development of modern contraceptives. Examines the relationship between birth control technologies and women’s (dis)empowerment. Topics include: eugenics, population control, women’s health movement, anti-abortion movement, racial economy, side effects, hormonal contraceptive methods, IUD, male methods, female condoms, long-acting reversible methods.

SEHE 126 Toxic Bodies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course explores the embodied effects of various kinds of toxic environmental exposures in local, national, and transnational contexts. It addresses the effects of exposure to radiation, polluted air, water, soil, and food. It also surveys the history and current manifestations of community based and policy oriented responses.

SEHE 128 Aging, Life Course, and Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; Research 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course provides students an overview of theories and methods across disciplines for life-course or lifespan approaches to investigate health and aging. It will cover substantive topics on aging and health research, including minority aging, early origins of adult health, linked lives and intergenerational influences, and historical impact, structural constraints, and the role of human agency on health and wellbeing.

SEHE 142 Toxic Jobs and Healthier Futures: Health and Work in the United States 4 Lecture 3 hours; Extra reading 1 hour; Research 1 hour; Written work 1 hour. This class provides an overview of research on the interconnections between health and work in the contemporary United States, including comparative and historical perspectives on these topics. It also examines research on occupational health, how work and employment impact health outcomes and access to health care, and the work experiences of health care providers. It also considers research on the role of policies and organized efforts by workers and/or their allies and clients to improve health and well-being at work and in the community.

SEHE 143 Poverty, Inequality, and Health in the United States 4 Lecture 3 hours, extra reading 1 hours; research 1 hours; term paper 1 hours. This class provides an overview of research on how poverty and social and economic inequalities, including inequalities based on race, nativity, gender, and class affect health, health care, and well being in the U.S. context, considering contemporary, comparative, and historical perspectives on these topics. It also examines research on the impacts of current and alternative social policies and strategies for improving health, well being, and health care access among various groups of low-income people.
SEHE 154 The Good, the Bad and the Ugly: Scientific Research on Inequalities and Well-being  4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading 2 hours, activity 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Investigates scientific approaches to the study of inequalities, well-being and their relationship. The course is organized into two sections. The first half focuses on social inequalities and various implicit and explicit biases. The second half covers the brighter side of human relationships including happiness, diversity and sustainable living practices.

SEHE 157 Global Environmental Change and Mental Health  4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Introduces mental health concepts of disorder, distress, well-being, and resilience in the context of global environmental change. Focuses on research and public health policy related to: climate change impacts on mental health and well-being; social and environmental justice challenges associated with mental health; individual and community resilience and psychosocial adaptation to climate-related environmental change. Topics include: the psychology of climate change denial; ecological grief and mourning; mindful response to extreme weather events and natural disasters; and best practices for coping with environmental change.

HIST 107 Disease and Society  4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Covers a world history of disease and how it relates to cultural shocks, environmental change, and survival. Evaluates the complex and reciprocal relationship between illness and society, and the historical dynamics around power, race, gender, and class which define disease and shape life chances, medicine and health.

MCS 160 Race, State Violence, and Incarceration in the U.S.  4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 6 hours; research, 1 hour; term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 010 with a grade of C- or better; or consent of instructor. Course offers a historical, analytical, and theoretical examination of the cultural formation of criminalization and incarceration in the United States. Contextualizes the US carceral regime’s roots in the cultural-political structures of racial chattel slavery, land conquest, settler colonization, and the statecraft of anti-Black violence.

SOC 120 Society and Mental Health  4 Units, Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Covers the social causes and patterns of mental health and disorder in the United States. Examines scientific research on the social determinants of mental health and disorder, inequalities of mental health and access to mental health care and US mental health care policies.

SOC 127 Sociological Determinants of Health  4 Units, Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 5 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 with a grade of C- or better or SOC 001H with a grade of C- or better; or consent of instructor. Introduces the role that social
factors play in shaping the occurrence and distribution of disease and death in populations with an emphasis on socioeconomic status, racism, social relationships and social stress. A particular emphasis is placed on sociological origins of health inequalities.

2c)

ANTH 144N Anthropology of Global Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): restricted to class level standing of junior, or senior; or consent of instructor. Examines the overlaps, debates, and potential of medical anthropology to address contemporary issues in global health. Focuses on how the historical development, theoretical frameworks, methodological approaches, and ethical debates within medical anthropology can contribute to a just and inclusive version of “global health.”

SEHE 130 Health and the Body Politic. 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hours; activity 1 hours; term paper 1 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the relationships between government policy and health focusing on bodies as sites for enacting and contesting power. Topics include health and the state, health and globalization, shifting healthcare landscapes, body as agents, and liberation theology.

SEHE 131 Pandemics and Politics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the intersection of politics and disease pandemics. Covers state and society responses to historical and recent pandemics, comparing across countries. Builds on ideas from the study of political institutions, public opinion, social movements, public policy, and public administration. Topics include health inequities, colonial legacies, and pandemic othering and blame. Cross-listed with POSC 1XX.

SEHE 134 Health and Disability Activism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Analyzes social movement activism around medicine, health and disability. Topics include Black Panther Party survival programs, medicine and civil rights, occupational safety, HIV/AIDS, environmental justice, genetic testing, food systems, disability rights and healthcare access.

SEHE 136 Population, Environment, and Development 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 1 hour, term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. This course addresses theories and concepts linking population growth to environmental change, and the development interventions and social movements that have arisen from them. Specifically, it explores neo-Malthusianism and anti-Malthusianism, population control, transnational sexual and reproductive health and rights organizing, reproductive justice, population-health-environment programs, international family planning policies, and the role of contemporary youth advocacy.
SEHE 140 Harm Reduction and Social Justice 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Considers how communities address harm from a social justice standpoint. Examines theories of justice and healing related to drug addiction, violence and trauma; evaluates practices of harm reduction in social activism and public health. Considers practices of community accountability, restorative and transformative justice, which seek to repair collective damage.

SEHE 150 Healing and Historical Trauma 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hour; activity 1 hour; term paper 1 hour. Analyzes health and healing through the framework of historical trauma. Through specific case studies such as obesity and diabetes, stress, respiratory diseases and disability, evaluates the bodily legacies of colonization, racism, misogyny and ableism. Considers the ways in which medical experts and community groups structure healing in light of historical trauma.

SEHE 189E Medical Spanish in Clinical and Public Health Settings, 4 Lecture, 3 hours; experiential learning, 4 hours. Prerequisites: SPN 001, SPN 002; SPN 003; SPN 004; SPN 005; SPN 006; ANTH 020. Focuses on Spanish-language learning in clinical and public health settings. Includes classroom instruction and experiential learning opportunities in Spanish-speaking clinics and public health contexts in inland southern California. Lays a foundation to understand how structure and inequality influence patient and population health and well-being.

SEHE 189F Medical Spanish in Research Settings, 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research involvement, 4 hours. Prerequisites: SPN 001, SPN 002; SPN 003; SPN 004; SPN 005; SPN 006; ANTH 020. Focuses on Spanish-language learning in health disparities research. Includes classroom instruction and involvement in research studies engaging Spanish-speaking immigrant communities. Lays a foundation to understand inequality in health among Spanish-speaking immigrant communities.

ETST 116 Medicine Ways of Native Americans 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the medical history of Native Americans. Focuses on traditional Native American medicine and how Western diseases, medical practices, health care, and policies influenced American Indian health. Topics include medicine people, rituals, ceremonies, smallpox, measles, influenza, anomic, accidents, diabetes, suicides, mental illness, and murders. Cross-listed with HIST 147.

MCS 106 Disability Culture and Media 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hours; written work, 1 hours; activity, 1 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines disability rights politics and activism through cultural production. Explores access to
art production, aesthetics and disability, and the role of art in social change. Surveys several genres of art production including dance, theatre, language and visual arts, and film and video.

PHIL 167 Biomedical Ethics 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A philosophical discussion of newly emerging issues, both ethical and social, in biology and medicine, such as genetic engineering, euthanasia, experimentation with human subjects, abortion, behavior control, and patient’s right to know.

POSC 180/POSC 180S The Politics of Public Health 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Focuses on the social, environmental, and political factors that shape population health. Utilizes public health topics to illustrate the fundamental problems of the politics of regulation and social policy. Credit is awarded for only one of POSC 180 or POSC 180S.

RLST 110 Yoga: Ancient and Modern 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 1 hour; research, 1 hour; term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Investigates yoga in its transition from an ancient Indic system of contemplative practice to its modern postural forms. Engages the history of yoga in India and its primary texts and current cultural and religious debates activated through the globalization of modern postural yoga.

RLST 122 Medicine and Asian Religions in Global Circulation 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individualized study, 6 hours; research, 1 hour; term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): Restricted to class level standing of Sophomore, Junior, or Senior. Considers the relationship between religious cosmologies, the organization of knowledge, and the practices for managing bodily and natural order that underpin three major medical traditions of Asia in premodern and modern periods: Ayurveda, Traditional Chinese Medicine, and Tibet’s Four Tantra Tradition.

2d)

ANTH 114 Blackness and Mass Incarceration 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent by instructor. Introduction to the data, policy, political debates, and grassroots initiatives addressing unprecedented current incarceration in the United States. Critically investigates role of race and blackness in incarceration trends, new trends in policy, and alternatives to incarceration.

ANTH 127 Political Anthropology 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or ANTH 001H or ANTH 001W or consent of instructor. Examines different overt and covert means by which power and social differentiation are produced, perpetuated, and challenged in societies across the world. Studies the politics of culture, ethnicity, nationalism, and gender. Credit is awarded for only one of ANTH 127 or ANTH 127S.

ANTH 174 Afro-American Experience in the U.S. 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours.
Prerequisite(s): ANTH 001 or consent of Instructor. Explores the racial politics of African American cultures and identities in juxtaposition with the making of the American nationhood and global capitalism. Critically examines the various anthropological discourses about African Americanness and portrays African Americans as nation-builders.

ETST 102 The Political Economy of Race and Class 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. This course explores the interrelationships among race, class, ethnicity, and the operation of market processes. Readings for this course will center on the comparative economic well-being of African Americans, Chicanos, Asian Americans, and Native Americans.

ETST 111 Ethnic Politics: Practicum in Political Change 4 Lecture, 3 hours; practicum, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Studies theories and practices of comparative ethnic political change. Examines topics intrinsic to the understanding of how to effect political change within the Chicano, African American, Asian American, Native American, and other ethnic communities, as well as the dominant societies.

ETST 113 Black Feminist Theory and Activism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Considers the writings and collective organizational strategies of African American women intellectuals and activists developed in response to the ways racial, sexual, and economic oppression work interdependently and are institutionalized.

ETST 163E Introduction to Queer Studies 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the intersections between the social construction of sexuality and the political economy of capitalism. Focuses on the United States. Includes the legacies of queer social movement and coalition building as well as the role of the contemporary United States where capital circulates and sexual identities are produced, contested, and negotiated.

ETST 179 Race and the Environment: Nature, Colonialism, and Justice 4 Lecture 3 hours; extra reading 1 hours; term paper 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the interdependent relationships between race and environment through law, policy, culture, geography, (settler) colonialism, and (racial) capitalism, focused on the US. Topics include environmental and climate justice, decolonial and abolitionist thought, urban political ecology, and the social constructions of human, nonhuman, and "nature".

GSST 107 Feminisms, Race, and Antiracisms: Critical Theories and Intersectional Perspectives 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines how pathbreaking scholarship by women of color in the United States and developing countries has been central to rethinking theoretical foundations and developing new ways of knowing, understanding, and practicing politics. Focuses on scholarship that critiques and analyzes issues concerning race, antiracism, human rights, citizenship, empire, globalization, and social justice.

GSST 109 Women, Politics, and Social Movements: Global Perspectives 4 Lecture, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001S or GSST 001H or GSST 020 or
GSST 020H; or consent of instructor. Introduction to Third World women’s politics. Covers women’s politics from a global perspective emphasizing South Asia, subSaharan Africa, and the Caribbean.

GSST 113 Queer Theory 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001S or GSST 001H or LGBS 001. Examines queer theory’s origins and relation to gender and sexuality studies. Critically explores queer of color critique and the intersections of race, class, and gender with sexuality. Looks at other interventions into the field of queer theory and key concepts and current debates.

GSST 134 Queer Identities and Movements in the United States 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines important twentieth- and twenty-first century developments in queer culture and activism in the United States. Focuses on the origins of sexual identity; the relationship between sexuality, race, and gender; queer representation in art and media; and central issues in queer theory. Cross-listed with LGBS 134.

GSST 136 Women and Grassroots Organizing 4 Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 1 hour; individual study, 1 hour; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S or GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S. Examines women’s grassroots activism and organizing within the context of political and social structures, culture, and history at the local and global levels. Employs comparative and global perspectives to understand the diversity of women’s issues and women’s activism.

GSST 176 Gender, Human Rights, and Transnationalism 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 2 hours; written work, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the history and evolution of human rights discourse, discourses of liberation, and critical responses to the strategy of framing women’s rights as human rights in a comparative, transnational framework.

GSST 181 Feminisms and Environmentalisms 4 Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): GSST 001 or GSST 001H or GSST 001S; GSST 020 or GSST 020H or GSST 020S or GSST 020L. Examines how gender shapes our relationships with and approaches to environmental problems in the United States and globally. Investigates intersections between feminist concerns (health, reproduction, mothering, gender equity, and social justice) and environmental issues (conservation, pollution and global warming, and sustainability).

MCS 109 Algorithms and Everyday Life 4 Seminar, 3 hours; individualized study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 005 with a grade C- or better. Examines technologies including artificial intelligence, Tinder, and Uber to examine cultures of algorithms, data, and code. Explores the use of algorithms to shape futures, govern bodies, advance systemic violence, and conceal injustices. Also addresses the use of data to intervene in these unjust data scapes.

MCS 160 Race, State Violence, and Incarceration in the U.S. 4 Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 6 hours; research, 1 hour; term paper, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): MCS 010 with a grade of C- or better; or consent of instructor. Course offers a historical, analytical, and theoretical
examination of the cultural formation of criminalization and incarceration in the United States. Contextualizes the US carceral regime’s roots in the cultural-political structures of racial chattel slavery, land conquest, settler colonization, and the statecraft of anti-Black violence.

MCS 189 Political Culture of Race and Policing 4 Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): MCS 010; Or the consent of instructor; Offers a critical historical and theoretical approach to the politics and culture of United States police and policing. Course will focus on how racist state violence articulates through discourses of personal/community safety, peacekeeping, “law and order,” and (declared and undeclared) domestic warfare.

SOC 161 Immigration and Society 4 Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): SOC 001 or SOC 001H. Analyzes the origins of immigration and its nature, patterns, and trends in the twentieth century in Western societies, with special emphasis on the United States. Topics include theories of immigration, causes of immigration, sources of immigrants, immigration laws, reactions to immigrants, and the effects of immigration on the host society.

2e)

SEHE 180 Quantitative Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Survey of quantitative methods frequently used in Environmental Studies, focusing on statistical methods and geospatial data analysis. Provides methodological foundation and tools needed to conduct and understand quantitative data and spatial analysis relevant to social scientific inquiry about the natural environment and sustainability.

SEHE 181 Qualitative Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 4 Lecture, 3 hours, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Introduction to the epistemology of qualitative social science and survey of qualitative methods frequently used in Environmental Studies. Focuses on: historical and comparative case study analysis, ethnography, actor-network analysis, environmental narrative and discourse analysis. Provides methodological foundation and tools needed to conduct and understand qualitative data and analysis relevant to social scientific inquiry about the natural environment and sustainability.

SEHE 182 Community Based and Participatory Approaches to Research in Health, Environment and Sustainability 5 Lecture, 3 hours, Discussion, 1 hour, extra reading, 2 hours, research, 1 hour, practicum, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper division standing or consent of the instructor. Research seminar in Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) and Participatory Action Research (PAR), two related approaches to collaborative knowledge production and action designed to address environmental and/or health disparities at the community level. Students will apply community based, and participatory research strategies in a project that builds on community partnerships previously initiated by the instructor.

SEHE 193 Capstone Prerequisite(s): Upper division standing. Under the guidance of an SEHE faculty member, completion of a capstone project that synthesizes and integrates the knowledge and skills obtained throughout the program. Develops skills in the formulation and selection of
research questions on topics in Society, Environment and Health Equity. Includes the identification of research questions and the use of primary or secondary data, and theory to seek answers. Addresses techniques in the organization and presentation of writing.

**SEHE 197 Research for Undergraduates** (1 to 4) variable hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing with consent of instructor. Directed original research. Graded (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeatable.

**SEHE 198I Individual Internship** (1-12) laboratory, 4-36 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of instructor and upper-division standing. Individual interns will learn about the policies and operations of cooperating agencies, such as community organizations, social service agencies, clinics and hospitals. Students will become familiar with the on-going operations of these organizations, and will conduct relevant research under faculty supervision. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 16 units.

**SEHE 199 Senior Research** (1-5) Outside research, 3-12 hours. Prerequisite(s): SEHE 191 and consent of instructor; not open to students in the University Honors Program. Work individually with the instructor to continue and expand a research paper or project begun in an SEHE course. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units.

**SEHE 199H Senior Honors Research** (1-5) Outside research, 3-15 hours. Prerequisite(s): admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. Offers the opportunity for directed research at an honors level. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units.
Appendix D: Employment Record of Sustainability Studies Alumni

A search of the website LinkedIn during September 2022 and found 97 UCR Sustainability Studies alums with information on their paths after graduation (2017–2021). Information on whether individuals came from CNAS was not readily available. One in five have advanced to a master’s degree to apply themselves to a specific area of sustainability or another profession. The majority of alum work in positions that are related to environmental sustainability or social justice in one way or another. Here is a summary of the findings:

21 alum pursued or are pursuing a Master’s Degree:
UCR Master of Public Policy (6), UCR MBA, USC Master of City Planning, University of Wisconsin MS in Sustainable Management, UC Davis MS in Environmental Policy and Management, San Diego State University MA in City Planning, UCI MA in Urban and Regional Planning, Johns Hopkins University MS in Environmental Science and Policy, University of Redlands Master of Education, Keck Graduate Institute Master of Business Science, Brandon University Master of Business Administration, Cal Baptist University MS in Psychology, University of Redlands MA in Organizational Leadership, Arizona State University Master of Technology in Information Technology, Madonna University MS in Human Leadership, University of Arizona Masters in Public Health (One alum is in the Ph.D. program in Ecology at UC Davis)

Several others have pursued other forms of continuing education, for example: Leed Certifications, Data Analytics, Speech Pathology, Aquarium Science, Insurance License, CompTIAA+, and GIS.

The majority of the Sustainability Studies alum, whose information we were able to recover from LinkedIn, are working in fields or positions that are related to environmental sustainability (38) or social justice (14). Most have been involved in sustainability or social justice work or volunteering before and after graduation in one way or another, including Green Campus Action Plan, Office of Sustainability, and CAFE. This information was not recorded for the purpose of this report.

Current Employment of UCR Sustainability Studies Class of 2017–2021:
Non-profit 18 (+2 overlap with health)
Government 13
Education 13
Health related 10
For-profit 32
Law 1
Other 10 (Attending school or volunteering)
Total 96
Job placement examples:

Non-profit organizations:
California Conservation Corps Foundation, Water Education for Latino Leaders, Japanese Community Youth Council (sustainability content producer), The Sustainability Institute, Climate Resolve, One Cool Earth, Pathways Management Group (education project manager), Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (policy advocate), OC API Community Alliance (policy intern), National Community Renaissance (Affordable Housing), Southern California Mountains Foundation

Government:
San Francisco Recreation & Park Department (environmental educator), US Forest Service, Inland Empire Utilities (composting assistant), US EPA (environmental protection trainee), City of El Cajon (Administrative/Planning Intern), Hawaii State Energy Office (community engagement specialist), EPA Regional WaterBoard, Riverside County (recycling specialist), California State Assembly (field representative), CivicSpark/Americorps (regional coordinator)

Education:
UCR CNAS BEES (contracts and grants analyst), ICEF Public Schools (science teacher), UC Cooperative Extension (volunteer service coordinator), USC Department of Population & Public Health (Research Project Specialist), Woodbury University (Community Outreach), UCR (Academic Advisor for Biology)

Health:
Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (prevention navigator), AIDS Healthcare Foundation (HIV testing counselor), IECP (Behavioral Therapist),

For-profit:
Mark Thomas (Urban planning consultant), Avocado Green Brands (sustainable evolution team), Confluence Environmental Field Services (sampling technician), Triumvirate Waste Management (environmental specialist), Fireclay Tile (environmental health and safety specialist), Brimstone (associate chief of staff, LEED holder), Babcock Laboratories, VCA Green (Project administrator, LEED holder)

We will state in our documents and websites that the Environmental Studies program will prepare students to make career choices that involve: promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; or continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education
in sustainability, public policy, social science, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.
May 18, 2022

Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division
Academic Senate
University of California, Riverside

Dear Prof. Stajich,

I am pleased to make formal notification to the Senate of the CHASS endorsement of the Department of Black Study and the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity. Please feel free to share this endorsement with all Senate members at the May 24 divisional meeting.

I made this endorsement public late last month, at my State of the College address (April 27, 2022). Here, I restate the importance of these two units to our academic and intellectual communities, to student success, to retention of Black students, and to a strengthened future of inclusive faculty recruitment and development.

I also restate that the lingering persistence of pandemic-related constraints across the College, compounded by troublesome trends in undergraduate enrollments, introduce headwinds in establishing new departments in CHASS. Our faculty and staff have been quite vocal in calling attention to the organizational challenges and the significant understaffing in the Multidisciplinary Unit, where both new departments will be housed at the outset. Nonetheless, the members of the Black Study Initiative have shown the energy and vision necessary for success on a tight budget and lean staffing. They have garnered support from across campus, and have envisioned important partnerships with other schools and colleges at UCR, community organizations, and foundations. A comparable case is to be made for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity.

Both initiatives have the boost of a UCOP Advancing Faculty Diversity funded proposal “Epistemologies in Black Study, Health & Environmental Inequities.” This $500K grant, approved last summer just before I stepped into my current role, provides financial investment and faculty development opportunities for four new Academic Senate faculty. Yesterday, I wrote to Vice Provost Susan Carlson to restate our commitments to the timely fulfillment of the grant’s deliverables.
Each of the new departments, when approved, will be responsible for the immediate tasks of space reallocation, student recruitment, and communications. Each faculty member seeking any FTE transfer into a new unit will have to work with their existing home department to develop memoranda of understanding about shared or relinquished instructional activities, space, sponsored research, and Bylaw 55 rights. Staff support will initially have to be drawn from existing personnel, though I am hopeful that I can secure new staff leadership in the MDU to aid the various departments and research centers in operational efficiencies and climate improvements.

As I understand, each department will also be working with the CHASS Executive Committee and the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to organize new undergraduate degree programs. Thankfully, some of this work has already been mapped out in the proposals, and a BA in Sustainability Studies is already thriving within the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies. When new curricula are in place, the departments will be invited to submit requests for a permanent allocation of teaching assistantships and/or temporary teaching support, subject to available resources and enrollment needs. Under the leadership of a new Associate Dean, CHASS Academic Advising will already begin to build the new majors into a vision and metrics of student success and opportunity. In the immediate term, I give active encouragement to each new unit to stand up robust summer term offerings, for curricular visibility and for the generation of discretionary revenue.

Unit leadership will in all likelihood begin as interim. However, I will commit to a national recruitment for a chair of each new unit. I make this offer as part of a larger strategy of strengthening infrastructure, leadership, curriculum, and degree offerings in black studies and environmental, sustainability, and health equity studies across CHASS and Campus.

Respectfully,

Daryle Williams
Professor and Dean

Cc
joão vargas, Chair, BSI
Chikako Takeshita
April 11, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

Faculty of the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department have had many thoughtful conversations about the best institutional home for our current major in Sustainability Studies. Over the past year, we have come to a clear consensus that the proposed department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) is the major’s ideal home.

Sustainability Studies is a relatively new major to our department, created as a legacy project by Professor Emeritus Marguerite Waller. Placing Sustainability Studies in a feminist studies department was a bold, innovative, and exciting approach, initially welcomed by our faculty. However, as the major grew rapidly, it became clear that the department did not have the resources to keep pace with the growth of Sustainability Studies without directing all FTE to the SUST degree at the expense of the department’s many other research and teaching specializations. Moving the Sustainability Studies major to a new home in ESHE makes sense from a curricular and programmatic perspective, and would allow Gender and Sexuality Studies to continue to grow and expand in ways that are commensurate with our long-term vision as a department.

We deeply respect our colleagues in Sustainability Studies and their decision to departmentalize. This is how new disciplines and departments are formed. The decision to relocate the Sustainability Studies degree is ESHE is a harmonious one, with GSSTT colleagues expressing a strong wish for our colleagues in Sustainability Studies to be able to invest in the growth of their program and build partnerships with disciplines outside of gender and sexuality studies.

Sincerely,

Jane Ward
Professor and Chair
Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies
University of California at Riverside
March 18, 2022

Academic Senate
Campus Administration
University of California, Riverside

Re: Proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposal to the UCR Faculty Senate for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE). I understand that if approved, ESHE will be a new academic unit within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS).

I believe that the proposed department will address some of the most important health challenges of our time. It will provide training to UCR undergraduate students to address health issues related to climate change, sustainability, and the widening global inequities that affect our health and wellbeing. The department will offer innovative new educational opportunities for undergraduate students, equipping them with the critical skills needed to successfully pursue graduate training and careers in medicine, public health, health humanities, and related fields.

Speaking as a chair and faculty member in the UCR School of Medicine (SOM), I believe that the new department will serve as a critical bridge between CHASS and the SOM. I envision three important consequences of this bridge. First, ESHE will serve as a foundation for CHASS and SOM scholars, as well as scholars from other schools (e.g., Public Policy, Engineering, CNAS, Education), to engage in multidisciplinary dialogue on the critical and interrelated issues of environment, sustainability, and health equity. This should lead to important scholarly collaborations on these topics, as well as competitive proposals for funding from the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Institutes of Health, and other federal, state, and foundation funders.

Second, I believe that ESHE will serve as a critical pathway for undergraduate students—especially students who are underrepresented in public health and medicine—to be introduced to career options in public health and medicine. As you may be aware, we are working with a group of colleagues from across campus to establish an interdepartmental Master of Public Health degree program here at UCR. ESHE should serve as an excellent conduit for UCR undergraduates to pursue an MPH or medical degree, either at UCR or elsewhere.

Finally, the strong emphasis in the ESHE proposal on community engagement and addressing local health issues is in close alignment with the missions of the UCR SOM, including our Center for Healthy Communities. I believe ESHE will create synergies that will enhance our ability in the SOM meet our mission goals of increasing the health workforce and positively
impacting population health--including reducing health disparities--in Inland Southern California.

I offer my strongest possible support for the proposed program.

Sincerely,

Mark Wolfson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Social Medicine, Population and Public Health
William R. and S. Sue Johnson Endowed Chair
University of California, Riverside | School of Medicine
3333 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501
Phone: (951) 715-2709
Email: mark.wolfson@medsch.ucr.edu
March 3, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

I have reviewed the proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at UCR and fully support it.

The establishment of this proposed new department would help to expand and enrich course offerings for UCR students and better serve students interested in understanding and responding to some of the most pressing urban problems locally and around the world that are related to public and environmental health and the growing climate crisis.

The proposed department brings together an exciting and talented group of scholars across the disciplines whose research and teaching link problems related to public health, environment, and sustainability to larger systems of inequality; they also link the solutions to such pressing problems to movements for greater equity within the region, nation, and globally.

This proposed ESHE department would help to further enrich the education and training of UCR students and help to better prepare them for a variety of graduate programs and careers related to public health, the environment, and sustainability. Occupations in these inter-related fields, and interest in them among UCR students, are on the rise both regionally and nationally, especially given recent health crises, aging populations, and rising environmental problems that greatly affecting urban residents both locally and around the world; new statewide and national funding initiatives seeking to address those problems are also contributing to increased interest in, and demand for, greater training in these fields. For all these reasons, I strongly support the proposal to establish the new ESHE Department.

Sincerely,

Patricia Morton
Chair, Urban Studies Program
April 5th, 2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing on behalf of the Bourns College of Engineering-Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) in enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. Created in response to the Future Fluent Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability,” this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university.

The Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability and the common good. ESHQ will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in related workforce.

As Director of CE-CERT and also serving as UCR’s Faculty Director of Sustainability, I am eager to see new courses offered by ESHQ that will further our curricular goals through innovative pedagogies that connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. I fully support the development of Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside.

Sincerely,

Matthew Barth
Yeager Families Professor of Engineering
Director, Center for Environmental Research and Technology
UCR Faculty Director of Sustainability
University of California, Riverside
April 2021

To members of the UCR Academic Senate,

The Office of Sustainability at the University of California, Riverside is writing in support of the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

In our office, we organize and facilitate sustainability-oriented curriculum and research, and student sustainability projects. In this role, it is clear that our students are deeply interested in sustainability, addressing climate change and other environmental damage, and addressing inequities borne by marginalized communities. Indeed, the students believe, as do we, that addressing these issues is one of the principal struggles of their generation. The proposed department will help address this growing demand for sustainability-oriented curriculum and research by accommodating more student sustainability majors and broadening the scope of sustainability curriculum in CHASS.

Sustainability is becoming an increasingly interdisciplinary subject. It is important for those working on the science and technology aspects of sustainability to also understand the policies, incentives, and structures that have led to ecological breakdown, environmental racism and health inequities. Therefore, it is exciting that this new department will be offering a minor for students in other majors, and especially for those in other colleges (e.g. CNAS and BCOE). These future scientists and engineers can now leave UCR with a better understanding of the social impacts of their work.

The Office of Sustainability is excited about the possibility for student participation in making changes on campus and within the UC system in regards to climate change. We hope to partner with the new department to facilitate internships, experiential learning, and within courses as relevant. While there has more than a decade of campus sustainability efforts within the UC system, there is a growing realization that those changes have been operations based, and have not fully addressed social and cultural changes or solutions. We are excited that this department would be make these concepts and understandings central to their curriculum and learning. It’s exactly what the world needs today.

The UCR Office of Sustainability

Matthew Barth    Brian Siana
Director of Academic Sustainability  Associate Director of Academic Sustainability

Fortino Morales    Francis Mitalo
Sustainability Officer  Sustainability Program Coordinator
04/09/2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Statistics at UC Riverside College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences in enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. Created in response to the Future Fluent Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability,” this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university. The campus effort in forming this new department on a timely theme is outstanding.

The Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability and the common good. will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in related workforce.

As the Chair of the Department of Statistics, I am eager to see new courses offered by ESHQ that will further our curricular goals through innovative pedagogies that connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. Our department faculty unanimously support the development of Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity and we are also excited to see one of our faculty members is part of this important endeavor. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside.

Sincerely,

Xinping Cui, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Statistics
University of California, Riverside
Tel: (951) 827-2563 | Fax: (951) 827-3286
E-mail: Xinping.Cui@ucr.edu
April 6, 2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Anthropology at UC Riverside in enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new **Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity**. Created in response to the *Future Fluent* Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability,” this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university. It will speak to concerns at the center of contemporary anthropology, include many anthropology courses as electives, and includes anthropology faculty and members of other departments trained in anthropology among its leaders.

Moreover, the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability and the common good. ESHQ will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in related workforce.

As Acting Chair of the Department of Anthropology, I am eager to see new courses offered by ESHQ that will further our curricular goals through innovative pedagogies that connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. I fully support the development of **Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity**, and welcome the many synergies between its programming and that of my own Department. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside, and its creation will further enhance the university’s reputation as a site of critical engagement with inequality and diversity.

Sincerely,

Derick A. Fay, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Acting Chair
Department of Anthropology
May 10, 2021

Academic Senate
Campus Administration
University of California, Riverside

Re: Proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) as a new academic unit within the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (CHASS). This is a timely proposal that addresses a critically important need among undergraduate programs. While many of the elements of the proposal draw from existing strengths among multiple units across campus, it provides an important opportunity to launch an innovative new integrative program to meet the needs of a new generation of undergraduate students.

My enthusiasm for this program comes from my activities in areas of direct relevance to this proposal. First, I have always had a long standing interest in interdisciplinary studies of relevance to medical humanities, starting from my undergraduate liberal arts education, and continuing through my activities since arriving on campus in 2006, including teaching an Ignition Seminar in the Undergraduate Honors program, to participating in a number of programs in the Center for Ideas and Society (including recently being added to the CIS Advisory Board). These reflect my conviction that health sciences is also necessarily a human(ities) subject, and that the best approaches to health care must also identify with the needs of the human patient.

Second, I am founding Director of the BREATHE Center (that is, Bridging Regional Ecology, Aerosolized Toxins, and Health Effects), which is a broadly interdisciplinary collaborative of researchers across campus studying topics related to air quality and health effects. Faculty recruitments under the original BREATHE cluster proposal included five hires in the original cluster with two additional hires resulting from the searches. These hires reflect the truly interdisciplinary nature of the research, which includes two hires in CHASS, one in BCOE, two in CNAS, and two in SOM. The research themes among the BREATHE faculty broadly integrate humanities, engineering, environmental sciences, and biomedical research, which I believe illustrates and mirrors quite well the intent of the proposed ESHQ department.

Third, I am Principal Investigator and co-Director (with Juliet McMullin) of the NIH-funded U54 Center for Health Disparities Research at UCR, a new center entirely funded by extramural (NIH) funds, establishing a new model for research centers on campus. This center aims to train and promote a new generation of researchers in topics related to health disparities, social equity, and community engagement. The NIH and other agencies, including the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have begun to recognize the critical need to promote work in environmental and social justice to address health needs, and the necessary role of community networks as full partners in the research. The growth in attention and funding in this area provides important opportunities for undergraduate education and future career opportunities,
and the ESHQ programs will be timely in helping to launch UCR students in entirely new types of careers of service to the community. The fact that so many UCR students are first generation and from underserved communities will mean that the ESHQ programs can promote a pipeline of workers in areas such as medicine and public policy that also draws directly from the communities most in need of this important work.

While this proposal does not yet include graduate programs, the existing Designated Emphasis in Medical Humanities may yet pave the way for graduate programs in this area. Accordingly, the Center for Health Disparities Research hopes to be instrumental in providing training and research opportunities for graduate and post-graduate researchers in this area as the ESHQ department grows.

While it is not an exclusive goal of the department and undergraduate programs, I am most excited by the potential of the undergraduate program in health equity to build a pool of students that will be ideal candidates for the Thomas Haider Program at the UCR School of Medicine. This program is a pathway to the UCR School of Medicine, and was created by Dr. Thomas Haider, who has long supported the mission of the School of Medicine to train physicians for service to the inland California underserved communities. The goals of the ESHQ undergraduate programs will clearly imbue the students with an appreciation of the issues of racial and social equity, and a dedication to the mission of the SOM.

Again, I reiterate my strong enthusiasm for the proposed department and its potential to integrate a host of complementary topics in environmental and social justice that will have a major impact on campus intellectual and community life. I look forward to seeing this promise come to fruition, and to working actively with the department as it grows.

Sincerely,

David D. Lo, M.D., Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor of Biomedical Sciences
Senior Associate Dean, Research
School of Medicine

Founding Director, BREATHE Center
Contact PI, Co-Director, U54 Center for Health Disparities Research at UCR
April 5, 2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing on behalf of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences in enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity. Created in response to the Future Fluent Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability,” this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the University. It is important to supply tools for both scientific and critical thinking to the preparation of students pursuing this field, making partnerships between CNAS departments and the new CHASS program essential.

The Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further our campus’ research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values of social justice, sustainability, and the common good. ESHW will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy, and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in the related workforce.

As Chair of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, I can attest that my colleagues and I are eager to see new courses offered by ESHQ that will further our curricular goals through innovative pedagogies that connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. The Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences had a long history of active research, teaching, and outreach addressing sustainability and climate change. Our lower division course offerings covering these and related topics are taken by hundreds of students from the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences each year. We are excited to welcome students from the newly proposed B.A., B.S., and minor in Environmental and Sustainability Studies into these courses. Moreover, we welcome students from these programs into our multiple upper-division offerings in Climate Change. Our faculty have previously taught students from the existing Sustainability Studies Major in these upper division courses with great success. Finally, courses developed by the ESHQ department are sure to interest majors in our department, particularly those focused on Climate Change. We wholeheartedly support the opportunity for our students to gain the rich interdisciplinary perspective that these courses will offer.

Sincerely,

Michael A McKitton, Ph.D.
Chair and Associate Professor of Geology
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences
michael.mckibben@ucr.edu
(951) 581-5459 (cell)
April 15, 2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at UC Riverside School of Medicine to voice my enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. Created in response to the Future Fluent Strategic Plan, to “drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability,” this new department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities addressing environmental and health disparities through the university.

The Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability and the common good. ESHQ will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in related workforce. Such a development is especially important to meet the unmet mental health needs of our region. To provide optimal behavioral health, one must utilize the skills and expertise of a diverse multidisciplinary team. Our faculty and trainees in Psychiatry and Neuroscience are eager to partner with our colleagues from the proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity.

As Chair of Psychiatry and Neuroscience, I am eager to see new courses offered by ESHQ that will further our curricular goals through innovative pedagogies that connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. I fully support the development of Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside.

Sincerely,

Gerald A. Maguire, MD
Professor and Chair, Psychiatry and Neuroscience
May 4, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

The Department of Media & Cultural Studies writes to express our unanimous support for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity. We find the proposal urgent, future-oriented, and fully in keeping with the Strategic Plan of the university. We also believe the subject area of the proposed department to be vital to a sense of the university’s place locally and regionally.

The proposed department responds in a meaningful and pro-active way to UCR’s position as a regional anchor for knowledge-production and employment as well as to the university’s stated core values of social justice, sustainability, and the common good. This new department will serve the Inland Empire and beyond, as well as our local students and community, by preparing students for behavioral, administrative, policy, and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers. Additionally, it will increase the representation of well-prepared BIPOC advocates in the related workforce.

MCS envisions cross-listing a number of our course offerings with this new department. We have offerings in theorizing the Anthropocene, in data-visualization, in sustainability, and in creative/artistic intervention already in our curriculum and are therefore very pleased to see that pedagogical work taken up and extended synergistically by this proposed department. We fully support the development of this new department and are positive that our students at UCR will be well-served by the proposed curriculum.

Sincerely,

Judith Rodenbeck
Associate Professor and Chair
Media & Cultural Studies
March 29, 2021

To the Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing as the current director of the Center for Ideas and Society (CIS) at UC Riverside to support enthusiastically the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity (ESHQ).

Geared to UCR goals of creating knowledge, innovating, helping to drive economic development, and enhancing human, social, and environmental sustainability, this new department will offer exciting new curricular opportunities to UCR students. It will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire and beyond by preparing students for behavioral, administration, policy and advocacy related environmental and healthcare careers and it has the potential of increasing diversity in related workforce areas.

As CIS Director I look forward to the new courses offered by ESHQ as they will further curricular goals through innovative pedagogies and connect undergraduate academics to the many learning opportunities within and beyond the UC Riverside community. Our students will be well-served by this curriculum as part of their education at UC Riverside. Moreover, it will further UCR’s research and educational priorities and respond to its commitment to social justice, sustainability and the common good.

Sincerely,

Georgia Warnke
Director, Center for Ideas and Society
Professor, Political Science
To whom it may concern,

I wish to express my support for the proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) at UCR. As a scholar committed to universities making tangible research and teaching contributions to the critical environment and justice challenges of our time, I read the proposal for this new department with real excitement.

As has been repeatedly observed, the types of environmental, health and sustainability challenges that we face today can be neither understood nor addressed through one dimensional approaches. Just as the problems along each dimension are interlocking and produced through larger systems of inequality, exploitation and structural violence, so too, they can only be addressed through multidimensional interventions. And yet, even while researchers across disciplines document the interdependent nature of the underlying causes of the wicked problems in each area, for the most part, the structures of our universities impede multidimensional research and teaching.

As the proposal observes, scholars with different types of expertise at UCR have historically mounted various efforts to overcome the siloed nature of disciplinary or field specific research and teaching, and they have done so because of their justice commitments. They have, however, been doing so against the grain of the institution. By forming an explicitly interdisciplinary department that brings together environmental, health and sustainability studies through the lens of equity, UCR would be providing a framework where such work would take place as a matter of course. Students would similarly be the beneficiaries, both by virtue of being able to make sense of problems more powerfully and being afforded the training to take up positions where they can more effectively address them. What I find particularly impressive about the proposal is its attentiveness to the contributions the department would make across different scales. That is, it has a clear focus on how research and graduates would contribute to addressing the complex social, medical, and environmental issues in Inland Southern California region. At the same time, it has a national and global vision.

Should this department be constituted, I know that many colleagues across the world would be eager to collaborate with its scholars. I certainly hope that you see the value of supporting it.

Kind regards,

Professor Danielle Celermajer
Deputy Director
Sydney Environment Institute
University of Sydney
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to give my support for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity at UC Riverside. I was hired at Wellesley College for the creation of our Environmental Studies Department, after previously being hired at Colby College for the creation of the Environmental Studies program there, so I have much experience creating new interdisciplinary departments. This one fills what seems to be an important gap at UC Riverside.

The social sciences and humanities are a key part of any examination of environment, sustainability, and health. Science and engineering can answer important questions about how and why certain environmental or health problems are created, but preventing or mitigating them is a fundamentally social endeavor. There is no one right way to determine how to act and no magical solution to how to conserve precious resources (or even which resources one should be conserving) and keep everyone healthy. And science will not save us from having to make social decisions – there is no one right solution to environmental problems, only tradeoffs among options with different advantages and disadvantages for varying groups of people. There is no technology that will magically create sustainability; there are different choices, among different priorities, that need to be managed through decisions that society makes.

This is even more true when it comes to the issue of equity; different populations are differently affected by society’s decisions – or lack of decisions – about pollution, resource use, and other environmental conditions. An ability to examine the implications of these decisions on different populations (and the social structures that lead to inequities in the first place) is a key strength of many social science and interdisciplinary fields.

Students and scholars need an interdisciplinary background, that draws from science and medicine, social sciences, and humanities. The proposal for this new department brings together scholars and teachers who have decades of experience thinking about these issues and the intersections between them. It has the ability to contribute significant educational goals and prepare students to genuinely help the world navigate difficult issues with important equity implications. I strongly support the creation of this new academic unit.

Please feel free to contact me if there is any additional information I can provide.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth R. DeSombre
Camilla Chandler Frost Professor
June 6, 2021

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of the proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity and the B.A. and B.S. degrees in Environmental and Sustainability Studies. I believe that these topics are relevant, necessary, and in-demand and that such programs would be tremendously beneficial for the students of UCR.

I am a faculty member in the Life Sciences Department at Riverside City College where I teach Environmental Science, Introductory Biology (both for majors and non-majors), Natural History of Southern California Ecosystems, International Field Ecology, and other courses. Additionally, I am a faculty co-advisor for the Student Sustainability Collective on our campus and faculty chair of our campus Sustainability Committee. Since the beginning of my teaching career approximately 13 years ago, I have seen a steady increase in interest in topics of sustainability among my students. As issues of equity and sustainability have been hot topics in the news during the last several years, I have seen interest climb even more. Additionally, according to a recent report, the global green technology and sustainability market size is set to grow from $11.2 billion in 2020 to $36.6 billion by 2025. And, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, more than half of the growth in employment expected by 2026 will be in eco-friendly occupations.

Due to this clear niche in the job market and demand by students, RCC has recently begun developing a Sustainability major for our students. This major is meant to be a pipeline from RCC to the ESST major at UCR. We have developed a list of courses that will allow our students to earn IGETC certification while simultaneously completing several of the requirements for the ESST major. We believe it will be a seamless transition and we are so excited about the potential for this pathway for our students. As our cohort of Sustainability students begins to grow, we hope to continue to collaborate with the proposed Department at UCR to create events, workshops, and research opportunities for our RCC students. Evidence shows that if a community college student spends time on a university campus, they begin to feel like they belong and are more likely to transfer and continue their educational journey. We would love for the Sustainability students at RCC to have that opportunity.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tonya M. Huff, Ph. D.
Department of Life Sciences, Riverside City College
Ronnie D. Lipschutz, Emeritus Professor of Politics  
1156 High Street, UCSC, Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
Phone: 831-588-7625/fax: 831-459-3125/e-mail: rlipsch@ucsc.edu  
Web site: http://tinyurl.com/zeatctr

April 5, 2021

Academic Senate & Administration  
University of California, Riverside

Dear Colleagues,

I write this letter in support of the proposal by UCR Sustainability Studies faculty to move the program into a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity. As I understand the matter, the Sustainability Studies degree has been administered by the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies since 2014. I assume this placement was a result of the composition of the collaborating faculty and the likely reluctance of other, more closely related departments to take on the task of administering another degree program (certainly, that reluctance has been the case at UCSC). Before I give three reasons—out of many—for supporting this proposal, I will give some background on my experience and qualifications.

I was a faculty member of the UCSC Politics Department from 1990-2020, teaching among other things international relations and global environmental politics. I have done policy, research and technical work in environmental and policy field since the late 1970s, after receiving a Masters’ in Physics at MIT. I came to UCSC with a PhD in Energy Resources from UC Berkeley (1987) and, beginning in 2008, was part of a faculty group trying to establish a Sustainability Studies program at UCSC. In 2012, I was appointed Provost of Rachel Carson College (I was able to obtain the $5,000,000 endowment required to name a UCSC residential college) and established a minor in Sustainability Studies, the first such minor in a college since the university’s founding. I am presently President and Co-director of the Sustainable Systems Research Foundation in Santa Cruz, a nonprofit green think tank focused on development and deployment of local sustainability projects.

First, at this moment of environmental crisis, and especially with the looming threat of climate change, the inter-disciplines of sustainability studies and sustainability science are more essential than ever. Over the past 40 years, approaches to understanding and addressing these environmental challenges have constrained by the very disciplinary epistemologies its practitioners apply. Biologists see everything through a biological lens; economists, through and econometrics one; humanists through philosophy, art and literature. But “wicked problems” such as climate change (and all of the social systems that give rise to it) are characterized by complex linkages among technological, political, social and economic systems and institutions. No single discipline is sufficient to deal with such problems, and few academics and
policymakers trained in single disciplines lack the broad knowledge to integrate across disciplines. The proposed ESHQ Department and its degree programs will be able to provide the interdisciplinary framework and scope required to educate and train students in addressing the complex and wicked problems the world currently faces.

Second, and at the same time, there is a pressing need to acknowledge and incorporate the structural injustices and racism that are foundational to our social institutions and practices and reproduced in the environmental crisis. This is especially the case in terms of the distribution of current and future impacts of climate change and the benefits that will accrue from the coming green economy. UCR’s student demographic is well-placed to make important and significant contributions to this transition and an ESHQ Department will position them to do so.

Finally, in this time of limited (and even declining) instructional budgets, the bane of new degree programs is the cost of administering and running them and the frequent refusal of university administrations to provide the necessary funds and personnel. Few existing departments are willing to take on this burden and putting new programs under the care and feeding of departments whose disciplinary focus is not directly related risks shortchanging the new ones and even obscuring their existence. (That has certainly been the case at UCSC.) The proposed ESHQ Department will be highly visible, appropriately funded (I hope) and able to provide students with the focused care, advising and training required to succeed in sustainability studies and science (as well as health equity).

There are many other reasons to support the creation of an ESHQ Department at UCR, not the least that similar initiatives exist or are being launched across the country and the world. I endorse this initiative in the strongest terms and hope UCR will create and fund this new department.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Ronnie D. Lipschutz
Professor Emeritus of Politics
President & Codirector, Sustainable Systems Research Foundation
April 15, 2021

Dear members of the UC Riverside Academic Senate,

I write to enthusiastically express my support for the creation of the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in the UC Riverside College of Humanities, Art, and Social Sciences. Now is the right time for such a department, as the UC system continues to recognize the need for interdisciplinary social science and humanities approaches to environmental and sustainability-related issues to complement a science-based curriculum. Such programs and departments have been growing at universities nationwide, as well as across the UC system. Further, health equity issues are often interrelated with the forces that shape the distribution of environmental benefits and burdens in places where human communities live, work, and play. As the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates, health inequities and disparate health outcomes for marginalized communities are pressing national problems in the United States—challenges that are not disconnected from the environmental challenges facing us today. With the creation of this department, UC Riverside is poised to provide an innovative curriculum for its diverse student body as well as to lead the way for other UC campuses. In my view, this proposed department charts a course that is reinforced by trends showing increases in interdisciplinary environmental and sustainability studies programs.

In my capacity as Director of the new, system-wide UC Center for Climate Justice, I am working to raise awareness and develop curriculum and programming focused on addressing climate change as a social justice and equity issue across the UC campuses. The kinds of pedagogical approaches required to plan for and address holistic solutions to climate change and other environmental problems in California and beyond must address scientific, social, economic, and cultural components. The innovative, forward-thinking approach offered in the proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity is exactly what is needed to broaden these offerings for UCR students. I offer my strongest support to this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Tracey Osborne, PhD
Founding Director, UC Center for Climate Justice
Associate Professor, Vice Chair and Presidential Chair
Department of Management of Complex Systems
University of California, Merced
April 23, 2021

To whom it may concern:

I write to support the proposal for a new department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity at UC-Riverside.

My 12 years building and growing environmental studies departments that center social justice afford me an important perspective on supporting such a proposal as UCR’s. I have worked with colleagues around the nation to identify demand for and best ways to implement justice and equity-focused environmental programming at institutions of higher ed. I currently serve on the design team for UC Center for Climate Justice and served as the CSU program leader for the UC/CSU Knowledge Action Network for Transformation Climate Education and Action (2016-2019). Crucially, I am also on the planning committee for the UC Climate Justice Symposium for Transforming Education happening this week (April 28-May 1). The principal investigators on the grant for this event were from USCB’s otherwise very distinct and separate health school and Sustainability office. The reason it was funded is because it brings together these fields—testament to the UC’s investment in enlisting the health professions in a just transition and in focusing on justice as key to any sustainable and effective response to climate change.

As a result of being immersed in all of these discussions about why and how California’s institutions might rise to the occasion of the myriad accelerations and transitions that the world is facing—related to health, justice, climate, technology, information, and culture—I can attest to the need for institutions of higher education to respond at scale. A Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity is exactly such a response.

The proposed department offers a crucial intervention in the historic focus of sustainability and environmental programs on technological, policy, or scientific solutions. That intervention is evident in the work of climate and environmental justice scholarship and action that has entered the mainstream in the past year or more. It is increasingly evident that sustainable solutions won’t last if they don’t also account for human systems, including justice and culture.

Furthermore, it is increasingly clear that human health is the way that people are going to really experience and respond to both the urgent and long-term effects of climate change (see the work of David Pellow, Catherine Flowers, Rob Nixon, and many others). It is imperative that we produce experts that bring these realms of expertise together for planetary health, to focus more on health in the sustainability world, and to respond the needs of future, not the past. I would also add that environmental psychology and disaster mental health are part of this vision.
of a sustainable future, and am encouraged by the proposal’s focus on a holistic (and justice-based) definition of “health” to include mind, body, community, and ecosystem.

Please let me know if I can offer any stronger endorsement of this proposal. I wholeheartedly agree with everything written in the proposal and will also be working on developing similarly interventions in sustainability and health at my institution. I look forward to learning from the team that will successfully launch this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Sarah Jaquette Ray  
Chair and Professor  
Environmental Studies Department  
Humboldt State University  
Sarah-ray@humboldt.edu
March 30, 2021

Dear Members of the UCR Academic Senate and UCR Administration:

I am writing on behalf of the Division of Infectious Diseases and Global Public Health at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) in enthusiastic support of the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity (ESHQ) at the University of California, Riverside (UCR). The proposed department will bring exciting new curricular opportunities to address environmental and health disparities in California and beyond.

The Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) will further the research and educational priorities and respond to UCR’s stated core values in social justice, sustainability, and the common good. ESHQ will serve the community and student needs in the Inland Empire by preparing students for a variety of environmental and healthcare careers and increasing the representation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color in higher education and the general workforce.

As the Associate Dean of Global Health Sciences at UCSD, I am excited by the innovative curriculum that addresses some of the most pressing global health concerns of our time. The interdisciplinary program furthers the University of California’s commitment to innovative pedagogies and scholarship that addresses the diverse needs of our underserved communities. I hope that the program will grow to offer graduate education and serve as an interdisciplinary hub for learning opportunities and research collaborations across the UC campuses.

In sum, I strongly support the development of the Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity at UCR. Students will be well-served by this cutting edge curriculum. I look forward to fruitful cross-campus collaborations with this department in the future.

Sincerely,

Steffanie A. Strathdee, PhD
Professor and Harold Simon Chair,
Associate Dean of Global Health Sciences
Dear Department Chairs and Program Directors,

I am writing to ask for your permission to include courses offered by your department/program in two new curriculum proposals. The Committee on Education Policy requires that we receive your approvals before the proposals can be reviewed.

To give a little background, a group of faculty in CHASS, SPP, and CNAS are working on a proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS. The proposed department will offer two majors: Health Equity Studies (B.A. & Minor) and Environmental and Sustainability Studies (B.A., B.S., and Minor), which is a renewal of the Sustainability Studies B.S. degree program currently administered by the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies.

As interdisciplinary programs, both majors allow students to take courses outside of the ESHQ department so that they can learn from multiple disciplines. Because of the flexibility of our programs, we do not anticipate that more than a handful of our majors will be taking any one of your courses. In other words, we do not anticipate our new programs to strain your resources.

I am attaching a table of courses that we wish to include in our proposal with catalog descriptions of the proposed two curriculums. Most of your courses are included in the Environmental and Sustainability Studies (ESST) curriculum. Courses that are included in the Health Equity Studies (HQST) curriculum are listed in Red. **Bold Red** courses are included in both curriculums.

If you need additional information, please let me know. If everything looks good, please send me your approval to include your department's or program's course(s) in the proposals at your earliest convenience before April 9th. A short email message will be sufficient.

Thank you very much for considering this request.

Best regards,
Chikako

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Chikako Takeshita
Associate Professor
Gender & Sexuality Studies Department
University of California, Riverside
Der Chikako,

I approve including Philosophy 109, 116, 117 and 137 in the Environmental and Sustainability Studies (ESST) curriculum; and Philosophy 9/9H in the Health Equity Studies (HQST) curriculum. You might also want to include Philosophy 167: Biomedical Ethics in the HQST curriculum. Best regards,

Andy Reath

Andrews Reath
Chair, Department of Philosophy
University of California, Riverside
Riverside, CA 92521

http://philosophy.ucr.edu/andrews-reath/

Like abstract art? Check out www.saintoyantstudio.com

[Quoted text hidden]
Just acknowledging receipt of your request. I would like to consult with Sociology faculty on this at our next regular faculty meeting, which is scheduled for 4/13 before I consider this request. We already have a workshop scheduled for Tues, 4/6 so our next regular faculty meeting will be held on Tues, 4/13. Can we respond to your request sometime after 4/13?

Best,
Ellen Reese

--
Ellen Reese
Professor and Acting Co-Chair of Sociology
Chair of Labor Studies
UC-Riverside

Most recent book

https://www.plutobooks.com/9780745341484/the-cost-of-free-shipping/

Other Books

*Backlash Against Mothers Past & Present* (UC Press, 2005)

*They Say Cutback, We Say Fight Back!* (ASA Rose Series/Russell Sage, 2011)


Sorry, but I cannot approve of this. Given the proposed curriculum the students will be ill-prepared for the upper division courses, and the lower division bee keeping course is already maxed out with a waiting list exceeding 100% capacity; it cannot handle any more.

On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:26 AM Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Hi Chikako,

The course listed under my name, URST 146, is not my course. I'm not sure who teaches that course. You and I had discussed MCS 159 Race, Space and Identity, which is cross-listed with Urban Studies as URST 159.

Best,
Pat

[Quoted text hidden]

<Table of courses from other departments.pdf>

Dear Chikako,

A Proposal for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE)

Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 2:08 PM

David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>

To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <julian@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherin@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne Mc Knight <amck@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <kurt@schwebe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellens@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>
The English courses you list can be added to this new major's list of electives. However, 096 appears to be a typo. Can you clarify what course you intend here? It is not a number we have.

Thank you,

David

On Apr 1, 2021, at 9:26 AM, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 3:17 PM

Hi Chikako,

Thanks for sharing this info. about this wonderful proposal and the list of courses. I have no objection personally, but I would need to run this sort of issue past the faculty in my department. I am not sure if this can happen by 4/9 as we don’t have a meeting scheduled.

More importantly, I would like to ask if the CHASS Executive Committee has already discussed and approved this issue. This is the first that I have heard of it, and it seems like a broad discussion should happen in CHASS surrounding the proposal to create a new Department.

Best wishes,

Steven

From: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Sent: Thursday, April 1, 2021 9:26 AM
Dear Department Chairs and Program Directors,

[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:05 PM
To: Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>

Thank you very much. I will pass on that recommendation.

Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:08 PM
To: Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>  
Cc: B Glenn Stanley <stanley@ucr.edu>

Ellen,
Thank you for the acknowledgement. Please note that this is not a request to cross-list any courses. It is simply including them in the new curriculums.
I am submitting the proposal to the CHASS Executive committee on April 15th, so if we can get a response right after your department meeting, that would be great.

Best,
Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:14 PM
To: Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>

Hi Len,
I realized that I made a typo. I meant to say 003, 005C, and 040.
But I will take your suggestion and drop 005C and add 034.

So could we have permission to include 003, 034, 040?

Thank you,
Chikako
Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:18 PM
To: Pat Morton <patmorton@riseup.net>

Hi Pat,
Yes, I have MCS 159 as one of the courses we would like to cross-list. That would come later.
URST 146 turns out to be an ECON course.
So I will see what the ECON department will say.

Thank you,
Chikako

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:28 PM
To: Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguiar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ober@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Dear Steven,

Thank you for considering our request. To answer your question, we are submitting our proposal to the CHASS Executive Committee on April 15th for review during their meeting on April 21st. I am trying to put all the ducks in a row since I expect them to be reviewing everything carefully. If your department does not meet before April 15th, I can submit the proposal with "pending approval" from ECON.

I am aware that upper-division ECON courses have a lot of prerequisites. So I do not expect a lot of our students to enroll in them. However, my thought is that if a student has fulfilled the requirements and can take those courses, then it would be great to let them count for the major requirement. But I will of course defer to your department's decision.

Thank you,
Chikako

Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:29 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: eeobchair <eeobchair@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako:
At this point in the process, I think I can safely say that I don't see any major hurdles in including Biol 003, 034, 040 as options. I presume that there is still a Senate process to be followed, and I guess it is possible that something might crop up, so I can't give an absolute answer. I hope this is enough for you for right now.

Regards,
Len

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>

Dear David,
I am sorry, the 096 was a mistake. So you can ignore the 096.

Thank you,
Chikako

Hi Len,
I understand that there is no guarantee. The Committee on Education Policy's procedure for submitting new curriculum proposals require that I acquire all the permissions before I submit the proposal to them. I can understand that CEP would not want to review a proposal and approve something that the departments did not approve of. So that is why I am soliciting responses that says "it is okay with the department" now.

Best,
Chikako

Rick,
That is unfortunate. I will take out the bee keeping course.
I have confirmed with the instructors who teach the upper-division ENTM courses that there is no problem as long as students have completed the prerequisites. We have many transfers from CNAS who come to our major in their third year for various reasons, so one cannot assume that our students do not have any scientific training or that they are not capable of handling upper-division science courses. I think it is worth giving them the opportunity to benefit from UCR’s renowned entomology program.

Chikako

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Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:02 PM
To: Tanya Nieri <tanya.nieri@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Syvertsen <j.syverts@ucr.edu>, Rengin Firat <rbfirat@ucr.edu>, Dana Simmons <dana.simmons@ucr.edu>, Ann Cheney <ann.cheney@medsch.ucr.edu>

Hi HQST curriculum authors,
The chair of Philosophy suggests including Philosophy 167: Biomedical Ethics in the HQST curriculum. I am just passing this along to you.

Chikako

---

Dana Simmons <dana.simmons@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:13 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Tanya Nieri <tanya.nieri@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Syvertsen <j.syverts@ucr.edu>, Rengin Firat <rbfirat@ucr.edu>, Ann Cheney <ann.cheney@medsch.ucr.edu>

Thanks, I missed that one. Will add in. I'm glad that was easy!
Dana

--

Dana Simmons
Associate Professor, Department of History
University of California, Riverside


@danajsimmons
University of California, Riverside
1212 HMNSS Building
900 University Avenue
Riverside, CA 92521
(951) 732-8091

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Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:14 PM
Draft To: Alec Gerry <alecg@ucr.edu>, Alexander Raikhel <araikhel@ucr.edu>, Amy Murillo <alock001@ucr.edu>

Dear Amy, Alec, and Alexander
You were very generous to allow me to include ENTM 111 and ENTM 126 as one of the courses in our proposal for Environmental and Sustainability Studies. I still believe that some of our students can handle your courses and would benefit from gaining scientific knowledge of disease vectors like mosquitoes given that we will be seeing more of them due to climate change.
As you see in the following exchange, Rick Redak is not giving permission to include your courses in our curriculum. Please know that I was very much looking forward to including them and that I welcome your continued support.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Date: Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 8:59 PM
Subject: Re: Request for Permission to include Courses in new curriculum proposals

Rick Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:22 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

I am not sure who you spoke with but both Gerry and Raikhel agreed with my decision. At a minimum for Forensics they will need a full year of the Biol 5 series and a full year of Chem 1 series (They need to start the chem prior to starting the Bio). For the molecular course they will need a full year of O chem and a genetics course to survive. They have those courses they can try and get in. The Forensics course, like beekeeping, has waitlists if 100% capacity.

I am curious to see the data that tells us how many students in CHASS have these courses completed.

--
Rick Redak
Sent from mobile phone

Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:26 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako,

I am scheduling a dept. meeting on Friday 4/23. I can put it on the agenda then.

Good luck,

[Quoted text hidden]

Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu> Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:50 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: B Glenn Stanley <stanley@ucr.edu>

Yes, we can report on the faculty vote on this after our meeting on 4/13. Thanks Chikako. -Ellen

[Quoted text hidden]
Hi Chikako,

Similarly, thanks for putting this together and sharing. I know there's been a committed group of faculty who have been working hard for some time to further develop and build upon the sustainability major on campus; thus it's exciting to see this moving forward in multiple dimensions.

As far as specific comments, I haven't had a chance to present this to our faculty or Executive Committee, but do have a meeting with some representatives mid-week next week to discuss. But, we look forward to working with you to see this develop but also to (i) ensure your new program/department can interact in a synergistic (and not cannibalistic) manner with two of our tracks in Public Policy (i.e., the Environment and Urban policy track, and the Health and Population Policy track),(ii) that redundancies are minimized with our programs, and (iii) that capacities are considered for any courses your students will be expected to take that we may be teaching (which will be useful for planning). I really appreciate you already having reached out to us to start considering these issues and ways we can address them.

I'm not sure what sort of approvals I can get to you by the 9th -- it will depend on the discussions I have with our exec committee chair, the chair of our undergrad committee, and a few others -- **but we will get comments back to you.**

Best,

Kurt

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Kurt Schwabe, Ph.D.
Associate Dean and Professor of Environmental Economics and Policy
School of Public Policy
University of California
Adjunct Professor, Center for Global Food and Resources
University of Adelaide
Adjunct Fellow, Water Policy Center
Public Policy Institute of California
Ph:(951)827-2361
https://profiles.ucr.edu/app/home/profile/schwabe
Pronouns: He/His

[Quoted text hidden]
Hi Chikako, hi all,

Thanks so much for this, Chikako; this is a great initiative.

And thanks for asking about CPLT 144; I don't think we've offered it in recent memory, but I'm asking around.

I'm also checking in to see if any other courses offered in Comp Lit might make sense to think of including as well.

All best wishes,

Jeff

---

Chikako Takeshita  
To: Kurt Schwabe  

Chikako Takeshita  
Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:38 PM

Hi Kurt,  

Thank you for getting back to me and for meeting with your faculty to discuss our proposal. I am in complete agreement with you in terms of the three key considerations you raised and would definitely like to work synergistically with your programs. Please take the time you need on your side and bring us to the table when you are ready. I can indicate on our proposal that we are having this conversation now and the decision is pending.

Best wishes,  

Chikako

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Kurt Schwabe  
Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 12:33 PM

On Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 12:33 PM Kurt Schwabe wrote:

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Chikako Takeshita  
Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:38 PM

To: Jeffrey Sacks

Chikako Takeshita  
Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:38 PM

To: Jeffrey Sacks

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Jeff,
Thank you for asking around to see if there are any other courses in CPLT that might go well with our majors!

Best,
Chikako

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 1:49 PM
To: James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>

Dear James,
I just wanted to follow up and let you know that I have obtained prior permission from Sydney and Emma for their permission to list their courses (MCBL 128 and MCBL 133) in the environmental and sustainability studies curriculum that we are proposing.

Thank you,
Chikako

Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 2:19 PM
To: Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>
Cc: Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jzhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <shrine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gagular@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>, Richard Carpiano <richard.carpiano@ucr.edu>, Bruce Babcock <babcockb@ucr.edu>

Thank you, Kurt!
On Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 12:33 PM Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>

To: Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>
Cc: Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dolloy@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckiben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>, Richard Carpiano <richard.carpiano@ucr.edu>, Bruce Babcock <babcockb@ucr.edu>

Thank you, Jeff.
~ jea

Juliann Emmons Allison

Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Director, Global Studies Program
Most Recent Publications:

On Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 12:39 PM Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Michael A McKibben <michael.mckiben@ucr.edu>

To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd

A Proposal for a Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE)
Dear Chikako:

EPS approves the inclusion of the listed GEO courses for your proposed major curriculum.

Mike McKibben

Prof. Michael A. McKibben
Chair, Dept. of Earth and Planetary Sciences
407 Geology Building
University of California, Riverside 92521
(951) 581-5459 (cell)
https://epsci.ucr.edu/
Dear Department Chairs and Program Directors,

Dear Michael A McKibben,

Anne McKnight

To: Michael A McKibben

Dear Chikako~

JPN 180/Japanese Doc Film is a great fit for the new redesigned program. I do units on both Minamata (health disparities are a big part of this unit) and Fukushima (health disparities are a big part of the topic, but would require independent research to bring in to the class, given existing doc films) in that class. Looking forward to working with everyone.

With best wishes,

Anne McKnight

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Associate Professor, Dept of Comparative Literature and Languages
Mailing: 2401 HMNSS Building, UC Riverside, Riverside CA, 92521 USA
Office: 2508 HMNSS Building
Office hours 2020~1: M 1-2; Th 2-3:20 and 5:30-6:30

[Quoted text hidden]
Great. Thank you!
~ jea

Juliann Emmons Allison
(she/her/hers)
Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Director, Global Studies Program

Most Recent Publications:

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Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 9:08 PM
To: Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>
Hi Juliann,
I am so happy for the positive responses we are receiving.
I'm assuming we have permission to use GBST 001 and GBST 103, but just for the record, could you please send a reply?
Thanks!
Chikako

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Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 9:13 PM
To: Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>
Dear Anne,
I am so happy to learn about your class. I have been trying to start up a project on Fukushima. I am trying to watch as many documentary films and read as many books published in Japanese as possible, searching for an angle that makes the most sense for my second book.

I look forward to meeting you!

Best wishes,
Chikako
Hi Chikako,

Of course.

~ jea

Juliann Emmons Allison
(she/ her/hers)
Associate Professor, Gender & Sexuality Studies
Director, Global Studies Program

Most Recent Publications:
Hi Chikako,

As Mike indicated in his previous email, EPS approved the courses you listed, but we had a few comments.

First, we suggest adding GEO 003, 'Headlines in the History of Life,' to your list of lower-division courses. This class covers how climate has influenced the evolution of life through Earth history.

Next, in the upper division, we have not offered GEO 167, 'Conservation Biogeography,' in many years and do not have any faculty intending to offer this class in the near future. For that reason, you may not want to include it in your suggested curriculum.

Best,
Sandy

On Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 4:35 PM Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

--
Sandra Kirtland Turner, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Paleoclimate/Paleoceanography
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences
University of California, Riverside
Riverside, CA 92521
(951) 827-3191 (office)

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>

Dear Judith,

Among the courses we asked you to give us permission to list in our curriculum, could we also ask you to consider cross-list the following with ESHQ? I believe these are all courses that are taught by either you, Gloria, Pat, Ruhi, or Freya (still missing her number). By cross-listing, students will recognize them more easily as one of the courses they can choose from.

MCS 108, MCS 116, MCS 117, MCS 122, MCS 146F/ENGL 146F, MCS 159, MCS 163,

The other ones we requested are for electives, so they do not need to be cross-listed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Chikako
Subject: Request for Permission to include Courses in new curriculum proposals

To: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherineh@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Table of courses from other departments.pdf
126K

Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Dear Chikako:

These courses all belong as cross-listed for ESHQ. We have our faculty meeting on Tuesday and I will put this approval to our colleagues. It will only be a formality, I am sure—especially as so many of us are teaching relevant content already.

All best,

Judith

Judith Rodenbeck
Chair, Media & Cultural Studies
University of California, Riverside

Mind is primarily a verb. - John Dewey

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>

Thank you, Judith.
I look forward to hearing from you!
Chikako

[Quoted text hidden]

Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako,

You can also put Ethnic Studies down as pending departmental review. Our next faculty meeting is April 19th, so I will put it on the agenda.

Warmly,

Jennifer

--
Jennifer R. Nájera
Associate Professor & Chair
Department of Ethnic Studies
University of California, Riverside

Author of The Borderlands of Race (University of Texas Press, 2015)
http://utpress.utexas.edu/index.php/books/najera-borderlands-of-race

[Quoted text hidden]

Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dlloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews

Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 11:00 AM
Hi Chikako

I have no objections to these courses being listed, with a caveat that BPSC11 and 21 are both heavily impacted courses that typically have much more demand than we can accommodate. BPSC166 is offered every other year, but provided the students have the prerequisites and there are a small number of them, this course could accommodate them.

I have other concerns about the proposal however (the proposed department name for example), but I can discuss that with you separately.

Patty

Patricia Springer
Professor and Chair, Department of Botany and Plant Sciences
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521

pspringer@ucr.edu
bpschair@ucr.edu
951-827-4413 (Chair's office)
951-827-5785 (Faculty office)
http://plantbiology.ucr.edu

On Apr 1, 2021, at 9:26 AM, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>

Hi Jennifer,
Yes of course. And thank you!
Also, when you discuss the courses with the faculty, could you please also include in our request to cross-list ETST 179 (Keith's course) with ESHQ?

Thank you so much,
Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>,

Hi Patricia,

I think we have a problem. Keith's course ETST 179 is not offered every year. It was last offered in Spring 2020, so it will be Spring 2022 before it is offered again.

Thank you,
Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]
Thank you, Patricia, for the course approvals. I would be happy to discuss any concerns that you may have about the proposal.

Best,
Chikako

[Quoted text hidden]
Thank you for pointing out all of the prerequisites. You might be right that we are raising students expectations too much. I will go back and confirm with our undergraduate advisors that CNAS transfers to CHASS, at least some of them, have the BIOL 005 series completed (This was the impression I was under after my first conversation with them).

At this time, on this email, I am only asking for permission to include everyone’s courses in our curriculum proposal. However, we are reaching out to faculty, groups, and departments whose interests might coincide with ours to get their input. And if anyone is interested in our efforts in any way, we are happy to engage sooner than later because we want to create synergies with existing programs and the best time to do that is now at this early stage. But we can do this off this list individually.

Thank you!
Chikako

Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu> Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 1:06 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako,

I have a very long list of doc films about Fukushima from Yamagata Film Fest, 4 years ago. It is seriously long…I could make a copy, if you want some titles to look at. Some of my colleagues at UCI and Berkeley have been working with Kawakami Hitomi. I have a bunch of her DVDs, I think, in my office, if you are interested and don’t have them…And Nuclear Nation/双葉から遠く離れて by Funahashi is available on Kanopy. You may know those already but I will see if I can find the Yamagata list. It’s such a great festival, and they regularly do programs on Fukushima, as they are so close in Tohoku...https://www.yidff.jp/2017/program/17p7.html

BTW, I have also been working with a community garden in Riverside pretty extensively, as volunteer and also grant-writer. They are doing a LOT in terms of health disparity, though that language is not really their thing. They are closely connected to IEHP and host social work in terms from CBU as well as nutrition interns from CSUSB. I have found it a lot easier to work with them than with the farm at UCR, which was a bit difficult. I haven’t really seen UCR people besides UCR grads from Riverside Mutual Aid there, and I am sure they would be open to some interns or programming. I used to teach Japanese lit and film in community gardens @ UCLA and USC, and work with policy and bio students quite extensively too, and am hoping to do that kind of thing again…

Anyway, when you are not totally harried, maybe we could get coffee or something. Good luck on your project…I’m interested to hear about it, when you have time, one of these days.

Anne

Kenneth N. Barish <Kenneth.Barish@ucr.edu> Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 1:07 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Dear Chikako,

The department of Phys & Astro approves of the inclusion of Phys 18. We can't guarantee how often it will be offered, but I don't think that is being asked.
I also wanted to mention that **Phys 168 is also relevant**, and could be added as an option. It will likely only happen in rare cases (since requires a year of physics), but maybe that possibility should be left open (e.g. for students who transfer from another major). I also mentioned this to Brian Sianna.

Thanks for developing this proposal, it looks quite compelling to me.

Best Regards,
Ken

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**John Medearis** <medearis@ucr.edu>  
Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 1:46 PM  
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dlloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherineh@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <j Judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Dear Chikako,

**Thanks, I have no objection to these Political Science courses being included in the proposal.**

To be clear, I'm really not addressing the merits of the proposal itself. If the department has to reach some determination on the proposal's merits, that will require a meeting and discussion. But it seems premature for that discussion, at least as I understand the process.

So my approval really just means: based on my knowledge as chair, I see no reason why these courses shouldn't be included in your proposal. In fact, they seem like sensible courses to include.

Best,
John
Dear Department Chairs and Program Directors,

[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherineh@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Thank you, John, for the approval to include the courses in the proposal. Your interpretation is correct. We just entered the process of putting together the package that will be evaluated by the CHASS Executive Committee. From there the proposal will go to the Senate Committees where the merits of the proposal will be discussed thoroughly. Because I cannot list courses without permission from the home department, that is what I am doing right now.

At the same time, we are welcoming anyone who wants to get involved at this early stage. So please feel free to get in touch with me.

Chikako

[Quoted text hidden]

Rick Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

I don't think you really need our permission to include a course on your list of options

[Quoted text hidden]
Melissa M. Wilcox <melissa.wilcox@ucr.edu>

To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Halfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherinhe@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Bormeman <bormeman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcri@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Dear Chikako,

The Religious Studies faculty have conferred about this over email, and we are happy to have you list our courses. In addition, we would suggest adding RLST 110: Yoga: Ancient and Modern to the Health Inequities major.

Thanks so much,

Melissa

Melissa M. Wilcox
Professor and Holstein Family and Community Chair
Department Chair
Department of Religious Studies
Affiliated Faculty, Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies
University of California, Riverside
melissa.wilcox@ucr.edu
@mellissanwilcox
http://religiousstudies.ucr.edu/full-time-faculty/melissa-m-wilcox/
Blogging occasionally at https://fqrs.blogs
All pronouns used with respect are welcome.

In the spirit of Rupert and Jeanette Costo’s founding relationship to UCR’s campus, I would like to respectfully acknowledge and recognize my responsibility to the original and current caretakers of this land, water and air: the Cahuilla, Tongva, Luiseño, and Serrano peoples and all of their ancestors and descendants, past, present and future. Today this meeting place is home to many Indigenous peoples from all over the world, including UCR faculty, students, and staff, and I am grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these homelands.

[Quoted text hidden]
Thank you so much, Melissa.
I will relay your recommendation to the HQST curriculum team.

Best,
Chikako

HQST curriculum team,
We have another recommendation from Religious Studies for a course that you can add to the HQST major.

Chikako

Rick,
The Committee on Education Policy does require these permissions before they would review a new curriculum proposal. We had to do this when we proposed the Sustainability Studies curriculum.

Chikako

That is a great addition!
Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 5, 2021, at 5:27 PM, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:
Hi Chikako,

I am happy to give GSST's permission for these courses and look forward to working with your exciting new major!

Best,

Sherine

Sherine Hafez
Chair and Professor,
Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of California, Riverside
https://profiles.ucr.edu/app/home/profile/sherineh

Co-Editor, Journal of Middle East Women’s Studies (JMEWS)
https://jmews.org/current-editorial-team/sherine-hafez-co-editor/

An Islam of Her Own https://nyupress.org/books/9780814773048/


Pronouns: She | Her | Hers
Hi Chikako,

As discussed during our 3/2 meeting, our department is willing to approve inclusion of ENSC 001, 002, 003, and 006 to your proposed BA and BS programs. However, as all four courses fill up each academic year (and usually have long wait lists), we cannot guarantee that students within your programs will be able to enroll in our courses since we are currently unable to expand enrollment due to limitations in TA allocations from the CNAS Dean’s office.

In addition, our approval to include these courses in the proposed curricula does not imply that the department will be supportive of the proposed programs as currently written. We look forward to providing more extensive written feedback on the proposed programs after submission to the Committee on Educational Policy within the Academic Senate.

Dave

David C. Volz, Ph.D.
Professor & Chair
University of California, Riverside
Department of Environmental Sciences
Riverside, CA 92521

Office: (951) 827-4450
E-mail: david.volz@ucr.edu
http://envisci.ucr.edu/faculty/volz.html

On Apr 1, 2021, at 9:26 AM, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]
Thank you, David.
I understand the condition that ENSC is put in due to the low allocation of TAs. Our students have many courses to select from, so it shouldn't be a problem for us. On the other hand, if you would like us to support your efforts to acquire more TAs, we might be able to help by placing the ENSC courses more prominently on our curriculum and go to the Dean together -- I can ask the CHASS Dean to help out as well -- and Brian mentioned that he was willing to help.

Best,
Chikako

---

Chikako Takeshita  <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Sherine Hafez  <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>
Cc: John Medearis  <medearis@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay  <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King  <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang  <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney  <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer  <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks  <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand  <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd  <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz  <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak  <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera  <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison  <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben  <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman  <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight  <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman  <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck  <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar  <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang  <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe  <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath  <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish  <barish@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer  <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox  <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese  <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui  <xp cui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton  <patm@ucr.edu>

Thank you, Sherine.
Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]

---

David Volz  <dvolz@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita  <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Roya bahreini  <bahreini@ucr.edu>, Hoori Ajami  <hooria@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako,

As I mentioned during our meeting, I have already sent a memo and communicated directly with the CNAS Dean and Divisional Deans requesting additional TA allocations to help support expansion of enrollment within our classes and our own major.

Dave

_____________________________________________________________________________
David C. Volz, Ph.D.
Professor & Chair
Department of Environmental Sciences
University of California, Riverside
Riverside, CA 92521

Office: (951) 827-4450
E-mail: david.volz@ucr.edu
Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>  
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  
Cc: Sherine Hafez <shrine.hafez@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jzhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fusion.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpucui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>  

MCS faculty yesterday voted unanimously and enthusiastically to support this effort.

Judith Rodenbeck  
Chair, Media & Cultural Studies  
University of California, Riverside

Mind is primarily a verb. - John Dewey

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  
To: Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>  
Cc: Sherine Hafez <shrine.hafez@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jzhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia S Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fusion.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpucui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>  

Thank you, Judith!

Chikako

Xinping Cui <xpucui@ucr.edu>  
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>  
Cc: Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jzhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fusion.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath
Dear Chikako,

Statistics Department unanimously and enthusiastically supports the inclusion of STAT010 and STAT004 in your new curriculum proposal. Note that STAT040 has been renumbered to STAT004 and will be effective in Fall 2021.

Thanks,

Xinping

Xinping Cui
Professor and Chair
Department of Statistics
University of California, Riverside

On Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 9:26 AM Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

Thank you, Xinping.
I will make corrections to the course number.

Chikako
I will make corrections to the course number.

Michele Salzman <michele.salzman@ucr.edu>

To: Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>
Cc: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven Helfand <shelfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dclloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Richard Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>, Jennifer Najera <jnajera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherineh@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne McKnight <amcknight@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judith@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <dozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>

Dear Chikako:

Thank you.
The History Department Department met today and approved these courses from History for your new major. There was much support for this initiative.

Best,
Michele

On Tue, Apr 6, 2021 at 8:18 AM Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu> wrote:

Dear Chikako,
I got the recommended courses earlier than anticipated.
Please confirm receipt of the additional courses.
Thanks!
Michele

Michele Salzman <michele.salzman@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Thu, Apr 8, 2021 at 8:28 PM

Dear Chikako:
I got the recommended courses earlier than anticipated.
Please confirm receipt of the additional courses.
Thanks!
Michele

Michele Salzman <michele.salzman@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Fri, Apr 9, 2021 at 12:10 PM

Dear Chikako:
Just following up on the courses that History Approved.
I assume that you got my emails? Please confirm.
Thanks,
Michele

James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>
Cc: Emma Aronson <emmaa@ucr.edu>, Sydney Glassman <sydney.glassman@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>
Fri, Apr 9, 2021 at 4:31 PM
Hi Chikako,

Please feel free to include MCBL 128 and MCBL 133 as electives in the Environmental and Sustainability Studies major.

All the Best,

James

On Apr 1, 2021, at 9:26 AM, Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

<Table of courses from other departments.pdf>

James Borneman, Ph.D., Professor
Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521
Phone: 951-827-3584
Fax: 951-827-4294
borneman@ucr.edu

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Sat, Apr 10, 2021 at 2:33 PM

To: Michele Salzman <michele.salzman@ucr.edu>

Michele,
Yes, I got the recommendations. I'm sorry this email thread has gotten out of hand and I couldn't figure out which ones were new anymore! I will look at it right now.

Best,
Chikako

[Quoted text hidden]
Michele,
Thank you for the suggestions.
I added the courses to the list.
HISA 119 for the Policy, economics, and development electives
HISA 144 and 146 for the Native American and non-Western perspectives electives
HIST 198G in the Qualitative Methods requirement.

Best wishes,
Chikako

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>
Cc: Emma Aronson <emmaa@ucr.edu>, Sydney Glassman <sydney.glassman@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>

James,
Thank you very much for the permission!

Chikako

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: "Kenneth N. Barish" <Kenneth.Barish@ucr.edu>

Thank you very much, Ken.
I am going to ask Brian if he wants me to include his course.

Best,
Chikako

Michele Salzman <michele.salzman@ucr.edu>
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>

Great!
Michele

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Brian Siana <bsiana@ucr.edu>

Hi Brian,
Ken suggested adding PHYS 168 to the option and leaving it up to the students in case someone has the requirements.
I know you told me not to list it.
I can go either way.
What do you think?

Chikako

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Kenneth N. Barish <Kenneth.Barish@ucr.edu>
Date: Mon, Apr 5, 2021 at 1:07 PM
Subject: Re: Request for Permission to include Courses in new curriculum proposals
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
To: Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>
Sat, Apr 10, 2021 at 6:20 PM

Hi Matt,
Are you the director of the Asian Studies program? If so, can I have your permission to use AST 120, AST 133, and AST 180 in the ESST curriculum?

Thank you,
Chikako
[Quoted text hidden]

Table of courses from other departments.pdf

Steven M Helfand
4:53 PM (30 minutes ago)

Hi Chikako,

The Econ faculty met last Friday and discussed this issue. We are supportive of the creation of these majors, and would be happy to have these students take our classes so long as they have the prerequisites. Some of the classes that you list actually don’t require more than one lower div class, so those might be particularly attractive. Others, like Health Econ (129), require intermediate micro which might be more of an obstacle for many students.

Some faculty did express concern about the creation of a new department, rather than a program, given the difficult budgetary environment that we are in. There was a general feeling that it would be more prudent to create a program first, and wait to have a discussion about the creation of a department until there are sufficient students in the major to warrant it. We imagine that the CHASS Executive Committee, and Dean’s office, will be weighing the tradeoffs.

Good luck with the initiative!

Best,
good news-- Sociology approval of ES/HQ course inclusion
2 messages

Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu> Tue, Apr 13, 2021 at 3:19 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: B Glenn Stanley <stanley@ucr.edu>

Hi Chikako,

Today, the Sociology faculty met and they approved a motion to support the inclusion of the following courses in your ESHQ curriculum proposal. They also identified another proposed new course (Soc 120) that they suggested be included:

SOC 112 (requires Soc 1)
SOC 120 (no prerequisites, proposed new course on Mental Health by Dr. Firat and Dr. Link)
SOC 122 (requires Soc 3)
SOC 127 (requires Soc 1)
SOC 135 (requires Soc 1)
SOC 161 (requires Soc 1)
SOC 183H (no prerequisites)
SOC 184 (requires Soc 5)
SOC 167 (no prerequisites; cross-listed with SOPP)
SOC 182 (no prerequisites; cross-listed with SOPP)

We considered but faculty were not yet ready to vote on potential cross-listing of any of the above courses. They might support it but wanted additional information before voting.

Good luck with your proposal! I assume you don't need to vote count for this. If you do, let me know and I'll send it to you when I receive the tally.

All the best,

Ellen Reese
Professor and Acting Co-Chair of Sociology
Chair of Labor Studies
UC-Riverside

Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu> Tue, Apr 13, 2021 at 3:29 PM
To: Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>
Cc: B Glenn Stanley <stanley@ucr.edu>

Dear Ellen,

Thank you very much for your department's approval. We would be happy to provide any additional information the department needs to consider the cross-listing.

Best wishes,
Chikako

Chikako Takeshita
Associate Professor
Gender & Sexuality Studies Department
University of California, Riverside
https://profile.ucr.edu/chikako.takeshita
Request for Permission to include Courses in new curriculum proposals

Rick Redak <richard.redak@ucr.edu>  Fri, Apr 30, 2021 at 6:45 PM
To: Chikako Takeshita <chikakot@ucr.edu>
Cc: Patricia Springer <patricia.springer@ucr.edu>, Derick Fay <derickf@ucr.edu>, Matthew King <mking@ucr.edu>, Jingsong Zhang <jszhang@ucr.edu>, Leonard Nunney <nunney@ucr.edu>, Jeffrey Sacks <jeffsack@ucr.edu>, Steven M Helfand <steven.helfand@ucr.edu>, David Lloyd <dlloyd@ucr.edu>, David Volz <dvolz@ucr.edu>, Jennifer R Najera <jennifer.najera@ucr.edu>, Juliann Allison <juliann@ucr.edu>, Michael A McKibben <michael.mckibben@ucr.edu>, Sherine Hafez <sherine.hafez@ucr.edu>, Michele Salzman <msalzman@ucr.edu>, Anne Mcknight <amcknigh@ucr.edu>, James Borneman <borneman@ucr.edu>, Judith Rodenbeck <judithr@ucr.edu>, Guillermo Aguilar <gaguilar@ucr.edu>, Fuson Wang <fuson.wang@ucr.edu>, Kurt Schwabe <schwabe@ucr.edu>, Andrews Reath <reath@ucr.edu>, Kenneth Barish <barish@ucr.edu>, John Medearis <medearis@ucr.edu>, Daniel Ozer <daniel.ozer@ucr.edu>, Melissa Wilcox <mwilcox@ucr.edu>, Ellen Reese <ellenr@ucr.edu>, Xinping Cui <xpcui@ucr.edu>, Patricia Morton <patm@ucr.edu>, Alexander Raikhel <alexander.raikhel@ucr.edu>, Amy Murillo <alock001@ucr.edu>, Alec Gerry <alecg@ucr.edu>, “studentdeancnas@ucr.edu” <studentdeancnas@ucr.edu>

Again, I don’t really think you need my permission to list a class so sure go ahead.

But this comes with a warning! Med Ent (126) is full of students that have had Entomology 100 (I don’t know why it is not a pre-req as it should be) and is taught with the assumption that they know something about insects. Entm 111 is filled with premeds that have had Biol 102 and Biol 107A and is taught at that level as well (and it should at a minimum probably have Biol 102 [genetics] as a pre-req).
Advantages for UC Riverside
Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity
B.A. Environmental and Sustainability Studies
B.A. Health Equity Studies

Advances UCR’s Strategic Plan

- Vision: “to drive knowledge creation, innovation, economic development, and human, social, and environmental sustainability”
- Key Research Areas: “social equity, health, and mitigating climate change”

Drives Revenue for UCR

- Increase student enrollment
- Grow extramural research funding
- Attract targeted donations

Puts UCR on the Map of Employers

Our majors correspond to the growth in jobs

- Bureau of Labor Statistics project a 15% increase in healthcare occupation between 2019 & 2029
- According to BLA, half of the growth in employment expected by 2026 will be in eco-friendly jobs.

Employers are seeking employees who can address cross-disciplinary concerns in health and sustainability.

Provides Opportunities for Donors

Donors are looking for programs that meet the challenges of the 21st century such as climate change and healthcare to fund. Some are particularly interested in supporting students in social justice focused studies. UCR development office calls ESHE “immensely fundable”

Draws Prospective Students to UCR

ESHE programs directly address issues that students are interested in including:

- Growing job market in health and sustainability
- Climate Change
- Health inequity experienced in the pandemic
- Air Pollution and Environmental Issues in SoCal
- Social justice and community-focus

Essential & Impactful Academic Programs

Environmental and Sustainability Studies B.A.

Equips students with knowledge, theory, and skills necessary to engage and contribute to a world in which environmental degradation occupies an increasingly significant place locally, nationally, and globally.

- Student demand is already proven by Sustainability Studies B.S. (grew to 100+ majors from 12 in 2015)
- Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies programs in other UC campuses have seen significant growth (UCSC & UCSB award approx. 250 degrees/year)

Health Equity Studies B.A.

Equips future healthcare workers and health-disparities researchers with methodological tools necessary to address structural racism, gender and sexuality, economic disparity, and historical dispossession in the uneven distribution of wellness and healthcare.

- More than 5000 UCR students are planning a career in healthcare (Health Profession Advising Center)
- Health Equity Studies provide an educational background that students are seeking before moving on to professional schools in public health & medicine

Foundation for Innovative Research & Grants

- One of the first universities to institutionalize the academic response to the intertwining challenges of climate change, environmental degradation, health inequity, and social justice.
- Departmentalization increases core faculty’s capacity to collaborate sustainably on interdisciplinary research projects and compete for extramural funding.
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

November 14, 2022

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Lorenzo Mangolini, Chair
   Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Revised Proposal for Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE)

The Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) reviewed the revised proposal for the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) at their November 4, 2022 meeting. Five members of the Committee voted to support the proposal while four members voted against the proposal, one member abstained, and four members were not present for the vote. Members in favor of the proposal highlighted the potential of the SEHE Department to attract students. Members who voted against the proposal expressed concerns about whether dedicating new staff and faculty resources to this department in the current budgetary environment would negatively impact undergraduate education by depriving existing departments in CHASS of necessary resources. They recommended instead that the program be developed as an interdisciplinary program.
November 7, 2022

To: Sang-Hee Lee, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Weixin Yao, Chair
       Committee on Research

Re: 22-23. CR. Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The committee on research reviewed the proposal and had no comments.
November 17, 2022

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] Department Proposal: Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Dear Sang-Hee,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the Department Proposal for the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE).

We agree that all previous concerns were addressed in the current document. We would like to offer new feedback requesting a clear distinction that this department is not medical education. The language throughout the document should read “health” and not “medicine”, not to be used interchangeably. In addition, we request clearly defined plans of how they plan to integrate with the medical school given the claim of a pipeline to medical school.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

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] Department Proposal: Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Date: November 22, 2022

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy has again reviewed the documentation for “[Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) - formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)].” During the course of reviewing this latest revised draft, the SPP faculty also met with the SEHE proposal’s authors during SPP’s October 2022 faculty meeting to discuss their proposal. Also, some of our faculty and administration met with members of the Department of Environmental Science to hear their views and concerns on this proposed department.

In light of those meeting discussions and another extensive review of this revised proposal by our Executive Committee, we regret to say that this latest draft still does not satisfactorily address most of our concerns and the ongoing concerns of other Committees raised in reviews of their prior drafts. Additionally, our Committee and other SPP faculty members who reviewed the proposal noted that this latest draft contained factual errors, inaccurate claims (some about our School and willingness to engage with the proposal authors), and even logic fallacies such as “cherry-picking” data points and “bandwagon”/appealing to popularity (versus substance).

Beyond the specifics of this proposal, it is troubling that CHASS has posted a job ad for a faculty position for this proposed department when this proposal is still not even approved by Senate. We recognize that job postings are the prerogative of deans and the ad’s language enables a “work around” to hire someone legally for a department that does not yet exist. However, the act of proceeding with such a hire at this stage of the Senate review process—by both the Dean of CHASS and the proposal authors is a flagrant violation of joint campus governance. It also shows an outright disregard of this formal Senate review process that has now demanded extensive time and attention by Senate Executive Council and its constituent campus unit Committees in closely reviewing and discussing several draft versions. Ultimately, as noted by our committee, this job posting exemplifies the contention that we have raised in our prior
reviews: the need for university-level coordination of any proposed interdisciplinary programs that substantively intersects with other units throughout campus.

Below, we highlight our specific concerns on this latest draft. Given that our prior concerns have not been sufficiently addressed, rather than reiterate them here, we append our prior two reviews for the benefit of new and ongoing Executive Council members who may be unfamiliar with our concerns. Our comments are organized in terms of how we evaluated this proposal: matters related to SPP and matters related to the rest of campus (including CHASS and its students).

1. Concerns Related to SPP

a. SEHE has significant redundancies with SPP in terms of:

   i. our already-established major and minor curricula and two tracks in health and population policy and urban/environmental policy.
   
   Some examples from the current proposal draft:

   (p. 2) its curriculum is “…designed to prepare students for advanced study and community-based work related to social justice, environmental and health disparities.”

   (p. 73) (Course requirement) “One course in environmental politics, policy, and governance.”

   (p. 111) (Course requirement) “c) Three courses in health practices, politics, and policies”

   Much of our current teaching and training (including internships) focus on these areas. In their meeting with our faculty, some of the proposal authors claimed that there would be no competition with SPP. Yet, as detailed above, their curricula explicitly lists requirements for policy courses. Thus, consistent with our prior reviews, this suggests an avoidable situation of programmatic cannibalism.

2. Concerns Related to the Campus

NB: These are concerns that were raised by SPP and/or other ECs and Departments in prior review rounds or via discussions with CNAS stakeholders.

a. Redundancies with other programs on campus—notably Environmental Sciences (CNAS) and Medical and Health Humanities (CHASS) in addition to SPP.

   NOTE: In an effort to overcome these problems, the SPP EC have repeatedly proposed how there are exciting opportunities here for leveraging cross-campus synergies in environment, health, and their intersections to develop one or more truly campus-wide interdisciplinary programs that could be joint-governed (e.g., by CNAS, BCOE, CHASS, SPP) and provide students with a strong foundation in environment and health issues that span the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Models of such efforts exist elsewhere, including
the multi-faceted, multi-track Environmental Studies program at UCSB and the Department of Health, Medicine, and Society at Vanderbilt University.

b. Sustainability Studies is already a quickly shrinking major. The proposal notes that SEHE will absorb Sustainability Studies (SUST), which is currently housed in GSST (and which wants to divest from SUST). SUST has been on a decline for several years. Yet, the proposal claims the program is growing. This is factually wrong, no matter which statistics are used. Per the UCR website, these are the Fall Headcount numbers from 2015-2022 (but declining trends are evident with other indicators too):

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<th>Year</th>
<th>SUST</th>
<th>SPP</th>
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By comparison over this same period with SPP and Environmental Science…

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Given these declining student numbers, we have concerns about creating a new department and major/minor programs that absorb SUST and divert scarce campus resources from programs with existing high student-to-faculty ratios in order to establish a new department to house what are essentially two smaller, minimally overlapping (in terms of faculty research areas) programs (see item c. below).

c. SEHE has insufficient faculty to justify two new programs: SEHE merges two areas with limited intersections into one department. This masks a significant problem: area-specific weaknesses for each of the two programs—especially for health. Many of the health-focused faculty do little to no research specifically related to environment/environmental health issues (e.g., Lee, Syvertsen, Nieri, Firat) and most of the environment faculty do no research related to health. Yet, the latest proposal draft states:

(p. 107) “The Health Equity Studies major does not require new faculty hires in order to begin accepting students. Four core faculty members are already faculty in CHASS departments, as are six affiliated faculty. One affiliated faculty member is in the School of Medicine, one in the School of Public Policy and one is in CNAS. Most of the proposed courses for the HQST major will be cross-listed with faculty’s home departments and therefore can be taught without any additional cost.”

d. Inadequate science coursework for its environment and health equity tracks.

Our consultation with CNAS department chairs and faculty since the last review revealed that the science courses included in the curricula (all lower division courses and not all immediately/optimaly relevant versus being courses that do not have any/many pre-requisites) are insufficient for providing the necessary science foundations for environmental or health-related education.
e. **SEHE inadequately prepares students for careers it claims to train students for**

(p. 102) “HQST (the course code for Health Equity major) will also well-prepare our undergraduate students with a strong foundation to transition right into health-related graduate, medical and clinical programs at UCR, including in the UCR School of Medicine, the proposed Masters of Public Health program currently under development, and other graduate and medical coursework that includes a Designated Emphasis in Medical and Health Humanities.

This claim is entirely inaccurate—entry “right into” many of these programs (including pre-clinical programs) requires significant lower- and upper-division coursework in biology, chemistry, physics, and potentially even calculus.

f. **SEHE would create many substantial negative externalities for CHASS—overall and with respect to specific departments.** The proposal states that “The SEHE faculty have designed this program to accomplish large goals with minimal additional resources by drawing on existing faculty expertise.” Of course, that is impossible. Any time and courses dedicated to this program will come at the expense of existing departments in the following ways:

i. **SEHE will rely heavily on other departments to provide their courses.** The inclusion of three SPP (at least one of whom only attended one initial meeting and expressed concerns with this proposal) and other faculty listed as “supporting” the formation of this department does not help this problem and is misleading, especially given the abovementioned concern about program-related cannibalism and that SPP courses are not part of the SEHE curriculum, except in the few cases where an SPP course is cross-listed with a CHASS department.

ii. **SEHE will draw away faculty lines from high major (and high revenue-generating) departments.** Some of the departments for which SEHE faculty are currently appointed (Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology) are already teaching many hundreds of majors and have very high student-to-faculty ratios. Presuming the proposal authors will all move to this new department, then ANTH, HIST, POSC, GSST, and SOC each stand to lose 1 (e.g., ANTH) to 3 (e.g., GSST and SOC) faculty to what will be a low enrollment department/program. These faculty members’ former departments will understandably need to replace them to cover their existing teaching loads (and SOC is already understaffed). Likewise, though Psychology faculty are not involved in this proposal, PSYC courses are extensively included in the SEHE curriculum. Yet, PSYC covers the highest teaching load in CHASS and have lost a substantial amount of faculty in recent years without replacement. In sum, CHASS already has substantial teaching load pressures. Despite this, the CHASS dean has recently promised SEHE a faculty line if the Department is approved (ad currently advertised).
g. **SEHE is functionally two CHASS interdisciplinary programs and thus does not justify creating a new department to house them.** CHASS currently has a very large number of low major interdisciplinary programs while five departments (Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology) teach more than two-thirds of its undergraduates. SEHE is essentially two interdisciplinary programs housed under one roof, with few faculty who actually teach and do research regarding health (and whom do not work in the areas of environment—and vice versa).

Given this situation, we recommended in our last review that the proposal authors pursue one or two interdisciplinary programs for this instead of a department. Their response was that CHASS interdisciplinary programs are under-resourced. However, we contend that creating a department will not fix this resource problem and only draw resources away from existing departments.

**Conclusion**

We have made multiple, good faith efforts to provide the proposal authors with fair criticisms and constructive ideas and solutions to some of the issues we identified with the proposal and challenges it presents. Nevertheless, the proposal authors have not incorporated any of our suggestions while falsely claiming that we have neither met with them nor offered them ideas for helping them address our concerns. On the flip side, they have not provided us with any alternative ideas, expecting us to provide them all instead.

In light of our ongoing concerns raised from our multiple reviews of this proposal to date, the concluding paragraph from our last review memo nicely captures our current position on this proposal:

> “Given the above issues, we arrive at the broader conclusion that there are aspects of these ESHQ (the dept. name at the time) major/minor programs that could be modified to make this a more unique, truly interdisciplinary initiative that is less co-opting and cannibalistic, more collaborative with existing campus units, and more beneficial to them and students seeking training in these areas. However, the need to create a brand new CHASS department (that monopolizes broad areas of campus research to name its own circumscribed focal areas) to offer a curriculum based on courses that are already extensively offered in existing UCR units in CHASS and beyond makes little practical sense in terms of student benefit and administrative burden. Lastly, given the enduring resource constraints on our campus, we find it difficult to support any initiative for a new department in the absence of new hires. In this case, CHASS would need to agree to replace the lines that will be depleted in existing departments if faculty move into this new department.”

In closing, there are many exciting models of cross-disciplinary, cross-campus undergraduate programs in the UC system and beyond focused on either environment or health. We appreciate the desire of the proposal authors to expand the coursework and training here at UCR on environment and/or health issues. However, as proposed, this department and its curricula will
not be competitive with those other programs, while drawing precious resources away from its college and the departments that already under high strain to meet student demand (in terms of majors and minors, as well as general education courses).

Sincerely,

Richard M. Carpiano, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Public Policy
TO: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

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

RE: [Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS

Date: June 10, 2022

The School of Public Policy Executive Committee (SPP EC) reviewed the revised and resubmitted proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS. Upon close review, the SPP EC determined that:

a. the revised and resubmitted proposal still insufficiently addresses several significant, substantive concerns that we raised during our December 2021 review of the previous draft, notably evading a response to a very legitimate concern that we raised
b. the responses to the various concerns submitted by Executive Council committees raises new issues that we note below in detail.

Given these factors, SPP remains strongly opposed to this proposed department, its programs, and its procession to a Divisional vote. We stand by our contention raised in our previous memo that this proposed department has significant redundancy with existing programs in CHASS, CNAS, SPP, and elsewhere throughout campus and co-opts campus-wide strengths (Environment and Health Equity) for the benefit of a small group of existing faculty currently located in one college who wish to relocate to a new department focused on their specific interests.

Below, I offer new concerns and suggestions that arose in our review of this most recent draft. Also, for the sake of record and context (especially for the benefit of Executive Council members who may be previously unfamiliar), I append below our prior memo from December 2021 where we raised our concerns and suggestions pertaining to our review of the previous draft of this proposal—some of which were not addressed by the proposal authors in this revision.

1. **Redundancy:** The revised proposal discusses how “There is some productive and exciting overlap between the proposed B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies and the School of Public Policy’s Health and Population Policy undergraduate degree track” (page 4) but never addresses the original and reasonable concern about (a) redundancy and (b) potential cannibalism (an unfortunate potential consequence of the campus budget model, as often
honestly discussed in Senate Executive Council meetings). Though we raised these legitimate concerns in our previous memo, the authors’ response was evasive—claiming that our word choice was inappropriate (even though cannibalism is common terminology that we frequently encounter in the discourse of public policy, economics, political science, business, and other fields in which we engage) and retorting with a “red herring” point:

“Many of the authors of this proposal have supported SPP and SPP students with mentorship and teaching (including one third of the courses listed in the SPP ‘Health and Population Policy’ curriculum) for years.”

Though the authors’ response is off the point at hand, its focus on discussing existing courses organized around health (albeit as part of a non-CHASS program) actually substantiates our concern about redundancy with existing campus curriculum if a new program were created.

Our prior comments (see original memo below) on these two important matters were perhaps challenging. However, they were fair points, raised respectfully about a proposed program (not individuals) and in an effort to be constructive. These concerns were informed by our careful review of the proposal draft at that time and our earlier good faith efforts to meet with the ESHE proposal leadership to raise our concerns about programmatic redundancies and cannibalism and identify practical solutions to avert such undesirable outcomes. Therefore, given the extent of such practical concerns that we raised previously (which matter in terms of impact on the welfare of students, CHASS, and campus) the authors’ refusal to provide a response is unfortunate. Such refusal neither assuages these significant and legitimate concerns about the proposed initiative nor strengthens the proposal’s justification for this department and the programs it plans to offer. Instead and unfortunately, the response undermines the authors’ claims that they want to reach out and collaborate with other campus units. Given our efforts (via meetings, emails, and Executive Council memos) to voice our concerns to the authors about redundancy and potential programmatic cannibalism and develop beneficial solutions, such a response only serves to further reinforce our existing concerns about this initiative’s willingness to carefully listen to other campus members’ perspectives and potentially build cross-campus collaborations with them (as argued on pages 9 and 11 of this revised proposal).

2. The need for more science coursework in the curriculum. The foci of the proposed curricula sit at the nexus of the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. However, the scientific background that students will be required to take for such science-situated issues is still too limited (especially given the concern with providing students with sufficient—or ideally, better-than-sufficient—training for jobs and postgraduate training in many environment- and health-related programs).

Regarding the necessity of solid natural science (including statistics) training, we stand by our contention and constructive solution in our last review of the previous proposal draft:

“SPP faculty know well through their own involvement on policy panels and other advisement activities with decision-makers, many problems that we face in policy are based on ignorance of science. For issues related to environment, sustainability, and health
inequity, it is crucial for students to have some grounding in the natural sciences via a science component to the curriculum. This curricular need provides UCR with a unique opportunity to create a truly campus-wide, interdisciplinary major/minor program that is co-led by a steering committee of faculty from multiple colleges and schools across campus and, in doing so, ensures students receive a comprehensive interdisciplinary training experience in environment and sustainability or health equity.

3. Curricular Overlap in the Context of Strained Resources
   a. CHASS currently has a very large number of low major interdisciplinary programs while five departments (Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology) teach more than two-thirds of its undergraduates. At a time of fiscal constraint and limited FTEs, it is difficult to justify the need for such a department in CHASS. Specifically, the claim that interdisciplinary (non-departmental) programs do not get the attention they need is inadequate to justify creating an entirely new department—especially one that, per the construction of its curricula, is essentially two interdisciplinary programs housed under one roof, with few faculty who actually teach and do research regarding health (and whom do not work in the areas of environment and sustainability—and vice versa). Creating a department will not fix this problem. Furthermore, while there is some overlap between environment and health, there are many unique areas to both spheres that make housing such a pairing under one department awkward and even ironically niche. Ultimately, the proposal conceptualizes Environment, Sustainability, and Health (though the choice of narrowly focusing on “health equity” versus “health” more broadly is curious and not consistent with other programs throughout the US) as encompassing so much of everything that it lacks specificity. Yet specificity is essential in justifying its novelty as value-added campus programs and a department, as well as contending that the potential faculty who will be part of this endeavor encompass the intellectual breadth needed to sufficiently meet what the authors are ultimately promising to the campus and students.

   b. In addition to impacts on units beyond CHASS, the proposal underestimates impact on existing CHASS departments given that the department will be formed by existing faculty moving their appointments out of their current departments and not via external recruitment. Notably, Sociology is down to 13 faculty members for more than 1000 majors. Three faculty members from Sociology are authors of this proposal (Lee, Nieri, and Reese). One can only infer that, if this proposal were to be approved, all three would move their appointments out of Sociology. If so, that would leave 10 faculty in Sociology—a loss of nearly 25% of faculty in a very small department that has a high teaching responsibility to CHASS. Likewise, History would lose two from its 25 faculty, GSST would lose three (25%) of its 12 ladder rank faculty, and, if author Ann Cheney moved from SOM to this new program, SPPM would lose one (25%) of its only four ladder rank faculty—at a time when that department is proposing a new graduate program (previously submitted to Executive Council for review).
This under-estimated impact also applies to consideration of existing, already-extended staff with the creation of a new department (page 49). It is easy to consider one’s own staffing needs, but difficult to consider how much impact such shared staffing proposals will have on established programs that are already under-resourced (as noted by the proposal). This includes grant administration (and the between-unit sharing of such personnel).

It is commendable that the future faculty are “actively seeking grant funding to bring resources to the university” (page 6). But, at risk of stating the obvious, submitted proposals for competitive funding are not the same thing as proposals funded and unreliable sources of income, especially given the relative size of humanities grants and the overall small number of faculty.

The proposal makes much of the collaboration of the designated faculty, but there is no evidence provided about any co-authored papers and co-PIs on grants from among the faculty listed on the front page of the proposal. For example, it was noted that the $500,000 UCOP grant listed was not under grants awarded. Who was the PI and the co-PIs of that grant? Research on cluster hiring indicates that these kinds of interdisciplinary programs work better when the members of the clusters have published or submitted grants together prior to formation of the cluster.

Appendix A of this revised proposal lists grants by faculty, but none of the grants listed show any indication of collaboration among any of the authors of this proposal. Also, many of the grants listed are expired (some several years ago) or will expire this year and some are by people not affiliated with the program (Bruce Link in SPP).

5. Departmental leadership. This revised proposal is now much clearer in identifying who are the faculty actually involved with this initiative. However, of the proposal authors—whom we presume will all move into this new department—only one is a full professor. The other faculty listed are associate and assistant professors. This is unusual and certainly not ideal for any department (at UCR or any other UC campus). Also, in terms of administrative and service workload, such rank composition presents numerous challenges—especially to junior faculty in terms of service.

In closing, we wish to re-emphasize a point from our prior review: given the broad intellectual expanse that this proposed department tries to encompass and bridge, there is great potential and need for this proposal’s ideas to manifest in the form of a truly cross-campus, interdisciplinary program—one that draws on the relevant scholarly and training strengths found throughout all of UCR’s colleges and schools for maximum benefit to students and the campus alike, in a manner that reflects the campus-wide intellectual and programmatic culture of many of our R1 peer campuses. This point is critical given the extent of such environment, sustainability, and “health, society, and culture” programs throughout the US and the substantial opportunity costs this new initiative will present to our resource-strained campus and the college in which it will be located.
in its current conception. The point here extends beyond this particular proposal to proposals in general: given opportunity costs and resource constraints, it is crucial for our campus to consider how such ventures can be developed in a manner that offers an improvement on what similar programs exist on other campuses versus simply matching or, worse, suboptimally trying to replicate those programs.

Sincerely,

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

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TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
    Riverside Division

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

RE: [Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS

Date: December 3, 2022

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy (SPP) reviewed and discussed “[Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS.” As faculty in an interdisciplinary school with research, teaching, community engagement, and professional training and internships focused on environment, sustainability, and health equity, our Committee recognizes the opportunities that interdisciplinary programs present for the campus. Nevertheless, for this specific proposed department, members raised a number of significant concerns with the proposal. In general, these concerns centered on how this proposal, in pragmatic terms:

a. attempts to establish a new department through engaging in, what appear to be, unproductive institutional cannibalism and co-optation—building its own fiefdom via feeding off existing campus units and cross-campus initiatives and
b. will generate student confusion due to the redundancies this department will have with already-existing majors and minors throughout campus with similar foci.

Specific issues are listed below in detail.

1. **“Health Equity” is inappropriate as the Department’s name.** The proposal outlines what is functionally a “Health, Medicine, Society and Culture” major/minor found at many other universities including Vanderbilt University and the University of British Columbia (for which one of our Committee members was its former chair). Yet, instead of using that or a similarly appropriate appellation, this proposal co-opts what is a well-established UCR campus theme and far-broader-than-this-proposal interdisciplinary field of scholarship, practice, and policy that has already been cultivated through many years of interdisciplinary collaboration between faculty located in all UCR colleges and schools, including SOM, SPP, CNAS, and CHASS. The UCR Center for Health Disparities Research is one prominent example of initiatives and collaborations that bring together the critical mass of faculty and students that our campus offers in health equity research and practice. Hence, to now take the focus for such a broad interdisciplinary area of research, teaching, and practice and apply it to this very narrowly-focused CHASS Department and major/minor monopolizes a truly collaborative campus initiative for its own self-interested ends. While there are many CHASS faculty concerned about issues in health equity, they do not have the patent on it. Thus using it in their program/department title gives the wrong impression that concern for equity and social justice is only a humanities and social science concern and not something that faculty throughout campus focus on in their research, teaching, and service. Intellectually, this is akin to if Economics requested to start a major in “Applied Math,” completely ignoring that many other units on campus also actively engage in research, teaching, and training on the subject (e.g., Mathematics, Statistics, Engineering, Computer Science, Psychology, GSOE, BUS, SOM, and SPP).

2. **Faculty Resource Scarcity and Sustainability:** Several items were raised for this issue.
   a. The proposal includes numerous courses taught by SPP faculty. However, SPP is unable to offer many of these courses every year—including PBPL 010, which is listed as part of the core curriculum and not as an elective.

   b. Given the extent of PBPL courses included in the proposal, concern was raised about potential requests for cross-listing our courses with the new program. SPP’s current policy is to not support cross-listing PBPL courses due to high student demand among majors/minors.
c. If the creation of this department means that some units throughout CHASS will lose faculty, then it is difficult to see how the departments these faculty leave behind will be able to continue offering the same range of courses as they do now—many of which are listed as being necessary to comprise this major/minor. Sociology offers an instructive example. In the past two to three years, it has lost multiple faculty and is struggling to maintain its current teaching demands. If faculty leave SOC to join this new department, their current situation will only become more fraught, further undermining its ability to admit non-majors into many of its courses. The proposal does not indicate how an EHSQ department would be able to regulate outside course offerings to ensure their consistent availability so as to avoid a bottleneck for these majors/minors.

3. Who Is Actually Involved in This New Department? On page 2, the proposal includes a long list of faculty from various units all over campus, but uses vague language that obfuscates who actually is or is not planning to be involved with this potential department. This gives the impression of padding to make the potential department look more significant than it really is—especially considering that Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity are far more distinct than overlapping in many areas of their respective foci (especially Health Equity vis-à-vis the Environment and Sustainability) and in terms of what specific faculty have scholarly and teaching expertise in. For example, three of our SPP colleagues are included on the list. When we asked them what their involvement was to understand the proposal better, all three indicated they attended a meeting and offered to have a course they teach be part of this curriculum, but never agreed to be involved with the department or indicated wanting to relocate their appointment. Furthermore, it is necessary to recognize that, while faculty members may develop a course and teach it regularly, the term-specific scheduling of course and which faculty member is assigned to teach it both fall outside faculty control.

4. The letters of support do little to justify specifics as to why this should be a new department or even new majors/minors. The support letters listed in the proposal cherrypick particular comments from the letter writers, but, beyond broad platitudes (some by people with little familiarity of the social sciences and humanities in general and/or with regard to the three areas of environment, sustainability, and health equity; and some from campus units with no involvement in teaching undergraduates or at very least teaching undergraduates from these majors/minors like the BCOE dean), do little to justify specifics as to why this should be a new department or even new majors/minors. Further concerning is how the SPP Associate Dean Kurt Schwabe is listed on page 11 under a section that includes all unit heads with affiliated courses who have approved this proposal. Associate Dean Schwabe’s letter is listed as “Pending,” which, by inclusion in this section, gives the impression that he approves of this proposal/initiative, but has just not submitted his letter. Knowing this background makes us
question the extent and degree of campus support, particularly from other unit chairs and directors, as expressed in the proposal.

5. **Why is the Subject Code already approved?** It was brought to our attention that the subject code for ESHQ has already been approved (and now under review again for a modification to this subject code). Why was this request granted for a department that has not even been approved to exist?

6. **No Science Component:** As SPP faculty know well through their own involvement on policy panels and other advisement activities with decision-makers, many problems that we face in policy are based on ignorance of science. For issues related to environment, sustainability, and health inequity, it is crucial for students to have some grounding in the natural sciences via a science component to the curriculum. This curricular need provides UCR with a unique opportunity to create a truly campus-wide, interdisciplinary major/minor program that is co-led by a steering committee of faculty from multiple colleges and schools across campus and, in doing so, ensures students receive a comprehensive interdisciplinary training experience in environment and sustainability or health equity.

7. **Low Unit Bearing Major:** The health equity major only requires 48 units, which, compared to other UCR majors is very low and leaves it up to students to figure out how to make up the remaining credit hours they need to graduate.

8. **Disparity in Training across the Three Data Analysis Course Options.** Choosing from one of the three options means that students will graduate with vastly different levels of data literacy required for engaging in discourse of environment, sustainability, and health equity. Statistics courses like STAT 010 provide a broad, essential foundation for interpreting and engaging in research while PBPL 010 and STAT 004 respectively cover highly specialized topics in Geographic Information Systems and Data Science, but do not provide students with foundational skills to interpret research and even be prepared for many jobs listed in the proposal’s appendix as well as graduate training in the social sciences, public policy and administration, as well as public health and other health sciences.

9. **The Justification for a New Department is Insufficient.** Question 3 on page 129 offers weak rationales for needing to form a department. Notably, it conflates the activities of a research center with that of an academic department, the latter of which is a far broader administrative unit in terms of its activities. Realistically, no department or unit on campus (or elsewhere) has the extent of collaboration that is detailed in this section and, given the faculty who will likely be associated with the new department, it is unreasonable to conjecture that the new department will be anything different. One only has to look at SPP, a cohesive, supportive unit of teaching,
research, and engagement with a robust, successful program of faculty research, yet only a few collaborations between existing faculty. Hence, speaking from experience, the authors’ claim that “Consolidating our efforts into a department will enhance our ability to obtain competitive multidisciplinary research grants” is untrue and unrealistic.

10. **The Proposal needlessly tries to justify creating a New Department by conflating it with new major/minor programs.** Overall, it is difficult to read this proposal and not view it as the creation of new curricula to justify a new home for faculty who may, unfortunately, feel unhappy in their existing CHASS departments. There already exist ample teaching/mentoring, research, and community engagement opportunities throughout campus for faculty interested in these topics (e.g., CNAS, Global Studies, SPP, Center for Health Disparities Research). Notably, SPP offers many such opportunities as an existing program and is welcoming of petitions to serve as cooperating faculty. Given the extent to which the curricula are already based on existing courses offered throughout CHASS, there is no need to have a department to support these new majors.

**Conclusion**

Given the above issues, we arrive at the broader conclusion that there are aspects of these ESHQ major/minor programs that could be modified to make this a more unique, truly interdisciplinary initiative that is less co-opting and cannibalistic, more collaborative with existing campus units, and more beneficial to them and students seeking training in these areas. However, the need to create a brand new CHASS department (that monopolizes broad areas of campus research to name its own circumscribed focal areas) to offer a curriculum based on courses that are already extensively offered in existing UCR units in CHASS and beyond makes little practical sense in terms of student benefit and administrative burden. Lastly, given the enduring resource constraints on our campus, we find it difficult to support any initiative for a new department in the absence of new hires. In this case, CHASS would need to agree to replace the lines that will be depleted in existing departments if faculty move into this new department.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Carpiano, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Public Policy
October 3, 2022

To: Sang-Hee Lee
   Chair, Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Chikako Takeshita, Associate Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies and
   Dana Simmons, Associate Professor of History, Representing the Faculty
   Initiative on the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE)

CC: Daryle Williams, Dean of CHASS
    John Kim, Chair, CHASS Faculty Executive Committee

RE: Proposal to Establish a Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE) at UC Riverside

Dear Sang-Hee,

As instructed by Jason Stajich, previous chair of the Academic Senate, we have prepared a response document to the committee reports (July 6, 2022) on our proposal to establish a Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (formerly known as the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity). Conforming to the “strongly suggest[ed]” format from the Executive Council that “includes the restatement of question or issue followed immediately by the response,” we have provided our responses, in red font, immediately following each question or critique raised in the memos from the review committees. We have attached our proposal with minor revisions that pertain to the feedback so that “the proposal, critiques, and responses to Senate review comments are available to the Division.” We thank the Senate for your feedback, which has enabled us to further clarify our mission as the humanities and social sciences wing of a campus-wide effort to excel in scholarship and teaching on environment, sustainability and health.

We would like to emphasize the following points:

1. The Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity (SEHE) proposes a curriculum and research program grounded in the tools and concepts of the humanities and social sciences. Our faculty have expertise in arts, humanities, and social science methodologies: ethnography, sociology, history, literary analysis, geography, feminist theory and political science, with a particular expertise and emphasis on
community-based research methods. Our research spans areas such as rates of vaccine acceptance, the experience of aging, the history of nuclear radiation, occupational health, environmental harms related to the logistics industry, carbon accounting, environmental justice, race, health and medicine, and climate change narratives. Our curricula are designed to prepare students for advanced study and community-based work related to social justice, environment and health disparities.

2. The existing Sustainability Studies BS degree, housed in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department (GSST), was reviewed and approved by the Academic Senate in 2015. It is the second-fastest growing major in CHASS. Alumni of the current Sustainability Studies major have found success in attaining advanced degrees in Sustainable Management, City Planning, Public Policy and Public Health, among other fields, and a majority of alumni are employed in the areas of social justice, resource management, and sustainability, more broadly. In 2020, GSST decided that the Sustainability Studies major no longer fit within the department’s future plans; the Sustainability Studies major will therefore need to find a new home or be eliminated. The proposers believe that we have designed a strong departmental structure to house this major alongside the proposed new Health Equity Studies major. The proposed department will build upon Sustainability Studies enrollment and faculty already in place, and will require minimal resources to launch. New FTE are not required.

3. All faculty to whom we have spoken agree that the fields of environment, sustainability and health require cross-disciplinary work across departments, schools and colleges. We recognize the urgent need for cross-college, cross-disciplinary collaboration in these fields and we are committed to contributing toward it. We have held initial conversations about possible cross-departmental programs. Such an effort may not have an institutional partner in CHASS, however, unless the proposed department is approved.

4. We are grateful for the honest feedback, revisions, encouragement and support that we have received from faculty across campus. We also have observed an unfortunate impact of the ‘new’ budget model. We learned from conversations with faculty that some objections to our proposal are primarily motivated by concern about the financial repercussions of competition for majors. This concern applies, in particular, to two programs which claim ‘overlap’ with our proposed majors, even when the overlap is negligible and the potential for beneficial complementarity is high. It would be highly unfortunate if the Academic Senate’s responsibility for curricular oversight became subordinated to financial calculations, particularly when those calculations are masked by unrelated objections.

We have made important revisions in response to our colleagues’ feedback. CNAS faculty, in particular have been especially helpful in working with us to find solutions that satisfy the needs
The most significant changes and additions we made to the proposal through listening to our colleagues’ input are as follows:

- The department name will now be the Department of Society, Environment, and Health Equity (SEHE). We have made this change after many discussions with CNAS leadership and individual faculty about their concerns regarding the originally proposed name. The new name was suggested by one of the CNAS division deans and unanimously approved by the SEHE faculty (Please see page 20 & 22-23 for details).

- The majors will now be called Environmental Studies B.A. and Health Equity Studies B.A. Again, after consulting CNAS leadership and faculty, we dropped the term “sustainability” from the major name. We chose “Environmental Studies,” as it is a well-established field across the UC system, nationally, and internationally that is legible as an arts, humanities, and social sciences subject that co-exists in many other institutions with Environmental Science departments and programs. (Please see page 22 for details.)

- We have provided information on the outcomes of 97 Sustainability Studies alumni. Data shows that the majority of our students after graduation are pursuing a career related to promoting environmental sustainability or social justice in non-profit, government, private, education, and health sectors. One in five have obtained masters’ degrees, in public policy, city planning, and business to further their careers in a focused area of sustainability. (Please see pages 11~13 for a detailed summary of the findings.)

- We have revised the catalog description of the Environmental Studies major in order to communicate clearly that the program applies arts, humanities and social sciences methods to analyze and engage environmental challenges as social phenomena. The text now also reflects the available career choices that are in alignment with the post-graduation outcomes of the Sustainability Studies major. (Please see page 23 for the revised catalog description).

Per communication with Jason, we understand that Senate and Executive committees will be given four weeks to review our document and respond. I hope our responses are satisfactory to most, if not all, of our colleagues. We remain committed to the collaborative spirit and working with individual UCR faculty and departments on maximizing the impact of our talents to meet the needs of our students and major challenges of this century.

Sincerely,
/s/Chikako
/s/Dana
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
July 6, 2022

To: Chikako Takeshita
Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies and Lead Proponent

From: Jason Stajich
Chair, Riverside Division

RE: Proposal to Establish a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at UC Riverside

Dear Chikako,

I write to provide the review comments regarding the proposal to establish a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (ESHE) at UC Riverside. Below are discussion comments from Executive Council meetings on June 13 and June 27, 2022 and attached are response memos from committees tasked with review.

Some Executive Council members felt the proponents' response to pre-proposal critiques were casual and that the subsequent proposal does not make a strong case for the establishment of ESHE. A member mentioned that the faculty makeup is not diverse and expressed concern regarding potential faculty hiring in the new department. On the contrary, another member did not assess the proposed faculty makeup as lacking diversity.

We query by what standard the proposers would be described as “not diverse,” given the proposal’s leadership by faculty of color, women-identified faculty, and disabled faculty. Such a statement is truly confounding and we question the member’s motivation for making this assertion.

Our response to the last round of Senate comments extended over a dozen pages, including a hyperlinked table of responses to specific committee concerns. While members may not find the answers satisfactory, they were not casual.

Generally, Executive Council is mixed in their sentiment regarding the proposed department. Some emphatically against and others equally in favor of establishment. Nonetheless, the group agreed that it is imperative that proponents respond in writing with a clear and compact response to the review critiques so that the proposal, critiques, and responses to Senate review comments are available to the Division.

Now that review comments have been provided to you, please send to the attention of the Division Chair, with courtesy copy to the Executive Director, either option 1 or 2 below:

1. a response document, by October 3, 2022, that replies to critiques and questions put forth via this and the attached comment memos so that this information can be provided to Senate members at large as part of the Fall 2022 Division meeting agenda. (Executive Council strongly suggests a format that includes the restatement of the question or issue followed immediately by the response) or;

2. a revised proposal that utilizes the comments from this review. This would be considered a “revised proposal” and the document would not start at the beginning as a pre-proposal. I do not provide a due date here as a revision would, of course, be done in the timeframe that is best for the proponents.
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

May 16, 2022

To: Jason Stajich  
Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate

Fr: Sean Cutler  
Chair, Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

CAP discussed the full proposal for the proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) – in CHASS on May 2, 2022. By a vote of +9-0-0, CAP was unanimously supportive of the proposed new department.

CAP found that the proposing committee addressed the feedback CAP provided on the pre-proposal, including FTE transfers, standards for merits and promotions, and Bylaw 55 and the rank distribution of the department’s initial faculty cohort.
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

June 1, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Lorenzo Mangolini, Vice Chair
Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Proposal for the Establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Educational Policy* reviewed the proposal for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS at their May 6, 2022 meeting.

The Committee remains concerned with how the proposed department will interact with established departments in CHASS and the potential for the proposed new department to absorb resources from other departments and programs. The Committee recommends that the proposal be updated to document how this issue will be addressed.

The SEHE faculty have designed this program to accomplish large goals with minimal additional resources by drawing on existing faculty expertise. We have been in close contact with the CHASS Office of the Dean to ensure that the new department will not negatively impact other departments in CHASS. Faculty will transfer FTE and teaching responsibilities from their current departments in an intentional, stepwise manner so as to minimize impact. There is ample precedent for faculty transferring their lines to other CHASS departments; it is possible for such faculty to write MOUs with the current departments to continue to teach one or more courses for the latter department. We do not anticipate that SEHE will negatively impact enrollment in other CHASS majors. The existing Sustainability Studies major is already sizable and will constitute the basis of SEHE enrollment moving forward.

Most concerns we have heard about this topic center on potential impacts to the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies (GSST). In 2020, GSST faculty decided that GSST will no longer support the existing Sustainability Studies major, which does not fit with the department’s vision for future development. This decision, in fact, was the original impetus for the new department proposal. GSST is therefore fully supportive of the transfer of the existing Sustainability Studies major (renamed Environmental Studies), and its associated faculty, to the new department. GSST will be minimally affected by the departure of the three faculty since they almost exclusively teach the Sustainability Studies major. The three will continue to teach the courses necessary for the current majors by cross-listing them with the new department. GSST supports the establishment of the proposed new department. Please see the letter from Jane Ward, Chair of
GSST, attached to our proposal.

The SEHE department would contribute to the CHASS curriculum in the areas of health, environment and sustainability, offering breadth courses for majors in other departments. We expect that SEHE courses will benefit students across CHASS, and other colleges, interested in the environment and health. For example, our courses will benefit anthropology majors interested in medicine and health. Anthropology offers a concentration for its majors in Medical Anthropology and some of these courses will overlap with the Health Equity Studies major because of shared faculty. However, the anthropology degree has another set of unique requirements that go beyond the scope of health. The increased breadth of courses in this area will benefit students in both programs. Likewise, Psychology majors interested in clinical or community work may benefit from courses offered by SEHE.

The Committee recommends that the proposal be updated to document how the proposed new department will benefit undergraduate students and how the proposed department plans to attract undergraduate students to the majors to be offered.

The SEHE Department will provide an academic space in which students can understand their own and others’ lived experiences of environmental damage and/or health disparity using arts, humanities and social sciences methodologies while building knowledge and skills that empower them to exercise their agency and promote change. SEHE courses in CHASS will offer students the opportunity to study social inequities, health, and sustainability -- issues that deeply matter to them -- in theoretically grounded scholarly literature that transcends disciplinary boundaries. SEHE curriculums will provide students with tools to analyze the dynamic interactions between the social phenomena of environmental toxicity, climate-related crises, and health disparity and social, economic, and political inequities that they have witnessed throughout their lives. They will be exposed to innovative and community-engaged approaches that prepare them to create and communicate evidence-based ideas and policy solutions to overcome these inequities. Majors will come to understand how to read statistical data and how to communicate it to broader audiences and be able to analyze relationships between the local, national and global scales, and to identify structural causes of individual phenomena.

SEHE distinguishes itself from related majors in its emphasis on combining critical ethnographic, historical and sociological methods, and practical, hands-on work building career skills and serving communities. We anticipate growing existing partnerships with community organizations, free clinics, the COPE Health Scholars program, Humanities Action Lab, California State Parks, and others. Our majors will be grounded in critical thinking, awareness of inequities and disparities, and ready to apply useful skills obtained through a liberal arts education to serve their communities.

Demand from students for academic programs in health and the environment is growing as these issues have been increasingly moved into the center of our daily concerns as well as on the national political stage. The pool of potential majors in Health Equity Studies is deep: the Health Professions Advisory Center serves more than 5000 UCR undergraduates interested in a future career in the healthcare area. There are currently few options for pre-health undergraduates, relative to their number. The Health Equity Studies major would offer a humanities and social-science infused track toward a future career in medicine and allied professions such as public health and health administration.
There is an increased demand across the country from undergraduate students for courses that support their understanding of the environmental challenges we face in the 21st century. (see for example: "Student Demand for Environmental Studies Surges" (Rice University News and Media)) Student demand for an arts, humanities, and social sciences major in environment and sustainability at UCR is already demonstrable: the number of majors for the Sustainability Studies in the Gender and Sexuality Studies Department has increased since 2015 from 12 to more than 100 majors. Once the major transfers over to SEHE and the course offerings broadened, we expect the enrollment to grow apace. SEHE faculty is collaborating with the Riverside City College (RCC) in their effort to create an associate degree in Sustainability, Economics, and Society, which will function as a feeder program for SEHE’s Environmental Studies major. (RCC’s associate degree program will receive some of its students from the J.W. North High School Pathway Program in Sustainability). More generally, SEHE will be actively involved in recruiting students to the program through the community colleges and local high schools, collaborating with the UCR OASIS project for streamlining K-PhD sustainability education.

Lastly, the Committee recommends that the proposal be sent to BCoE for review, as there is potential overlap between the proposed new department and Engineering disciplines.

As part of the Senate process, the BCoE Executive Committee has reviewed the pre-proposal and the proposal. They have not expressed any concerns or comments. Furthermore, our focus on arts, humanities, and social sciences approaches to health and the environment eliminates the possibility of any significant overlap between the new department and engineering disciplines.

*The Committee on Educational Policy Chair Juliann Allison recused themself from the Committee’s discussion and finalization of the response due to a conflict of interest.*
COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

May 24, 2022

To: Jason Stajich
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Katherine Stavropoulos, Chair
Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The DEI committee reviewed the Proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) and has no additional comments.
June 2, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Weixin Yao, Chair
       Committee on Research

Re: 21-22. CR. Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity

The committee on research reviewed the proposal and would like further explanation on how the FTE transfer would function and more details on potential impact on existing departments.

Faculty will transfer FTE and teaching responsibilities from their current departments in an intentional, stepwise manner so as to minimize impact. There is ample precedent for faculty transferring their lines to other departments within CHASS; some write MOUs with their current departments to continue to teach one or more courses for the previous department. The Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies will be minimally affected by the departure of the three faculty since they almost exclusively teach the Sustainability Studies major. The three will continue to teach the courses necessary for the current majors by cross-listing them with the new department. The Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies fully supports the transfer of the sustainability studies major to the proposed new department (see GSST Chair Jane Ward’s letter attached to the proposal).
COMMITTEE ON COURSES

June 3, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Stephanie Dingwall, Chair  
Committee on Courses

Re: New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity in CHASS and had no concerns related to the Committee’s charge of courses and instruction.
COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE

May 17, 2022

To: Jason Stajich  
Riverside Division Academic Senate

Fr: John Heraty, Chair  
Committee on Faculty Welfare

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The Committee on Faculty Welfare met on May 17, 2022 to evaluate the proposal for the establishment of the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) in CHASS. Faculty Welfare approved the proposal and the responses the proposers provided to Faculty Welfare’s review of the pre-proposal.
GRADUATE COUNCIL

May 25, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Don Collins, Chair
Graduate Council

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at their May 19, 2022 meeting. The Council approved the new department but would like to provide some comments that will hopefully be considered for a future version of the proposal. Based on the information included in the proposal (nature of training provided by the proposed courses and expertise of the associated faculty), it was unclear how the students will be prepared for the type of green jobs and environmental related careers that are listed in the proposal. The Council encourages the proposers to be clear and transparent in the proposal body and the proposed catalog description of the department/program/major what types of sustainability-related jobs their majors are qualified to apply to. Including concrete numbers of where recent graduates from the existing Sustainability Studies major (those who started in the major as Freshmen and not transfers from CNAS) are currently working will help.

SEHE faculty searched the website LinkedIn during September 2022 and found 97 UCR Sustainability Studies alums with information on their paths after graduation (2017~2021). Information on whether individuals transferred from CNAS was not readily available. One in five have advanced to a master’s degree to apply themselves to a specific area of sustainability or another profession. The majority of alumni work in positions that are related to environmental sustainability or social justice in one way or another. Here is a summary of the findings:

**21 alum pursued or are pursuing a Master’s Degree:**
UCR Master of Public Policy (6), UCR MBA, USC Master of City Planning, University of Wisconsin MS in Sustainable Management, UC Davis MS in Environmental Policy and Management, San Diego State University MA in City Planning, UCI MA in Urban and
Regional Planning, Johns Hopkins University MS in Environmental Science and Policy, University of Redlands Master of Education, Keck Graduate Institute Master of Business Science, Brandon University Master of Business Administration, Cal Baptist University MS in Psychology, University of Redlands MA in Organizational Leadership, Arizona State University Master of Technology in Information Technology, Madonna University MS in Human Leadership, University of Arizona Masters in Public Health (One alum is in the Ph.D. program in Ecology at UC Davis)

Several others have pursued other forms of continuing education, for example: Leed Certifications, Data Analytics, Speech Pathology, Aquarium Science, Insurance License, CompTIAA+, and GIS.

The majority of the Sustainability Studies alum, whose information we were able to recover from LinkedIn, are working in fields or positions that are related to environmental sustainability (38) or social justice (14). Most have been involved in sustainability or social justice work or volunteering before and after graduation in one way or another, including Green Campus Action Plan, Office of Sustainability, and CAFE. This information was not recorded for the purpose of this report.

Current Employment of UCR Sustainability Studies Class of 2017~2021:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit</td>
<td>18 (+2 overlap with health)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health related</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For-profit</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Attending school or volunteering)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>96</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Job placement examples:

Non-profit organizations:
- California Conservation Corps Foundation, Water Education for Latino Leaders, Japanese Community Youth Council (sustainability content producer), The Sustainability Institute, Climate Resolve, One Cool Earth, Pathways Mgmt Group (education project manager), Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (policy advocate), OC API Community Alliance (policy intern), National Community Renaissance (Affordable Housing), Southern California Mountains Foundation

Government:
- San Francisco Recreation & Park Department (environmental educator), US Forest Service, Inland Empire Utilities (composting assistant), US EPA (environmental protection trainee), City of El Cajon (Administrative/Planning Intern), Hawaii State Energy Office (community engagement specialist), EPA Regional WaterBoard, Riverside County (recycling specialist), California State Assembly (field representative), CivicSpark/Americorp (regional coordinator)

Education:
● UCR CNAS BEES (contracts and grants analyst), ICEF Public Schools (science teacher), UC Cooperative Extension (volunteer service coordinator), USC Dept. Population & Pub H (Research Project Specialist), Woodbury University (Community Outreach), UCR (Academic Advisor for Biology)

Health:
● Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (prevention navigator), AIDS Healthcare Foundation (HIV testing counselor), IECP (Behavioral Therapist),

For-profit:
● Mark Thomas (Urban planning consultant), Avocado Green Brands (sustainable evolution team), Confluence Environmental Field Services (sampling technician), Triumvirate Waste Management (environmental specialist), Fireclay Tile (environmental health and safety specialist), Brimstone (associate chief of staff, LEED holder), Babcock Laboratories, VCA Green (Project administrator, LEED holder)

Based on these findings, we have revised the catalog description of the proposed Environmental Studies B.A. in order to suggest future career paths that reflect the existing record of the Sustainability Studies alumni. We will state in our documents and websites that the Environmental Studies program will prepare students to make career choices that involve:

- promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; and continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education in a variety of fields, including sustainability, public policy, social sciences, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.

Additionally, they are encouraged to reach out to the School of Public Policy to be able to provide more course offerings with a technical background to their students.

SEHE degrees are humanities and social sciences degrees, which provide training in ethnographic, sociological, historical, political, literary and theoretical methodologies. SEHE majors will achieve proficiency in community-based research methods. These are tools and methods, typical of a CHASS major. SEHE proposers include faculty with expertise in technical fields such as carbon accounting, and the SEHE majors require basic fluency in some technical fields (such as data science); however, the core of the degree is humanistic and social scientific, as befits a major in CHASS.
June 6, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Manu Sridharan, Chair
Committee on Library and Information Technology

Re: 21-22. CR. Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity

The Committee on Library and Information Technology reviewed the proposal and was overall supportive. The committee felt that the proposal would be stronger with additional data from outside sources like Emsi or EAB showing the demand for the new major from prospective students and in the labor market.

Chikako Takeshita spoke with an Emsi (now Lightcast) representative (Sandra Ryan) on July 13, 2022. A quick search on their end turned up around 108 data points for sustainability studies alumni (Chikako found 97 by manually scrubbing LinkedIn, which turned out to be more effective in capturing more nuanced data). Please see our response above regarding enrollment and employment outcomes for existing Sustainability Studies majors on page 11~12 of this document.

Currently UCR does not offer market analysis services (such as Berkeley’s NAV-B) to potential programs. However we have proof of concept in the existing major.
To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Dana Simmons, Chair
Planning & Budget

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Planning & Budget reviewed the proposal for a new department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at their May 17, 2022 meeting. A majority of the committee voted to approve the proposal as written.
COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

May 20, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Wallace Cleaves, Chair
       Committee on Undergraduate Admissions

Re: Campus Review - New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) in CHASS and are supportive of the proposal.
June 09, 2022

TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: John Kim, Chair
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The CHASS Executive Committee (EC) has reviewed the proposal, dated March 31, 2022, for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity (ESHE) to be housed in CHASS; we enthusiastically endorse this proposal and commend the proposers for their comprehensive and meticulous revisions responding to the comments by other executive committees and Senate committees on their pre-proposal.

In this memorandum, we reaffirm the previous CHASS EC’s endorsement, dated June 21, 2021, of ESHE’s core mission focusing on the humanistic and social scientific dimensions of environmental studies, sustainability studies and health equity studies. Additionally, we highlight how the proposers have superbly addressed the various concerns that were raised in the campus-wide review of its pre-proposal.

The departmentalization of ESHE will address a significant lacuna in UCR’s existing strengths in environmental studies, sustainability studies and health equity studies across UCR’s colleges/schools and will certainly create new synergies among them. To name a few, UCR is the home to the Department of Environmental Engineering (BCOE); the Center for Environmental Research and Technology (BCOE); the Department of Environmental Science (CNAS); the Center for Conservation Biology (CNAS); the Environmental Dynamics and Geo-Ecology Institute (CNAS); the California Agriculture and Food Enterprise (CNAS), the Center for Health Disparity Research (SoM); Department of Social Medicine, Population and Public Health (SoM); a undergraduate major in Public Policy with one track in Health and Population Policy and another in Urban/Environmental Policy (SPP); as well as an undergraduate major in Operations and Supply Chain Management with a faculty focused on sustainable procurement (SoB).
Missing in these rich and diverse offerings is an academic unit dedicated to the humanistic and social scientific dimensions: How do humans reflect upon and respond to environmental disaster? How is climate change affecting societal values and young people’s worldviews and their relationship to nature? How do societies grapple with questions of sustainability under unsustainable conditions? What are the social, political, and philosophical implications of massive inequalities in health care? How can we conceptualize and promote environmental and health justices in light of historical racism, sexism, and colonialism as well as the neoliberal global capitalism? ESHE complements other academic units’ work on the scientific and pragmatic aspects of environmental and health and brings it to a full circle by addressing the human and social dimensions of environment, sustainability, and health equity. Departmentalization is essential to providing a stable institutional home for this critical work.

In this sense, the proposers of ESHE have superbly addressed the various concerns that have been raised by other executive committees. In addition to their responses, the CHASS EC notes the following: the wide range of units that use the term “environment” or “environmental” in their names demonstrates that this term is not exclusive to a specific discipline. Rather, the notion of the “environment” is necessarily multifaceted as it is literally all-encompassing having aspects that pertain to engineering, the physical and biological sciences, medicine, public policy, business and the humanities and social sciences. There are in fact multiple UC campuses that offer both an Environmental Studies B.A. that is oriented towards the humanities and social sciences along with a B.S. in the environmental sciences, demonstrating that this is a common practice.

The CHASS EC also notes the proposers’ response to SPP EC’s objections, which call the ESHE proposal “cannibalistic.” We note, in concert with the proposers, that the perception of “cannibalism” stems from the fact that 11 of SPP’s courses are taught by the ESHE proposers themselves. Far from “cannibalism,” this overlap between ESHE and SPP points to the kind of productive collaborative synergies that can arise when colleges/schools work together toward the common goal of educating our students. Moreover, the CHASS EC also notes the fundamentally differing missions of CHASS and SPP. The fundamental mission of SPP is to develop answers for policy-based implementation; the fundamental mission of CHASS is to develop questions for philosophical and historical reflection as well as social practice. The two pedagogical missions overlap in appearance but remain fundamentally different. It should be further noted that ESHE has made concessions at the request from SPP to remove all PBPL courses from ESHE’s curricula. However, ESHE faculty’s courses will continue to be open to PBPL students.

In view of the proposers’ demonstrated success with the Sustainability Studies major which has grown to 100 majors in just seven years, it is without a doubt that ESHE will continue to grow as it serves CHASS students who are interested in the humanistic and social scientific aspects of environmental studies, sustainability studies, and health equity studies. ESHE’s two proposed majors in Health Equity Studies and Environmental and Sustainability Studies would go hand-in-hand with majors in thematically related areas in BCOE, CNAS, SoB, and SPP and could serve as a pipeline for prospective graduate students in a broad range of social science and humanistic disciplines as well as the SoM, SPP and SoB. As the proposers note on page 127 of their proposal, many of the top 100 fastest growing occupations in California are related to health and
the environment, many of which do not require highly specialized scientific, engineering or medical knowledge but do require a broad philosophical understanding of issues related to healthcare and the environment, such as, public relations specialists, educators, community organizers, attorneys, or health care administrators and medical social workers, to name just a few.

The proposers of ESHE have already demonstrated their own sustainability and prospects for future growth through their impressive $496,570 UCOP grant in their collaborative project with the newly established Department of Black Study. Their grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health and Environmental Inequalities,” demonstrates the possibilities available when other units on campus collaborate with ESHE to address some of the most urgent questions of our time, namely, the environment, sustainability and health equity. The ESHE proposers also won a $35,000 NEH Humanities Connection grant that supports “innovative curricular approaches that foster partnerships among humanities faculty and their counterparts in the social and natural sciences and in pre-service or professional programs.” The collaborative possibilities with BCOE, CNAS, SoB, SoM, SPP or other units in applying for grants are potentially boundless.

It is in this sense that the CHASS EC enthusiastically endorses the ESHE proposal, as its implementation will contribute greatly in complementing and completing UCR’s impressive profile in these three areas by introducing the currently missing humanistic and social scientific aspects of these most urgent questions of our time.
31 May 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Theodore Garland, Jr., Chair, Executive Committee
College of Natural and Agricultural Science

Re: Campus Review - CNAS EC Response to Revised ESHE Department Proposal

The CNAS Executive Committee (EC) has reviewed the revised proposal for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity, (ESHE) to be housed in CHASS. The revised proposal has addressed some of our previous concerns, most substantively by removing the bachelors of science degree plan. However, many of the problems that we identified with the initial proposal have not been addressed. The response of the proposers to these issues were insufficient and, in some cases, dismissive.

Since receiving this memo, we have held personal conversations with approximately thirty CNAS faculty including the CNAS FEC Chairs (outgoing and incoming), the Divisional Dean of ANR, the Chairs of EEOB, Botany, Microbiology/Plant Pathology and Entomology, and faculty working in fields of agricultural sciences, conservation biology, botany, entomology, earth sciences, chemistry and physics. We have visited an Environmental Sciences faculty meeting and met with the Environmental Sciences Chair, Vice Chair and Graduate Advisor, in addition to holding individual conversations with five Environmental Science faculty members. We previously met with the CNAS Dean. We would like to thank CNAS faculty for your willingness to engage with us and to find solutions such that our programs may complement and reinforce each other, toward a common goal of producing students ready to work on pressing global challenges. Their feedback and concerns have moved us to be more precise and deliberate, including revising our proposed catalog...
description, renaming our proposed department and major in light of your feedback, and further highlighting our social scientific and humanistic approach (as we discuss more fully below).

The following major problems remain:

(1) overlap with the ENSC undergraduate program,

There is little to no overlap with the ENSC undergraduate program. The proposed Environmental Studies B.A. requires two lower-division CNAS courses from a list that includes ENSC 001, 002, 003, and 006 among a dozen others. The ENSC department has approved the use of these courses in SEHE’s Environmental Studies curriculum. All other courses in Environmental Studies are social science and humanities courses that do not overlap with ENSC.

(2) a misalignment between the potential composition of ESHE faculty and some of the proposed undergraduate major fields of study, and

Our faculty have expertise in methodologies including ethnography, sociology, history, literary analysis, geography, feminist theory, labor studies and political science, with a particular expertise and emphasis on community-based research methods. Our faculty are experts in arts, humanities, and social sciences approaches to environmental studies and health, and well-versed in teaching these subjects in CHASS.

(3) a lack of evidence of post-graduation outcomes for previous Sustainability Studies majors.

We have acquired data. Please see our responses to (3, 4, and 5) below (p.26).

We continue to believe that advancing sustainable and equitable interactions between humans and the environment is a critical part of the University and CNAS missions, and we welcome efforts to bring together humanities and natural sciences disciplines in this pursuit.

(1) We now formally request that “Environment” be removed from the proposed department name. The term “Environment” continues to be used loosely throughout the proposal. We reiterate our previous statement on this topic: a comprehensive description of the environment as it relates to finding
sustainable environmental solutions is defined as the physical, chemical and biological factors as well as processes that control transfer of mass and energy among multiple components of the Earth system as well as the human system that interacts with them. The new Department only marginally captures training in the latter. Therefore, a more appropriate name might be the “Department of Sustainability and Health Equity.” However, “sustainability” implies having science represented, which it is not, so this is still problematic.

In our conversations with CNAS Chairs over the past weeks, it became apparent that this item in the FEC report does not reflect the full range of faculty opinions within CNAS. All the Chairs of departments whom we consulted, other than ENSC, requested that we keep the term ‘environment’ and remove the term ‘sustainability’. In order to find a solution to these divergent requests, Divisional Dean of ANR Isgouhi Kaloshian convened a meeting of the Chairs of Botany and Plant Sciences, Microbiology/Plant Pathology, Entomology and Environmental Science, and the Director of Agricultural Operations, on 8/30/22. At that meeting, Divisional Dean Kaloshian suggested the following name change as a compromise, which clearly demarcates the proposed department as a CHASS department engaging in social science and humanities: Department of Society, Environment and Health Equity. The proposers agreed to adopt Divisional Dean Kaloshian’s suggested name change, as reflected in this submission to the Senate.

Environmental Studies is a well established interdisciplinary academic field with over 500 degree-granting departments and programs in the U.S. (and even more international departments on nearly every continent). Over one hundred universities in the U.S., including UCLA, UCSC, UCSB, and UCSD, offer Baccalaureate Environmental Studies programs. In some cases, such as at Yale and UCSB, the BA (social science) and the BS (natural science) degrees are offered within the same department. These are generally institutions where letters and science share the same college. In other institutions, such as UCLA, an Environmental Studies BA is offered within a Social Sciences college, and an Environmental Science BS is offered within a Natural Sciences college. Professional associations and peer-reviewed journals dedicated to environmental studies in the humanities and social sciences include the American Society for Environmental History, Anthropology and Environment Society, Environmental Sociology, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, International Association for Environmental Philosophy, the Society of Environmental Journalists; Resilience: A Journal of Environmental Humanities; Journal of Ecocriticism, Journal of Ecohumanities, Arcadia: Explorations in Environmental History, and Environmental Humanities.
In sum, the artistic, social scientific and humanistic study of the environment is neither “loose” nor unique within the academic landscape. The B.A. in Environmental Studies is a legible degree to peer institutions and to potential students, who are comparing degree options across universities.

Through humanities and social sciences education, this program equips students with knowledge, theory, and skills that advance their contribution to a world in which environmental degradation has become an increasingly significant societal subject of concern. In order to gain a deeper understanding of the complex interactions between the workings of human societies and ecological changes, the major engages a range of environmental challenges including climate change, air and water pollution, biodiversity loss, energy demands, toxic accumulations, waste management, deforestation and desertification, food security, and water scarcity as social phenomena and examines how they intersect with broader societal issues such as environmental justice, policy and governance, history of colonialism, global capitalism, hunger and poverty, structural racism, gender inequality, health
inequity, and community resilience. The major also introduces humanities approaches such as critical theory, environmental philosophy, regional history, storytelling, and other creative expressions to enrich students’ intellectual relationships with nature and non-human elements. The interdisciplinary education will prepare students to make career choices that involve: promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; and continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education in various fields, such as sustainability, public policy, social sciences, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.

Furthermore, ENSC was again not directly consulted before submission of the revised proposal. This is consistent with the lack of consultation with ENSC noted in the CNAS EC comments on the initial proposal, and contrary to the disingenuous statement in the revised proposal that the proposers “continue to work to build dialogue and collaboration” (page 11). As a result, potential overlap with ENSC as well as inaccurate and misleading statements of ENSC’s mission and undergraduate programs continue to be an issue. Once again, further consultation with CNAS departments, particularly ENSC, is recommended, as it will result in a better union of natural and social sciences topics and training, which is required to advance sustainability. The EC continues to see many potential opportunities for synergy between a Department of Sustainability and Health Equity and CNAS Departments.

Proposers contacted the Chair of ENSC regarding the new department proposal on 4/1/21, 2/26/22, 5/4/22, 8/12/22, 8/30/22, 9/6/22 and 9/12/22. The ENSC Chair and several ENSC faculty responded positively to a personal invitation to attend an ESHE Open House on 3/4/22, and we were pleased to be able to speak with them there. In an email exchange in February 2022, the Chair suggested that “once we have a better sense of how you have addressed the Senate comments within the revised proposal, then we can discuss the possibility of having you all join one of our monthly faculty meetings.” We therefore waited until after submitting our revised proposal to the Senate to request a meeting with ENSC faculty. We visited an ENSC faculty meeting on 6/6/22, at which we gave a presentation and took questions and comments. We met with the ENSC Graduate Advisor on 7/20/22; we met with the ENSC Chair and other ANR Division Chairs on 8/30/22; we met with the ENSC Chair, Vice Chair and Graduate Advisor on 9/8/22. At the latter meeting, we were informed that ENSC is concerned that it may lose majors to
the new department. The ENSC Chair unilaterally canceled a scheduled meeting of proposers with the ENSC faculty, which was to take place on 9/21/22. As a result of our discussions with ENSC leadership, we have rewritten the catalog description of the Environmental Studies major. We pledged to communicate precisely and clearly that it is a humanities and social science degree, so that there is no confusion among students about the differences between the two programs. We offered to promote ENSC alongside the new department when we visit high schools for recruitment. We remain excited about potential cross-college collaborations with ENSC and other relevant departments. Please find an account of our broader consultation with CNAS faculty above (p.19).

(2) We remain disappointed in the potential creation of a department where required scientific expertise is completely missing among the participating faculty (pages 50-51 of the proposal). It remains unlikely that the participating faculty will be able to deliver and achieve many of the stated educational/research goals of the proposed department, as strong scientific and technical expertise in the natural sciences serve as the foundation for identification and mitigation of environmental health challenges that we continue to face at multiple scales within the United States and abroad. The fact that such expertise is required from faculty outside of ESHQ continues to highlight the importance for deeper consultation with relevant CNAS Departments during the development of the new Department.

As befits a department in CHASS, the teaching and research objectives of the proposed department are not equivalent to the work of natural scientists. Our faculty have expertise in arts, humanities, and social science methodologies: ethnography, sociology, history, literary analysis, geography, feminist theory, labor studies and political science, with a particular expertise and emphasis on community-based research methods. Our faculty already “deliver and achieve” this work in our publications and teaching in CHASS, as recognized by our peers and grantors. Our research spans areas such as rates of vaccine acceptance, environment and the emotions, the experience of aging, the history of nuclear radiation, environmental justice, race and medicine, and climate change narratives. Just as CNAS majors are required to engage with the broader social context in their Lower Division breadth courses, SEHE majors will be required to have a Lower Division-level understanding of the relevant sciences. Once majors reach the Upper Division level, they will receive humanities and social science training, including in their capstone research methods courses.

That said, we recognize the urgent need for cross-college, cross-disciplinary
collaboration in the areas of environment, sustainability and health. In our conversations with CNAS faculty we floated the possibility of creating a non-degree-granting structure, a Sustainability Studies Program, under which any college or department could offer a Sustainability Studies track. We hope to see such a structure emerge and we are committed to contributing toward it. Such an effort may not have an institutional partner in CHASS, however, unless the proposed department is approved.

(3) We continue to be concerned that the students graduating with degrees in the proposed majors will have poor post-graduation outcomes as a result of the training and education insufficiencies noted above. Although the proposal still claims that the new Department will prepare students to effectively enter the workforce and contribute to the solutions of environmental and sustainability problems, the proposers continue to provide anecdotal evidence of outcomes for previous Sustainability Studies majors and have added a new list of “Careers related to ESHE for Undergraduate Majors” (Appendix D).

(4) Many of the potential careers in Appendix D appear to be poorly matched to the proposed undergraduate program. Two environmental related occupations with projected growth in CA are identified: "Solar photovoltaic installers," and "zoologists and wildlife biologists." How would a BA degree in the proposed program prepare a student for these careers? Solar photovoltaic installers do not require a BA, and the groundwork to be a zoologist/wildlife biologist does not exist in the proposed curriculum. For the proposed BA degree, students take only 2 science courses, of which only one is in biology. Although the proposal contains a list of different areas under “Best Careers for Environmental Studies majors" (p. 131), there is still no evidence how the proposed curriculum prepares students for these career titles. For example, a graduate with a BA degree obtained under this curriculum will not be qualified for an "environmental engineer" position as claimed. Some of the other positions require higher degrees (law, teaching credential, etc.). Lastly, the proposers refer to the list of careers from UCSB's Environmental Studies major; however, the scope of the program at UCSB is very different than the proposed curriculum under review here at UCR. The Environmental Studies major at UCSB is under the Division of Mathematical, Life, and Physical Sciences.

(5) Finally, we reiterate our request that the proposal include a good-faith effort to assess post-graduation outcomes for the nearly 187 students that have graduated with a BS in Sustainability Studies since 2016/2017, as these data are critical for justifying expansion of enrollment within the new Sustainability and Health Equity program. This information can be obtained by reaching out to SUST alumni and tracking down these data since 2016/2017. This is important information that needs to be provided, as we suspect that a large
percentage of these students ended up in jobs outside of the field of sustainability studies.

(3,4,and 5)
We thank the writers for their feedback and acknowledge that the list of environmental careers in our previous proposal included some careers that were not appropriate to the proposed major. We kindly request to retract that list. We have gathered data about employment outcomes for Sustainability Studies alumni.

A search of the website LinkedIn during September 2022 found 97 UCR Sustainability Studies alums with information on their paths after graduation (2017~2021). Information on whether individuals came from CNAS was not readily available. One in five have advanced to a master’s degree to apply themselves to a specific area of sustainability or another profession. The majority of alumni work in positions that are related to environmental sustainability or social justice in one way or another. Here is a summary of the findings:

21 alum pursued or are pursuing a Master’s Degree:
UCR Master of Public Policy (6), UCR MBA, USC Master of City Planning, University of Wisconsin MS in Sustainable Management, UC Davis MS in Environmental Policy and Management, San Diego State University MA in City Planning, UCI MA in Urban and Regional Planning, Johns Hopkins University MS in Environmental Science and Policy, University of Redlands Master of Education, Keck Graduate Institute Master of Business Science, Brandon University Master of Business Administration, Cal Baptist University MS in Psychology, University of Redlands MA in Organizational Leadership, Arizona State University Master of Technology in Information Technology, Madonna University MS in Human Leadership, University of Arizona Masters in Public Health (One alum is in the Ph.D. program in Ecology at UC Davis)

Several others have pursued other forms of continuing education, for example: Leed Certifications, Data Analytics, Speech Pathology, Aquarium Science, Insurance License, CompTIAA+, and GIS.

The majority of the Sustainability Studies alumni, whose information we were able to recover from LinkedIn, are working in fields or positions that are related to environmental sustainability (38) or social justice (14). Most have been involved in sustainability or social justice work or volunteering before and after graduation in one way or another, including Green Campus Action Plan, Office of Sustainability, and CAFE. This information was not recorded for the purpose of this report.

Current Employment of UCR Sustainability Studies Class of 2017~2021:
Non-profit 18 (+2 overlap with health)
Government 13
Education 13
Health related 10
Job placement examples:

Non-profit organizations:
- California Conservation Corps Foundation, Water Education for Latino Leaders, Japanese Community Youth Council (sustainability content producer), The Sustainability Institute, Climate Resolve, One Cool Earth, Pathways Mgmt Group (education project manager), Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (policy advocate), OC API Community Alliance (policy intern), National Community Renaissance (Affordable Housing), Southern California Mountains Foundation

Government:
- San Francisco Recreation & Park Department (environmental educator), US Forest Service, Inland Empire Utilities (composting assistant), US EPA (environmental protection trainee), City of El Cajon (Administrative/Planning Intern), Hawaii State Energy Office (community engagement specialist), EPA Regional WaterBoard, Riverside County (recycling specialist), California State Assembly (field representative), CivicSpark/Americorp (regional coordinator)

Education:
- UCR CNAS BEES (contracts and grants analyst), ICEF Public Schools (science teacher), UC Cooperative Extension (volunteer service coordinator), USC Dept. Population & Pub H (Research Project Specialist), Woodbury University (Community Outreach), UCR (Academic Advisor for Biology)

Health:
- Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (prevention navigator), AIDS Healthcare Foundation (HIV testing counselor), IECP (Behavioral Therapist)

For-profit:
- Mark Thomas (Urban planning consultant), Avocado Green Brands (sustainable evolution team), Confluence Environmental Field Services (sampling technician), Triumvirate Waste Management (environmental specialist), Fireclay Tile (environmental health and safety specialist), Brimstone (associate chief of staff, LEED holder), Babcock Laboratories, VCA Green (Project administrator, LEED holder)

Based on these findings, we have revised the catalog description of the proposed Environmental Studies B.A. in order to suggest future career paths that reflect the existing record of the Sustainability Studies alumni. From here one, we will state in our documents and websites that the Environmental Studies program will prepare students to make career choices that involve:
promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; or continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education in sustainability, public policy, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.

The bottom line is that the CNAS Executive Committee is strongly opposed to this proposal and we do not want to see it put up for a vote in the Divisional Meeting.

We hope that the CNAS FEC will reconsider this position, which is not consonant with the comments we received from CNAS faculty and Chairs.
June 23, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Ph.D., Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

From: Declan McCole, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

Subject: Response to [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Dear Jason,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE).

Given the focus of the new Department to promote the preparation and training of UCR undergraduate students for careers related to social and health equity, we see the new Department serving as a possible complement to the work of the SOM. Notably, the new Department has potential to support/bolster the work and mission of the SOM Center for Healthy Communities and Department of Social Medicine, Population, and Public Health by preparing UCR students to pursue graduate education within our (1) forthcoming health equity-focused Masters of Public Health program, and (2) current medical school curriculum.

At the same time, several concerns with this proposal remain, despite the attempts to respond to the list of substantive issues raised and communicated to the proposers, not just by ourselves, but by the faculty executive committees (FEC) of CNAS and SPP in particular.

- Concerns remain about the potential damage this will do to other Departments who already have courses that overlap with this proposed new Dept., and whether this will create unnecessary competition for limited resources.

The SOM FEC may be referring to the SPP FEC’s objection to the proposed Health Equity Studies major. The SPP undergraduate Health and Population Policy track is the only program that has curricular overlap with SEHE majors. As we describe below in our response to SPP, the curriculum overlap between the proposed major and SPP’s Health and Population Policy track consists entirely of our own courses in CHASS. When SPP established its Health track, SPP asked us (the proposers) to include our courses in its curriculum. We happily agreed. Now we are proposing a major within CHASS built on our own course offerings, and the SPP FEC is objecting because our curricula overlap. There is a solution to this issue: we could request to withdraw our own CHASS courses from SPP. Then there would be no overlap. That would be an unfortunate outcome in our opinion.
The SOM FEC may also be referring to the comment in the CNAS FEC report regarding “overlap” between the proposed Environmental Studies major and Environmental Science. In this case there is in fact little to no overlap. The proposed Environmental Studies B.A. requires two lower-division CNAS courses from a list that includes ENSC 001, 002, 003, and 006 among a dozen others. The ENSC department has approved the use of these courses in the Environmental Studies curriculum. All other courses in the SEHE Environmental Studies curriculum are social science and humanities courses that do not overlap with ENSC.

We do not anticipate that SEHE will negatively impact enrollment in other majors, especially given the anticipated student enrollment growth overall on our campus. The existing Sustainability Studies major is already sizable and will constitute the basis of SEHE enrollment moving forward. We expect that SEHE courses will benefit students in all colleges interested in the environment and health. For example, our courses will benefit anthropology majors interested in medicine and health. Anthropology offers a concentration for its majors in Medical Anthropology and some of these courses will overlap with the Health Equity Studies major because of shared faculty. However, the anthropology degree has another set of unique requirements that go beyond the scope of health. The increased breadth of courses in this area will benefit students in both programs. Likewise, Psychology majors interested in clinical or community work may benefit from courses offered by SEHE. The SEHE department will contribute to UCR’s curriculum in the areas of health, environment and sustainability, offering breadth courses for majors in other departments.

- There appears to be a lack of tangible discussion and negotiations with these overlapping programs that preclude it from being truly interdisciplinary. This is reflected by language used in response to prior comments raised by SOM FEC (see Table of Responses to Specific Committee Reports – page 12).

As stated in our responses to CNAS and SPP FECs, we have consulted with faculty and leadership in both programs that previously have been identified as “overlapping,” ENSC and SPP’s Health and Population Policy (though we would not agree that “overlap” is a correct characterization). Specifically, we have had seven email exchanges and four meetings with Environmental Science Department leadership. We have met individually with approximately 30 CNAS faculty, including five department Chairs, the relevant Divisional Dean and CNAS Dean, and the outgoing and incoming CNAS FEC Chairs. We also met with the outgoing SOM FEC Chair and current Senate Vice Chair, Declan McCole. As a result of meetings with CNAS and SOM faculty, as described above, we have changed our proposed department and major names and catalog description. Chair McCole also indicated that SOM FEC has some concern regarding the potential transfer of Ann Cheney’s FTE from SOM to the new department. We would like to reassure SOM FEC that Professor Cheney will join the new department as a faculty affiliate and will not transfer FTE.

We requested meetings with SPP FEC leadership multiple times and have been deferred. We asked SPP FEC leadership for guidance on specific changes that SPP would like to see in the proposal, and have not received any response. We have met individually with at least five SPP faculty members, the majority of whom are supportive of the proposal.
In fact, three SPP faculty (1/7 of the total SPP faculty) are affiliated with the proposed SEHE department.

- In addition, a more robust effort at being truly interdisciplinary appears to have been assumed by many of the external letter writers than has actually been engaged in by the proposers.

The majors offered in the proposed department do not cover every discipline or methodology relevant to the environment and health. Rather, the proposed department specializes in arts, humanities and social science methodologies in these areas. Our faculty have expertise in methodologies including ethnography, sociology, history, literary analysis, geography, feminist theory, labor studies and political science, with a particular expertise and emphasis on community-based research methods. (This variety of arts, humanities and social science methodologies justified our self-description as interdisciplinary.) Our research spans areas such as rates of vaccine acceptance, environment and the emotions, the experience of aging, the history of nuclear radiation, environmental justice, race and medicine, and climate change narratives.

We recognize the urgent need for cross-college, cross-disciplinary collaboration in the areas of environment, sustainability and health. For example, we are discussing with CNAS and other colleagues the possibility of creating a Sustainability Studies Program, under which any college or department could offer a Sustainability Studies track. A similar effort may develop around health curricula. We hope to see such structures emerge and we are committed to contributing toward them. Such efforts may not have an institutional partner in CHASS, however, unless the proposed department is approved. We believe that our letter writers understand the arts, humanities and social scientific nature of the proposed majors; most have reviewed the curricula prior to submitting their support.

- In response to SOM FEC comment regarding a need for greater involvement and support from SOM faculty - including the SOM Dean -, the very non-committal response is provided that “We welcome that possibility and are making efforts to reach out”. This does not inspire confidence that the SOM FEC concerns are being taken seriously.

The December 2021 SOM FEC’s report specifically requested that we submit two letters of support: one from Mark Wolfson, Chair of SMPH, and one from Dean Deas. The proposers complied with the request and a letter from Prof. Wolfson was included in the March 2022 revised proposal. In addition to the extensive outreach to CNAS and SPP faculty detailed in our responses to the relevant FEC reports, we also met with the outgoing Chair of the SOM FEC in June 2022. We have consulted with Prof. Wolfson and Senior Associate Dean of Research David Lo regarding the appropriateness of the Health Equity Studies curriculum for students interested in continuing to a Masters in Public Health or to a medical degree. We have also consulted with the Director of the Health Professions Advising Center, about employment opportunities for Health Equity Studies majors. We kindly indicate to the SOM FEC that we are building a proposal for a new department, winning grants to support the construction of the new department, and consulting with faculty across UCR about the proposal, while maintaining a full teaching, research and service load. We are doing the best that we can, and if SOM FEC would offer suggestions as to relevant faculty to consult, who we may have missed, we would be grateful. We note that the most recent new program proposal to appear before the Senate referenced exactly one meeting with faculty from a related program in a
different college. We have exceeded that precedent by at least 500%.

We have sent the proposal and Health Equity Studies curriculum to Dean Deas, who has promised to review it in the near future. It is not usual to request a Dean’s letter of approval for a program proposal not under that Dean’s purview. We have not seen any previous Senate proposal for a department or program be required to submit approval from Deans outside the relevant college.

There is also concern about the potential exaggeration of how beneficial this degree will be to graduates on the job market. It is unclear how this B.A. degree (now that the B.Sc. degree option has been dropped due to an acknowledgement of the lack of a sufficiently scientific foundation of this program) will enable graduates to access careers as therapists, zoologists, wildlife biologists or solar voltaic installers (the top listed “fastest-growing occupations” in Appendix D: Careers related to ESHE for undergraduate majors).

We recognize that the list of environmental careers in our previous proposal included careers that were not appropriate to the proposed major, and we kindly request to retract that list. We have gathered data about employment outcomes for Sustainability Studies alumni:

A search of the website LinkedIn during September 2022 found 97 UCR Sustainability Studies alums with information on their paths after graduation (2017~2021). One in five have advanced to a master’s degree to apply themselves to a specific area of sustainability or another profession. The majority of alumni work in positions that are related to environmental sustainability or social justice in one way or another. Here is a summary of the findings:

21 alum pursued or are pursuing a Master’s Degree:
UCR Master of Public Policy (6), UCR MBA, USC Master of City Planning, University of Wisconsin MS in Sustainable Management, UC Davis MS in Environmental Policy and Management, San Diego State University MA in City Planning, UCI MA in Urban and Regional Planning, Johns Hopkins University MS in Environmental Science and Policy, University of Redlands Master of Education, Keck Graduate Institute Master of Business Science, Brandon University Master of Business Administration, Cal Baptist University MS in Psychology, University of Redlands MA in Organizational Leadership, Arizona State University Master of Technology in Information Technology, Madonna University MS in Human Leadership, University of Arizona Masters in Public Health (One alum is in the Ph.D. program in Ecology at UC Davis).

Several others have pursued other forms of continuing education, for example: Leed Certifications, Data Analytics, Speech Pathology, Aquarium Science, Insurance License, CompTIAA+, and GIS.

The majority of the Sustainability Studies alumni, whose information we were able to recover from LinkedIn, are working in fields or positions that are related to environmental sustainability (38) or social justice (14). Most have been involved in sustainability or social justice work or volunteering before and after graduation in one
way or another, including Green Campus Action Plan, Office of Sustainability, and CAFE. This information was not recorded for the purpose of this report.

**Current Employment of UCR Sustainability Studies Class of 2017~2021:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit</td>
<td>18 (+2 overlap with health)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health related</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For-profit</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10 (Attending school or volunteering)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Job placement examples:**

**Non-profit organizations:**
- California Conservation Corps Foundation, Water Education for Latino Leaders, Japanese Community Youth Council (sustainability content producer), The Sustainability Institute, Climate Resolve, One Cool Earth, Pathways Mgmt Group (education project manager), Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability (policy advocate), OC API Community Alliance (policy intern), National Community Renaissance (Affordable Housing), Southern California Mountains Foundation

**Government:**
- San Francisco Recreation & Park Department (environmental educator), US Forest Service, Inland Empire Utilities (composting assistant), US EPA (environmental protection trainee), City of El Cajon (Administrative/Planning Intern), Hawaii State Energy Office (community engagement specialist), EPA Regional WaterBoard, Riverside County (recycling specialist), California State Assembly (field representative), CivicSpark/Americorps (regional coordinator)

**Education:**
- UCR CNAS BEES (contracts and grants analyst), ICEF Public Schools (science teacher), UC Cooperative Extension (volunteer service coordinator), USC Dept. Population & Pub H (Research Project Specialist), Woodbury University (Community Outreach), UCR (Academic Advisor for Biology)

**Health:**
- Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (prevention navigator), AIDS Healthcare Foundation (HIV testing counselor), IECP (Behavioral Therapist),

**For-profit:**
- Mark Thomas (Urban planning consultant), Avocado Green Brands (sustainable evolution team), Confluence Environmental Field Services (sampling technician), Triumvirate Waste Management (environmental specialist), Fireclay Tile (environmental health and safety specialist), Brimstone (associate chief of staff, LEED holder), Babcock Laboratories, VCA Green (Project administrator, LEED holder)
Based on these findings, we have revised the catalog description of the proposed Environmental Studies B.A. in order to suggest future career paths that reflect the existing record of the Sustainability Studies alumni. From here one, we will state in our documents and websites that the Environmental Studies program will prepare students to make career choices that involve:

- promoting sustainable practices in various capacities as employees in public services, education, healthcare, or the private sector; joining nonprofit organizations with a focus on issues pertaining to environmental sustainability or social justice; or continuing their career development by pursuing professional and graduate education in sustainability, public policy, urban and regional planning, business, law, and public health.

As mentioned above, we have consulted with the Director of the Health Professions Advising Center about potential employment outcomes for Health Equity Studies majors. We are committed to working with the Advising Center to develop innovative programs that make our graduates competitive for entering the health professions as well as for employment in health-oriented corporations and community organizations.

- The overarching concern with this proposal seems to be one of: does the need for this new Department outweigh the ‘cons’? Given the high levels of concern from the aforementioned faculty executives, and the remaining concerns from an SOM perspective, this need does not appear to have been met in the present proposal.

The ‘cons’ raised by SOM FEC include: potential for “overlap” with other programs, the proposed department’s commitment to interdisciplinarity, and the number of faculty with whom the proposers have consulted. We believe that we have responded to these three concerns and respectfully suggest that the need is pressing for a department promoting humanities and social science research and education in these growing and essential fields. The existing Sustainability Studies major is strong and should not be allowed to sunset without a departmental home. We want to build a partner and a pipeline for SOM, in a spirit of collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

Declan F. McCole, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine
TO: Jason Stajich, Chair Riverside Division

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

RE: [Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS

Date: June 10, 2022

The School of Public Policy Executive Committee (SPP EC) reviewed the revised and resubmitted proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS. Upon close review, the SPP EC determined that:

a. the revised and resubmitted proposal still insufficiently addresses several significant, substantive concerns that we raised during our December 2021 review of the previous draft, notably evading a response to a very legitimate concern that we raised
b. the responses to the various concerns submitted by Executive Council committees raises new issues that we note below in detail.

Given these factors, SPP remains strongly opposed to this proposed department, its programs, and its procession to a Divisional vote. We stand by our contention raised in our previous memo that this proposed department has significant redundancy with existing programs in CHASS, CNAS, SPP, and elsewhere throughout campus and co-opts campus-wide strengths (Environment and Health Equity) for the benefit of a small group of existing faculty currently located in one college who wish to relocate to a new department focused on their specific interests.

We respectfully disagree with the premise of this and following comments. The proposers in no way are proposing to operate to the exclusion of research and degree programs elsewhere on campus. If all research on health were to be contained within a single college, by the logic of the SPP FEC report, only faculty in the School of Medicine would be allowed to teach or research anything having to do with health. By the same logic, a degree program in Environmental Engineering would not be allowed to co-exist in the same institution as a degree program in Environmental Science. Our proposal is a distinctively humanistic and social scientific project that in no way co-opts or detracts from work in the natural scientific, medical, public policy, or engineering disciplines.

SPP’s Health and Population Policy track is the only program on campus that overlaps more than three or four courses with the proposed SEHE majors’ curriculum. The overlapping courses are
courses within CHASS that we developed, teach and voluntarily share, at this time, with SPP. Please see a fuller discussion of this issue below.

Below, I offer new concerns and suggestions that arose in our review of this most recent draft. Also, for the sake of record and context (especially for the benefit of Executive Council members who may be previously unfamiliar), I append below our prior memo from December 2021 where we raised our concerns and suggestions pertaining to our review of the previous draft of this proposal—some of which were not addressed by the proposal authors in this revision.

1. **Redundancy:** The revised proposal discusses how “There is some productive and exciting overlap between the proposed B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies and the School of Public Policy’s Health and Population Policy undergraduate degree track” (page 4) but never addresses the original and reasonable concern about (a) redundancy and (b) potential cannibalism (an unfortunate potential consequence of the campus budget model, as often honestly discussed in Senate Executive Council meetings). Though we raised these legitimate concerns in our previous memo, the authors’ response was evasive—claiming that our word choice was inappropriate (even though cannibalism is common terminology that we frequently encounter in the discourse of public policy, economics, political science, business, and other fields in which we engage) and retorting with a “red herring” point: “Many of the authors of this proposal have supported SPP and SPP students with mentorship and teaching (including one third of the courses listed in the SPP ‘Health and Population Policy’ curriculum) for years.”

Though the authors’ response is off the point at hand, its focus on discussing existing courses organized around health (albeit as part of a non-CHASS program) actually substantiates our concern about redundancy with existing campus curriculum if a new program were created.

To clarify our response regarding redundancy between the proposed Health Equity Studies major and the SPP Health and Population Policy undergraduate track: When SPP established the Health and Population track, SPP requested to use the proposers’ courses, which we were already teaching within CHASS. We happily agreed. These courses now constitute approximately one-third of that SPP track’s curriculum. We are now proposing to build a major on the basis of our own courses (again, courses that we proposed, developed and taught in CHASS, entirely independent of SPP and mostly prior to SPP’s existence), and the SPP FEC here objects that our proposed curriculum overlaps with their own track. There is a simple solution to this problem, which we were perhaps too polite to mention explicitly in our previous response. We can simply request to withdraw our CHASS courses from the SPP track, and any overlap or redundancy will be eliminated. We have no desire to have recourse to this solution but it would solve the issue.

Our prior comments (see original memo below) on these two important matters were perhaps challenging. However, they were fair points, raised respectfully about a proposed program (not individuals) and in an effort to be constructive.

Forgive us if we do not read these comments as constructive or challenging. We have asked the SPP FEC Chair and Chair of the SPP faculty to inform us what specific changes SPP is suggesting that we make to our proposal. We have not received any response. We held a parallel set of conversations with CNAS and SOM faculty, which have resulted in significant changes to our proposal. We are not rigid; we have responded to Senate members’ suggestions. Our reading of the SPP FEC’s report does not offer any avenues for accommodation. Our understanding from conversations with SPP faculty is that the SPP FEC is most concerned that SEHE will compete for enrollment with SPP’s undergraduate program. The FEC seems to
wish our proposal to fail entirely. In this we must respectfully disagree.

These concerns were informed by our careful review of the proposal draft at that time and our earlier good faith efforts to meet with the ESHE proposal leadership to raise our concerns about programmatic redundancies and cannibalism and identify practical solutions to avert such undesirable outcomes.

Therefore, given the extent of such practical concerns that we raised previously (which matter in terms of impact on the welfare of students, CHASS, and campus) the authors’ refusal to provide a response is unfortunate. Such refusal neither assuages these significant and legitimate concerns about the proposed initiative nor strengthens the proposal’s justification for this department and the programs it plans to offer. Instead and unfortunately, the response undermines the authors’ claims that they want to reach out and collaborate with other campus units. Given our efforts (via meetings, emails, and Executive Council memos) to voice our concerns to the authors about redundancy and potential programmatic cannibalism and develop beneficial solutions, such a response only serves to further reinforce our existing concerns about this initiative’s willingness to carefully listen to other campus members’ perspectives and potentially build cross-campus collaborations with them (as argued on pages 9 and 11 of this revised proposal).

We are unaware of any efforts by the SPP FEC to reach out and meet with the proposers. The proposers contacted the SPP FEC Chair and Chair of SPP faculty several times, requesting meetings. An initial meeting took place in Summer 2021. The proposers’ follow-up email after that meeting did not receive any response. Multiple requests to meet the SPP FEC Chair and Chair of SPP faculty in August and September 2022 were deferred. The Chair of Faculty has invited the proposers to attend an SPP faculty meeting in October 2022, unfortunately too late to include in this Senate response. In the absence of communication from the SPP leadership, we are unable to glean any practical solutions from the SPP FEC’s reports. We have asked the SPP FEC Chair and Chair of SPP Faculty to specify changes that they would like to see us make to our proposal, and have not received any response as of this writing. That said, proposers have spoken individually with multiple SPP faculty, who do not share the SPP FEC reports’ assessment of our proposal and are supportive. We currently have three SPP faculty affiliated with the proposal.

1. **The need for more science coursework in the curriculum.** The foci of the proposed curricula sit at the nexus of the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. However, the scientific background that students will be required to take for such science-situated issues is still too limited (especially given the concern with providing students with sufficient—or ideally, better-than-sufficient—training for jobs and postgraduate training in many environment- and health-related programs).

Regarding the necessity of solid natural science (including statistics) training, we stand by our contention and constructive solution in our last review of the previous proposal draft:

“SPP faculty know well through their own involvement on policy panels and other advisement activities with decision-makers, many problems that we face in policy are based on ignorance of science. For issues related to environment, sustainability, and health inequity, it is crucial for students to have some grounding in the natural sciences via a science component to the curriculum. This curricular need provides UCR with a unique opportunity to create a truly campus-wide, interdisciplinary major/minor program that is co-led by a steering committee of faculty from multiple colleges and schools across campus and, in doing so, ensures students receive a comprehensive
interdisciplinary training experience in environment and sustainability or health equity.

We thank the School of Public Policy FEC for your assessment of our scientific and data science requirements. We have consulted with CNAS and SOM faculty regarding these requirements. As we mentioned in our response to the previous SPP FEC report, our data science requirement was designed and validated by Esra Kurum, SEHE faculty affiliate and member of the Statistics Department.

Just as CNAS or BCOE majors are required to engage with the broader social context in their Lower Division breadth courses, SEHE majors will be required to have a Lower Division-level understanding of the relevant sciences. Once majors reach the Upper Division level, they will receive humanities and social science training, including in their capstone research methods courses. As befits a CHASS degree, SEHE majors will receive advanced undergraduate training in arts, humanities and social science methods such as ethnography, sociology, literary theory, history and public humanities. Please see the report on employment outcomes of current Sustainability Studies alumni above, for evidence that such social science and humanities training is valuable on the job market.

We recognize that there is an urgent need for cross-college, cross-disciplinary collaboration in the areas of environment, sustainability and health. For example, in our conversations with CNAS faculty we floated the possibility of creating a non degree-granting structure, a Sustainability Studies Program, under which any college or department could offer a Sustainability Studies track. We hope to see such a structure emerge and we are committed to contributing toward it. A similar effort might emerge around health. Such efforts may not have an institutional partner in CHASS, however, unless the proposed department is approved.

2. Curricular Overlap in the Context of Strained Resources
   a. CHASS currently has a very large number of low major interdisciplinary programs while five departments (Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology) teach more than two-thirds of its undergraduates. At a time of fiscal constraint and limited FTEs, it is difficult to justify the need for such a department in CHASS.

   The Sustainability Studies degree does not qualify as a “low major program” by any definition. In fact, it is the second fastest-growing major in CHASS. We anticipate that as the major gains visibility in the new department, and as we undertake recruitment campaigns, the major will maintain or increase its current enrollment of 85-100. Furthermore, we reject the logic denigrating “low major” programs. As of 2021, SPP has 283 undergraduate majors, which puts the entire SPP undergraduate enrollment well below the enrollment of several individual CHASS departments. Low enrollment in itself does not in any way reduce the value or importance of SPP or the SPP undergraduate program to UCR.

   Fortunately, fiscal and staffing conditions at UCR are improving. Already, the CHASS Dean’s office is currently hiring additional staff and reorganizing staff and CHASS administrative units to better serve CHASS departments, especially those previously housed in the Multidisciplinary Unit (MDU). In addition, California legislators and the Governor approved increased levels of spending for the UC system through the 2022 state budget. They also approved an additional $201 million for UCR in particular through passage of AB 2046. Moreover, UCR enrollment is also
growing, and expected to grow to 35,000 by 2030 according to the campus’ 2021 Long Range Development Plan. Given that we have an infusion of new state funds and a growing student population, we believe this is an excellent time to develop new majors at UCR, especially ones that address important public problems. Developing new majors within CHASS will help us to better serve our growing undergraduate student population by offering them additional classes and majors. In turn, this will help to relieve enrollment pressures on impacted CHASS majors and enable more students within those majors to access the classes they need to graduate on time. Importantly, the CHASS Faculty Executive Committee is strongly supportive of the proposed new department and the CHASS Dean supports the proposed department.

Specifically, the claim that interdisciplinary (non-departmental) programs do not get the attention they need is inadequate to justify creating an entirely new department—especially one that, per the construction of its curricula, is essentially two interdisciplinary programs housed under one roof, with few faculty who actually teach and do research regarding health (and whom do not work in the areas of environment and sustainability—and vice versa).

Creating a department will not fix this problem. Furthermore, while there is some overlap between environment and health, there are many unique areas to both spheres that make housing such a pairing under one department awkward and even ironically niche.

Ultimately, the proposal conceptualizes Environment, Sustainability, and Health (though the choice of narrowly focusing on “health equity” versus “health” more broadly is curious and not consistent with other programs throughout the US) as encompassing so much of everything that it lacks specificity.

SEHE is innovative in joining environmental studies with health, the arts, humanities and social sciences. This intersection, far from “niche,” is rapidly gaining attention at the global, national and local levels. The U.S. federal government’s Department of Health and Human Services recently established an Office of Climate and Health Equity to “address the impact of climate change on the health of the American people.” Training and education are central to the Office’s mission. UC recently established a multicampus Center for Climate, Health and Equity; a SEHE faculty member, Jade Sasser, is among the Center’s leadership. Health equity is an appropriate frame for an interdisciplinary department that spans the social sciences, arts and humanities and engages with professional organizations including the Society for Medical Anthropology, American Association for the History of Medicine, Health Humanities Consortium and Medical Sociology. Many universities in the U.S. offer Baccalaureate programs in health humanities and social sciences, with a variety of degree titles; new programs are emerging, such as American University’s highly successful degree in Environmental Sustainability and Global Health, that merge environmental studies and health. The B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies fits within this well established group. The two majors within SEHE are interwoven; they share gateway and capstone research methods courses, as well as common Lower Division and Upper Division courses. By joining environmental studies and health equity, SEHE draws on deep and broad disciplinary traditions, while charting a humanistic and social scientific field that joins two of the most pressing and intertwined challenges of the 21st century.

Yet specificity is essential in justifying its novelty as value-added campus programs and a department, as well as contending that the potential faculty who will be part of
this endeavor encompass the intellectual breadth needed to sufficiently meet what the authors are ultimately promising to the campus and students.

We suggest that the proposers’ collective expertise is more than sufficient to offer a full range of courses spanning health and environmental humanities, arts, and social sciences. Three of the proposers already offer a complete curriculum for the Sustainability Studies major; they are joined in this proposal by four additional faculty with expertise in environmental humanities and social sciences. Proposers with expertise in health humanities and social sciences include Tanya Nieri, Chioun Lee, Dana Simmons, Jennifer Syvertsen, Chikako Takeshita, Jade Sasser and Kim Yi Dionne. It is unclear whether the SPP FEC believes that our proposal is too narrow (“niche”) or too broad (“specificity is essential.”) We think our proposal is nicely balanced. Should any specificity be missing from our 130-page proposal, please indicate where.

b. In addition to impacts on units beyond CHASS, the proposal underestimates impact on existing CHASS departments given that the department will be formed by existing faculty moving their appointments out of their current departments and not via external recruitment. Notably, Sociology is down to 13 faculty members for more than 1000 majors. Three faculty members from Sociology are authors of this proposal (Lee, Nieri, and Reese). One can only infer that, if this proposal were to be approved, all three would move their appointments out of Sociology. If so, that would leave 10 faculty in Sociology—a loss of nearly 25% of faculty in a very small department that has a high teaching responsibility to CHASS. Likewise, History would lose two from its 25 faculty, GSST would lose three (25%) of its 12 ladder rank faculty, and, if author Ann Cheney moved from SOM to this new program, SPPM would lose one (25%) of its only four ladder rank faculty—at a time when that department is proposing a new graduate program (previously submitted to Executive Council for review).

We thank SPP FEC for your concerns regarding CHASS departments. The CHASS Faculty Executive Committee, whose purview includes all the departments mentioned above save SPPM, is strongly supportive of the proposed new department. The CHASS Dean supports the proposed department. We have been in close contact with the CHASS Office of the Dean to ensure that the new department will not negatively impact other departments in CHASS. Some faculty are planning partial transfers of FTE in order to continue to serve their home departments. Faculty will also transfer FTE and teaching responsibilities from their current departments in an intentional, stepwise manner so as to minimize impact. There is ample precedent for faculty transferring their lines to other CHASS departments (and indeed to SPP); it is possible for such faculty to write MOUs with the current departments to continue to teach one or more courses for the latter department. Only 1.5 FTE transfers from Sociology is projected (see FTE forecast on pages 44-45 in the proposal). Ann Cheney will remain a faculty affiliate and will not transfer FTE from SOM to CHASS.

In 2020, GSST faculty decided that GSST will no longer support the existing Sustainability Studies major, which does not fit with the department’s vision for future development. This decision, in fact, was the original impetus for the new department proposal. GSST is therefore fully supportive of the transfer of the existing Sustainability Studies major (renamed Environmental Studies), and its associated
faculty, to the new department. GSST will be minimally affected by the departure of
the three faculty since they almost exclusively teach the Sustainability Studies major.
(Please see GSST Chair Jane Ward’s letter of support attached to the proposal.) The
three will continue to teach the courses necessary for the current majors by
cross-listing them with the new department.

This under-estimated impact also applies to consideration of existing,
already-extended staff with the creation of a new department (page 49). It is easy to
consider one’s own staffing needs, but difficult to consider how much impact such
shared staffing proposals will have on established programs that are already
under-resourced (as noted by the proposal). This includes grant administration (and
the between-unit sharing of such personnel).

The CHASS Dean, in a letter to Senate Chair Stajich, committed to supporting the
proposed SEHE department. CHASS is developing staffing plans that account for
SEHE’s future existence.

It is commendable that the future faculty are “actively seeking grant funding to bring
resources to the university” (page 6). But, at risk of stating the obvious, submitted
proposals for competitive funding are not the same thing as proposals funded and
unreliable sources of income, especially given the relative size of humanities grants
and the overall small number of faculty.

Thank you for this prompt to share our success in gaining grants and funding for the
proposed new department. Proposers have been awarded the following grants to
support development of SEHE: the UCOP Advancing Faculty Diversity award
($500,000); the NEH Humanities Connections Award ($35,000); and the UCHRI
“Living Through Upheaval” Grant ($10,000). Although we are proud of our success
in this area, we would be surprised to see the Senate make prior fundraising a
prerequisite for successful curricular proposals.


The proposal makes much of the collaboration of the designated faculty, but there is no
evidence provided about any co-authored papers and co-PIs on grants from among the faculty
listed on the front page of the proposal. For example, it was noted that the $500,000 UCOP
grant listed was not under grants awarded. Who was the PI and the co-PIs of that grant?
Research on cluster hiring indicates that these kinds of interdisciplinary programs work better
when the members of the clusters have published or submitted grants together prior to
formation of the cluster. Appendix A of this revised proposal lists grants by faculty, but none
of the grants listed show any indication of collaboration among any of the authors of this
proposal.

As we state in the proposal, we have been working together on intellectual and institutional
projects for (in most cases) over a decade. Co-PIs on the UCOP grant include proposers Kim
Yi Dionne and Jennifer Syvertsen (alongside joão costa vargas and Melissa Wilcox). Co-PIs
on the NEH grant include fourteen of the proposal’s authors and affiliates. Co-PIs on the
UCHRI grant include Michelle Raheja and Dana Simmons. Co-PIs of an OASIS grant
awarded this past summer, “CREATE-IE” (which focuses on the electrification of the
region’s logistics industry), include Emmons Allison, Gudis, and Reese. Chikako Takeshita’s
OASIS grant on building community resilience to extreme heat was also awarded. To be clear, our proposal for a new department is not related to cluster hiring.

Also, many of the grants listed are expired (some several years ago) or will expire this year and some are by people not affiliated with the program (Bruce Link in SPP).

We included recent grants on that list, including some that have expired. A correction: Bruce Link is a faculty affiliate of SEHE, and he submitted his grants for inclusion on our list.

4. **Departmental leadership.** This revised proposal is now much clearer in identifying who are the faculty actually involved with this initiative. However, of the proposal authors—whom we presume will all move into this new department—only one is a full professor. The other faculty listed are associate and assistant professors. This is unusual and certainly not ideal for any department (at UCR or any other UC campus). Also, in terms of administrative and service workload, such rank composition presents numerous challenges—especially to junior faculty in terms of service.

Thank you for your concern about the proposers’ administrative and service workload and our promotions. As our FTE projections (pages 44-45 in the proposal) indicate, we expect that at least two of our faculty will have advanced to Full prior to joining the proposed department. There is only one assistant professor currently listed in the proposal who we expect to be advanced to an associate professor this year. Initially, the department will have no nontenured faculty members.

We agree that it is important to keep administrative and service workloads manageable, commensurate to one’s rank, and to protect the research time of assistant professors, and we have collectively developed various strategies for doing this based on our collective university and leadership experiences. Combined, the faculty proposers have 170 years of experience as UCR faculty and another 26 years of experience at other universities. Moreover, our group of faculty proposers includes multiple faculty with advanced leadership experience (including two former department chairs, one former department co-Chair, two past and present directors of the Global Studies program, a present director of the Labor Studies program, former Director of the California Center for the Native Nations, incoming Faculty Director of the Office of Sustainability, several FEC and Executive Council members and one former Vice Chair of the Academic Senate). We are fully prepared to invest in this endeavor.

In closing, we wish to re-emphasize a point from our prior review: given the broad intellectual expanse that this proposed department tries to encompass and bridge, there is great potential and need for this proposal’s ideas to manifest in the form of a truly cross-campus, interdisciplinary program—one that draws on the relevant scholarly and training strengths found throughout all of UCR’s colleges and schools for maximum benefit to students and the campus alike, in a manner that reflects the campus-wide intellectual and programmatic culture of many of our R1 peer campuses. This point is critical given the extent of such environment, sustainability, and “health, society, and culture” programs throughout the US and the substantial opportunity costs this new initiative will present to our resource-strained campus and the college in which it will be located in its current conception. The point here extends beyond this particular proposal to proposals in general: given opportunity costs and resource constraints, it is crucial for our campus to consider how such ventures can be developed in a manner that offers an improvement on what similar programs exist on other campuses versus simply matching or, worse, suboptimally trying to replicate.
those programs.

Please see our comments above regarding cross-campus collaboration and “replication.” We do not believe that the SPP FEC has demonstrated any unusual or excessive opportunity costs associated with the proposed new department. SPP FEC seems most strongly, and perhaps unusually (given the FEC’s purview), concerned about internal matters within CHASS and the proposers’ workload. The CHASS FEC, CHASS Dean, and the proposers feel that the outcome is valuable enough to merit our college’s investment. We suggest that SEHE will open new and valuable opportunities for UCR students and faculty.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Carpiano, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Professor of Public Policy
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
July 6, 2022

To: Chikako Takeshita
Professor of Gender and Sexuality Studies and Lead Proponent

From: Jason Stajich
Chair, Riverside Division

RE: Proposal to Establish a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at UC Riverside

Dear Chikako,

I write to provide the review comments regarding the proposal to establish a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (ESHE) at UC Riverside. Below are discussion comments from Executive Council meetings on June 13 and June 27, 2022 and attached are response memos from committees tasked with review.

Some Executive Council members felt the proponents' response to pre-proposal critiques were casual and that the subsequent proposal does not make a strong case for the establishment of ESHE. A member mentioned that the faculty makeup is not diverse and expressed concern regarding potential faculty hiring in the new department. On the contrary, another member did not assess the proposed faculty makeup as lacking diversity.

Generally, Executive Council is mixed in their sentiment regarding the proposed department. Some emphatically against and others equally in favor of establishment. Nonetheless, the group agreed that it is imperative that proponents respond in writing with a clear and compact response to the review critiques so that the proposal, critiques, and responses to Senate review comments are available to the Division.

Now that review comments have been provided to you, please send to the attention of the Division Chair, with courtesy copy to the Executive Director, either option 1 or 2 below:

1. a response document, by **October 3, 2022**, that replies to critiques and questions put forth via this and the attached comment memos so that this information can be provided to Senate members at large as part of the Fall 2022 Division meeting agenda. (Executive Council strongly suggests a format that includes the restatement of the question or issue followed immediately by the response) or;

2. a revised proposal that utilizes the comments from this review. This would- be considered a “revised proposal” and the document would not start at the beginning as a pre-proposal. I do not provide a due date here as a revision would, of course, be done in the timeframe that is best for the proponents.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jason
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

May 16, 2022

To: Jason Stajich  
   Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate

Fr: Sean Cutler  
   Chair, Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

CAP discussed the full proposal for the proposed Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) – in CHASS on May 2, 2022. By a vote of +9-0-0, CAP was unanimously supportive of the proposed new department.

CAP found that the proposing committee addressed the feedback CAP provided on the pre-proposal, including FTE transfers, standards for merits and promotions, and Bylaw 55 and the rank distribution of the department’s initial faculty cohort.
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

June 1, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Lorenzo Mangolini, Vice Chair
   Committee on Educational Policy

RE: Proposal for the Establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Educational Policy* reviewed the proposal for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS at their May 6, 2022 meeting.

The Committee remains concerned with how the proposed department will interact with established departments in CHASS and the potential for the proposed new department to absorb resources from other departments and programs. The Committee recommends that the proposal be updated to document how this issue will be addressed.

The Committee recommends that the proposal be updated to document how the proposed new department will benefit undergraduate students and how the proposed department plans to attract undergraduate students to the majors to be offered.

Lastly, the Committee recommends that the proposal be sent to BCoE for review, as there is potential overlap between the proposed new department and Engineering disciplines.

*The Committee on Educational Policy Chair Juliann Allison recused themself from the Committee’s discussion and finalization of the response due to a conflict of interest.
COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, & INCLUSION

May 24, 2022

To: Jason Stajich  
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Katherine Stavropoulos, Chair  
Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The DEI committee reviewed the Proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) and has no additional comments.
June 2, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Weixin Yao, Chair  
Committee on Research

Re: 21-22. CR. Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity

The committee on research reviewed the proposal and would like further explanation on how the FTE transfer would function and more details on potential impact on existing departments.
COMMITTEE ON COURSES

June 3, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Stephanie Dingwall, Chair [Signature]
Committee on Courses

Re: New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Courses reviewed the proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity in CHASS and had no concerns related to the Committee’s charge of courses and instruction.
COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE

May 17, 2022

To: Jason Stajich  
   Riverside Division Academic Senate

Fr: John Heraty, Chair  
   Committee on Faculty Welfare

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The Committee on Faculty Welfare met on May 17, 2022 to evaluate the proposal for the establishment of the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) in CHASS. Faculty Welfare approved the proposal and the responses the proposers provided to Faculty Welfare’s review of the pre-proposal.
GRADUATE COUNCIL

May 25, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Don Collins, Chair
   Graduate Council

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Graduate Council reviewed the proposal for a new Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at their May 19, 2022 meeting. The Council approved the new department but would like to provide some comments that will hopefully be considered for a future version of the proposal. Based on the information included in the proposal (nature of training provided by the proposed courses and expertise of the associated faculty), it was unclear how the students will be prepared for the type of green jobs and environmental related careers that are listed in the proposal. Based on the information included in the proposal, it was unclear how the students will be prepared for the type of green jobs and environmental related careers that are listed in the proposal. The Council encourages the proposers to be clear and transparent in the proposal body and the proposed catalog description of the department/program/major what types of sustainability-related jobs their majors are qualified to apply to. Including concrete numbers of where recent graduates from the existing Sustainability Studies major (those who started in the major as Freshmen and not transfers from CNAS) are currently working will help. Additionally, they are encouraged to reach out to the School of Public Policy to be able to provide more course offerings with a technical background to their students.
June 6, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Manu Sridharan, Chair
       Committee on Library and Information Technology

Re: 21-22. CR. Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity

The Committee on Library and Information Technology reviewed the proposal and was overall supportive. The committee felt that the proposal would be stronger with additional data from outside sources like Emsi or EAB showing the demand for the new major from prospective students and in the labor market.
To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division  

From: Dana Simmons, Chair  
Planning & Budget  

Re: [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)  

Planning & Budget reviewed the proposal for a new department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) at their May 17, 2022 meeting. A majority of the committee voted to approve the proposal as written.
COMMITTEE ON UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

May 20, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
    Riverside Division

From: Wallace Cleaves, Chair
    Committee on Undergraduate Admissions

Re: Campus Review - New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity in CHASS

The Committee on Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the New Department Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE) in CHASS and are supportive of the proposal.
June 09, 2022

TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: John Kim, Chair
      CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

The CHASS Executive Committee (EC) has reviewed the proposal, dated March 31, 2022, for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability and Health Equity (ESHE) to be housed in CHASS; we enthusiastically endorse this proposal and commend the proposers for their comprehensive and meticulous revisions responding to the comments by other executive committees and Senate committees on their pre-proposal.

In this memorandum, we reaffirm the previous CHASS EC’s endorsement, dated June 21, 2021, of ESHE’s core mission focusing on the humanistic and social scientific dimensions of environmental studies, sustainability studies and health equity studies. Additionally, we highlight how the proposers have superbly addressed the various concerns that were raised in the campus-wide review of its pre-proposal.

The departmentalization of ESHE will address a significant lacuna in UCR’s existing strengths in environmental studies, sustainability studies and health equity studies across UCR’s colleges/schools and will certainly create new synergies among them. To name a few, UCR is the home to the Department of Environmental Engineering (BCOE); the Center for Environmental Research and Technology (BCOE); the Department of Environmental Science (CNAS); the Center for Conservation Biology (CNAS); the Environmental Dynamics and Geo-Ecology Institute (CNAS); the California Agriculture and Food Enterprise (CNAS), the Center for Health Disparity Research (SoM); Department of Social Medicine, Population and Public Health (SoM); a undergraduate major in Public Policy with one track in Health and Population Policy and another in Urban/Environmental Policy (SPP); as well as an undergraduate major in Operations and Supply Chain Management with a faculty focused on sustainable procurement (SoB).
Missing in these rich and diverse offerings is an academic unit dedicated to the humanistic and social scientific dimensions: How do humans reflect upon and respond to environmental disaster? How is climate change affecting societal values and young people’s worldviews and their relationship to nature? How do societies grapple with questions of sustainability under unsustainable conditions? What are the social, political, and philosophical implications of massive inequalities in health care? How can we conceptualize and promote environmental and health justices in light of historical racism, sexism, and colonialism as well as the neoliberal global capitalism? ESHE complements other academic units’ work on the scientific and pragmatic aspects of environmental and health and brings it to a full circle by addressing the human and social dimensions of environment, sustainability, and health equity.

Departmentalization is essential to providing a stable institutional home for this critical work. In this sense, the proposers of ESHE have superbly addressed the various concerns that have been raised by other executive committees. In addition to their responses, the CHASS EC notes the following: the wide range of units that use the term “environment” or “environmental” in their names demonstrates that this term is not exclusive to a specific discipline. Rather, the notion of the “environment” is necessarily multifaceted as it is literally all-“encompassing” having aspects that pertain to engineering, the physical and biological sciences, medicine, public policy, business and the humanities and social sciences. There are in fact multiple UC campuses that offer both an Environmental Studies B.A. that is oriented towards the humanities and social sciences along with a B.S. in the environmental sciences, demonstrating that this is a common practice.

The CHASS EC also notes the proposers’ response to SPP EC’s objections, which call the ESHE proposal “cannibalistic.” We note, in concert with the proposers, that the perception of “cannibalism” stems from the fact that 11 of SPP’s courses are taught by the ESHE proposers themselves. Far from “cannibalism,” this overlap between ESHE and SPP points to the kind of productive collaborative synergies that can arise when colleges/schools work together toward the common goal of educating our students. Moreover, the CHASS EC also notes the fundamentally differing missions of CHASS and SPP. The fundamental mission of SPP is to develop answers for policy-based implementation; the fundamental mission of CHASS is to develop questions for philosophical and historical reflection as well as social practice. The two pedagogical missions overlap in appearance but remain fundamentally different. It should be further noted that ESHE has made concessions at the request from SPP to remove all PBPL courses from ESHE’s curricula. However, ESHE faculty’s courses will continue to be open to PBPL students.

In view of the proposers’ demonstrated success with the Sustainability Studies major which has grown to 100 majors in just seven years, it is without a doubt that ESHE will continue to grow as it serves CHASS students who are interested in the humanistic and social scientific aspects of environmental studies, sustainability studies, and health equity studies. ESHE’s two proposed majors in Health Equity Studies and Environmental and Sustainability Studies would go hand-in-hand with majors in thematically related areas in BCOE, CNAS, SoB, and SPP and could serve as a pipeline for prospective graduate students in a broad range of social science and humanistic disciplines as well as the SoM, SPP and SoB. As the proposers note on page 127 of their proposal, many of the top 100 fastest growing occupations in California are related to health and
the environment, many of which do not require highly specialized scientific, engineering or medical knowledge but do require a broad philosophical understanding of issues related to healthcare and the environment, such as, public relations specialists, educators, community organizers, attorneys, or health care administrators and medical social workers, to name just a few.

The proposers of ESHE have already demonstrated their own sustainability and prospects for future growth through their impressive $496,570 UCOP grant in their collaborative project with the newly established Department of Black Study. Their grant, “Advancing Faculty Diversity and Epistemologies in Black Study, Health and Environmental Inequalities,” demonstrates the possibilities available when other units on campus collaborate with ESHE to address some of the most urgent questions of our time, namely, the environment, sustainability and health equity. The ESHE proposers also won a $35,000 NEH Humanities Connection grant that supports “innovative curricular approaches that foster partnerships among humanities faculty and their counterparts in the social and natural sciences and in pre-service or professional programs.” The collaborative possibilities with BCOE, CNAS, SoB, SoM, SPP or other units in applying for grants are potentially boundless.

It is in this sense that the CHASS EC enthusiastically endorses the ESHE proposal, as its implementation will contribute greatly in complementing and completing UCR’s impressive profile in these three areas by introducing the currently missing humanistic and social scientific aspects of these most urgent questions of our time.
31 May 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

From: Theodore Garland, Jr., Chair, Executive Committee
College of Natural and Agricultural Science

Re: Campus Review - CNAS EC Response to Revised ESHE Department Proposal

The CNAS Executive Committee (EC) has reviewed the revised proposal for the establishment of a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity, (ESHE) to be housed in CHASS. The revised proposal has addressed some of our previous concerns, most substantively by removing the bachelors of science degree plan. However, many of the problems that we identified with the initial proposal have not been addressed. The response of the proposers to these issues were insufficient and, in some cases, dismissive. The following major problems remain:

(1) overlap with the ENSC undergraduate program,

(2) a misalignment between the potential composition of ESHE faculty and some of the proposed undergraduate major fields of study, and

(3) a lack of evidence of post-graduation outcomes for previous Sustainability Studies majors.

We continue to believe that advancing sustainable and equitable interactions between humans and the environment is a critical part of the University and CNAS missions, and we welcome efforts to bring together humanities and natural sciences disciplines in this pursuit.
(1) We now formally request that “Environment” be removed from the proposed department name. The term “Environment” continues to be used loosely throughout the proposal. We reiterate our previous statement on this topic: a comprehensive description of the environment as it relates to finding sustainable environmental solutions is defined as the physical, chemical and biological factors as well as processes that control transfer of mass and energy among multiple components of the Earth system as well as the human system that interacts with them. The new Department only marginally captures training in the latter. Therefore, a more appropriate name might be the “Department of Sustainability and Health Equity.” However, “sustainability” implies having science represented, which it is not, so this is still problematic.

Furthermore, ENSC was again not directly consulted before submission of the revised proposal. This is consistent with the lack of consultation with ENSC noted in the CNAS EC comments on the initial proposal, and contrary to the disingenuous statement in the revised proposal that the proposers “continue to work to build dialogue and collaboration” (page 11). As a result, potential overlap with ENSC as well as inaccurate and misleading statements of ENSC’s mission and undergraduate programs continue to be an issue. Once again, further consultation with CNAS departments, particularly ENSC, is recommended, as it will result in a better union of natural and social sciences topics and training, which is required to advance sustainability. The EC continues to see many potential opportunities for synergy between a Department of Sustainability and Health Equity and CNAS Departments.

(2) We remain disappointed in the potential creation of a department where required scientific expertise is completely missing among the participating faculty (pages 50-51 of the proposal). It remains unlikely that the participating faculty will be able to deliver and achieve many of the stated educational/research goals of the proposed department, as strong scientific and technical expertise in the natural sciences serve as the foundation for identification and mitigation of environmental health challenges that we continue to face at multiple scales within the United States and abroad. The fact that such expertise is required from faculty outside of ESHQ continues to highlight the importance for deeper consultation with relevant CNAS Departments during the development of the new Department.

(3) We continue to be concerned that the students graduating with degrees in the proposed majors will have poor post-graduation outcomes as a result of the training and education insufficiencies noted above. Although the proposal still claims that the new Department will prepare students to effectively enter
the workforce and contribute to the solutions of environmental and sustainability problems, the proposers continue to provide anecdotal evidence of outcomes for previous Sustainability Studies majors and have added a new list of “Careers related to ESHE for Undergraduate Majors” (Appendix D). Many of the potential careers in Appendix D appear to be poorly matched to the proposed undergraduate program. Two environmental related occupations with projected growth in CA are identified: "Solar photovoltaic installers," and "zoologists and wildlife biologists." How would a BA degree in the proposed program prepare a student for these careers? Solar photovoltaic installers do not require a BA, and the groundwork to be a zoologist/wildlife biologist does not exist in the proposed curriculum. For the proposed BA degree, students take only 2 science courses, of which only one is in biology. Although the proposal contains a list of different areas under "Best Careers for Environmental Studies majors" (p. 131), there is still no evidence how the proposed curriculum prepares students for these career titles. For example, a graduate with a BA degree obtained under this curriculum will not be qualified for an "environmental engineer" position as claimed. Some of the other positions require higher degrees (law, teaching credential, etc.). Lastly, the proposers refer to the list of careers from UCSB's Environmental Studies major; however, the scope of the program at UCSB is very different than the proposed curriculum under review here at UCR. The Environmental Studies major at UCSB is under the Division of Mathematical, Life, and Physical Sciences.

Finally, we reiterate our request that the proposal include a good-faith effort to assess post-graduation outcomes for the nearly 187 students that have graduated with a BS in Sustainability Studies since 2016/2017, as these data are critical for justifying expansion of enrollment within the new Sustainability and Health Equity program. This information can be obtained by reaching out to SUST alumni and tracking down these data since 2016/2017. This is important information that needs to be provided, as we suspect that a large percentage of these students ended up in jobs outside of the field of sustainability studies.

The bottom line is that the CNAS Executive Committee is strongly opposed to this proposal and we do not want to see it put up for a vote in the Divisional Meeting.
June 23, 2022

To: Jason Stajich, Ph.D., Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

From: Declan McCole, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

Subject: Response to [Campus Review] Department Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE)

Dear Jason,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the Proposal for the Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHE).

Given the focus of the new Department to promote the preparation and training of UCR undergraduate students for careers related to social and health equity, we see the new Department serving as a possible complement to the work of the SOM. Notably, the new Department has potential to support/bolster the work and mission of the SOM Center for Healthy Communities and Department of Social Medicine, Population, and Public Health by preparing UCR students to pursue graduate education within our (1) forthcoming health equity-focused Masters of Public Health program, and (2) current medical school curriculum.

At the same time, several concerns with this proposal remain, despite the attempts to respond to the list of substantive issues raised and communicated to the proposers, not just by ourselves, but by the faculty executive committees (FEC) of CNAS and SPP in particular.

- Concerns remain about the potential damage this will do to other Departments who already have courses that overlap with this proposed new Dept., and whether this will create unnecessary competition for limited resources.

- There appears to be a lack of tangible discussion and negotiations with these overlapping programs that preclude it from being truly interdisciplinary. This is reflected by language used in response to prior comments raised by SOM FEC (see Table of Responses to Specific Committee Reports – page 12). In response to SOM FEC comment regarding a need for greater involvement and support from SOM faculty - including the SOM Dean -, the very non-committal response is provided that “We welcome that possibility and are making efforts to reach out”. This does not inspire confidence that the SOM FEC concerns are being taken seriously.
In addition, a more robust effort at being truly interdisciplinary appears to have been assumed by many of the external letter writers than has actually been engaged in by the proposers.

There is also concern about the potential exaggeration of how beneficial this degree will be to graduates on the job market. It is unclear how this B.A. degree (now that the B.Sc. degree option has been dropped due to an acknowledgement of the lack of a sufficiently scientific foundation of this program) will enable graduates to access careers as therapists, zoologists, wildlife biologists or solar voltaic installers (the top listed “fastest-growing occupations” in Appendix D: Careers related to ESHE for undergraduate majors).

The overarching concern with this proposal seems to be one of: does the need for this new Department outweigh the ’cons”? Given the high levels of concern from the aforementioned faculty executives, and the remaining concerns from an SOM perspective, this need does not appear to have been met in the present proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Declan F. McCole, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine
TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

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

RE: [Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS

Date: June 10, 2022

The School of Public Policy Executive Committee (SPP EC) reviewed the revised and resubmitted proposal for a Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS. Upon close review, the SPP EC determined that:

a. the revised and resubmitted proposal still insufficiently addresses several significant, substantive concerns that we raised during our December 2021 review of the previous draft, notably evading a response to a very legitimate concern that we raised
b. the responses to the various concerns submitted by Executive Council committees raises new issues that we note below in detail.

Given these factors, SPP remains strongly opposed to this proposed department, its programs, and its procession to a Divisional vote. We stand by our contention raised in our previous memo that this proposed department has significant redundancy with existing programs in CHASS, CNAS, SPP, and elsewhere throughout campus and co-opt the campus-wide strengths (Environment and Health Equity) for the benefit of a small group of existing faculty currently located in one college who wish to relocate to a new department focused on their specific interests.

Below, I offer **new concerns and suggestions that arose in our review of this most recent draft**. Also, for the sake of record and context (especially for the benefit of Executive Council members who may be previously unfamiliar), I append below our prior memo from December 2021 where we raised our concerns and suggestions pertaining to our review of the **previous draft of this proposal**—some of which were not addressed by the proposal authors in this revision.

1. **Redundancy:** The revised proposal discusses how “There is some productive and exciting overlap between the proposed B.A. degree in Health Equity Studies and the School of Public Policy’s Health and Population Policy undergraduate degree track” (page 4) but never addresses the original and reasonable concern about (a) redundancy and (b) potential cannibalism (an unfortunate potential consequence of the campus budget model, as often
honestly discussed in Senate Executive Council meetings). Though we raised these legitimate concerns in our previous memo, the authors’ response was evasive—claiming that our word choice was inappropriate (even though cannibalism is common terminology that we frequently encounter in the discourse of public policy, economics, political science, business, and other fields in which we engage) and retorting with a “red herring” point:

“Many of the authors of this proposal have supported SPP and SPP students with mentorship and teaching (including one third of the courses listed in the SPP ‘Health and Population Policy’ curriculum) for years.”

Though the authors’ response is off the point at hand, its focus on discussing existing courses organized around health (albeit as part of a non-CHASS program) actually substantiates our concern about redundancy with existing campus curriculum if a new program were created.

Our prior comments (see original memo below) on these two important matters were perhaps challenging. However, they were fair points, raised respectfully about a proposed program (not individuals) and in an effort to be constructive. These concerns were informed by our careful review of the proposal draft at that time and our earlier good faith efforts to meet with the ESHE proposal leadership to raise our concerns about programmatic redundancies and cannibalism and identify practical solutions to avert such undesirable outcomes. Therefore, given the extent of such practical concerns that we raised previously (which matter in terms of impact on the welfare of students, CHASS, and campus) the authors’ refusal to provide a response is unfortunate. Such refusal neither assuages these significant and legitimate concerns about the proposed initiative nor strengthens the proposal’s justification for this department and the programs it plans to offer. Instead and unfortunately, the response undermines the authors’ claims that they want to reach out and collaborate with other campus units. Given our efforts (via meetings, emails, and Executive Council memos) to voice our concerns to the authors about redundancy and potential programmatic cannibalism and develop beneficial solutions, such a response only serves to further reinforce our existing concerns about this initiative’s willingness to carefully listen to other campus members’ perspectives and potentially build cross-campus collaborations with them (as argued on pages 9 and 11 of this revised proposal).

2. The need for more science coursework in the curriculum. The foci of the proposed curricula sit at the nexus of the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences. However, the scientific background that students will be required to take for such science-situated issues is still too limited (especially given the concern with providing students with sufficient—or ideally, better-than-sufficient—training for jobs and postgraduate training in many environment- and health-related programs).

Regarding the necessity of solid natural science (including statistics) training, we stand by our contention and constructive solution in our last review of the previous proposal draft:

“SPP faculty know well through their own involvement on policy panels and other advisement activities with decision-makers, many problems that we face in policy are based on ignorance of science. For issues related to environment, sustainability, and health
inequity, it is crucial for students to have some grounding in the natural sciences via a science component to the curriculum. This curricular need provides UCR with a unique opportunity to create a truly campus-wide, interdisciplinary major/minor program that is co-led by a steering committee of faculty from multiple colleges and schools across campus and, in doing so, ensures students receive a comprehensive interdisciplinary training experience in environment and sustainability or health equity.

3. Curricular Overlap in the Context of Strained Resources
   a. CHASS currently has a very large number of low major interdisciplinary programs while five departments (Economics, History, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology) teach more than two-thirds of its undergraduates. At a time of fiscal constraint and limited FTEs, it is difficult to justify the need for such a department in CHASS. Specifically, the claim that interdisciplinary (non-departmental) programs do not get the attention they need is inadequate to justify creating an entirely new department—especially one that, per the construction of its curricula, is essentially two interdisciplinary programs housed under one roof, with few faculty who actually teach and do research regarding health (and whom do not work in the areas of environment and sustainability—and vice versa). Creating a department will not fix this problem. Furthermore, while there is some overlap between environment and health, there are many unique areas to both spheres that make housing such a pairing under one department awkward and even ironically niche. Ultimately, the proposal conceptualizes Environment, Sustainability, and Health (though the choice of narrowly focusing on “health equity” versus “health” more broadly is curious and not consistent with other programs throughout the US) as encompassing so much of everything that it lacks specificity. Yet specificity is essential in justifying its novelty as value-added campus programs and a department, as well as contending that the potential faculty who will be part of this endeavor encompass the intellectual breadth needed to sufficiently meet what the authors are ultimately promising to the campus and students.

   b. In addition to impacts on units beyond CHASS, the proposal underestimates impact on existing CHASS departments given that the department will be formed by existing faculty moving their appointments out of their current departments and not via external recruitment. Notably, Sociology is down to 13 faculty members for more than 1000 majors. Three faculty members from Sociology are authors of this proposal (Lee, Nieri, and Reese). One can only infer that, if this proposal were to be approved, all three would move their appointments out of Sociology. If so, that would leave 10 faculty in Sociology—a loss of nearly 25% of faculty in a very small department that has a high teaching responsibility to CHASS. Likewise, History would lose two from its 25 faculty, GSST would lose three (25%) of its 12 ladder rank faculty, and, if author Ann Cheney moved from SOM to this new program, SPPM would lose one (25%) of its only four ladder rank faculty—at a time when that department is proposing a new graduate program (previously submitted to Executive Council for review).
This under-estimated impact also applies to consideration of existing, already-extended staff with the creation of a new department (page 49). It is easy to consider one’s own staffing needs, but difficult to consider how much impact such shared staffing proposals will have on established programs that are already under-resourced (as noted by the proposal). This includes grant administration (and the between-unit sharing of such personnel).

It is commendable that the future faculty are “actively seeking grant funding to bring resources to the university” (page 6). But, at risk of stating the obvious, submitted proposals for competitive funding are not the same thing as proposals funded and unreliable sources of income, especially given the relative size of humanities grants and the overall small number of faculty.

4. **Program Design and Leadership Issues.**

The proposal makes much of the collaboration of the designated faculty, but there is no evidence provided about any co-authored papers and co-PIs on grants from among the faculty listed on the front page of the proposal. For example, it was noted that the $500,000 UCOP grant listed was not under grants awarded. Who was the PI and the co-PIs of that grant? Research on cluster hiring indicates that these kinds of interdisciplinary programs work better when the members of the clusters have published or submitted grants together prior to formation of the cluster.

Appendix A of this revised proposal lists grants by faculty, but none of the grants listed show any indication of collaboration among any of the authors of this proposal. Also, many of the grants listed are expired (some several years ago) or will expire this year and some are by people not affiliated with the program (Bruce Link in SPP).

5. **Departmental leadership.** This revised proposal is now much clearer in identifying who are the faculty actually involved with this initiative. However, of the proposal authors—whom we presume will all move into this new department—only one is a full professor. The other faculty listed are associate and assistant professors. This is unusual and certainly not ideal for any department (at UCR or any other UC campus). Also, in terms of administrative and service workload, such rank composition presents numerous challenges—especially to junior faculty in terms of service.

In closing, we wish to re-emphasize a point from our prior review: given the broad intellectual expanse that this proposed department tries to encompass and bridge, there is great potential and need for this proposal’s ideas to manifest in the form of a truly cross-campus, interdisciplinary program—one that draws on the relevant scholarly and training strengths found throughout all of UCR’s colleges and schools for maximum benefit to students and the campus alike, in a manner that reflects the campus-wide intellectual and programmatic culture of many of our R1 peer campuses. This point is critical given the extent of such environment, sustainability, and “health, society, and culture” programs throughout the US and the substantial opportunity costs this new initiative will present to our resource-strained campus and the college in which it will be located.
in its current conception. The point here extends beyond this particular proposal to proposals in general: given opportunity costs and resource constraints, it is crucial for our campus to consider how such ventures can be developed in a manner that offers an improvement on what similar programs exist on other campuses versus simply matching or, worse, suboptimally trying to replicate those programs.

Sincerely,

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

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TO: Jason Stajich, Chair
Riverside Division

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

RE: [Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS

Date: December 3, 2022

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy (SPP) reviewed and discussed “[Campus Review] New Department Pre-Proposal: Department of Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity (ESHQ) in CHASS.” As faculty in an interdisciplinary school with research, teaching, community engagement, and professional training and internships focused on environment, sustainability, and health equity, our Committee recognizes the opportunities that interdisciplinary programs present for the campus. Nevertheless, for this specific proposed department, members raised a number of significant concerns with the proposal. In general, these concerns centered on how this proposal, in pragmatic terms:

a. attempts to establish a new department through engaging in, what appear to be, unproductive institutional cannibalism and co-optation—building its own fiefdom via feeding off existing campus units and cross-campus initiatives and
b. will generate student confusion due to the redundancies this department will have with already-existing majors and minors throughout campus with similar foci.

Specific issues are listed below in detail.

1. **“Health Equity” is inappropriate as the Department’s name.** The proposal outlines what is functionally a “Health, Medicine, Society and Culture” major/minor found at many other universities including Vanderbilt University and the University of British Columbia (for which one of our Committee members was its former chair). Yet, instead of using that or a similarly appropriate appellation, this proposal co-opts what is a well-established UCR campus theme and far-broader-than-this-proposal interdisciplinary field of scholarship, practice, and policy that has already been cultivated through many years of interdisciplinary collaboration between faculty located in all UCR colleges and schools, including SOM, SPP, CNAS, and CHASS. The UCR Center for Health Disparities Research is one prominent example of initiatives and collaborations that bring together the critical mass of faculty and students that our campus offers in health equity research and practice. Hence, to now take the focus for such a broad interdisciplinary area of research, teaching, and practice and apply it to this very narrowly-focused CHASS Department and major/minor monopolizes a truly collaborative campus initiative for its own self-interested ends. While there are many CHASS faculty concerned about issues in health equity, they do not have the patent on it. Thus using it in their program/department title gives the wrong impression that concern for equity and social justice is only a humanities and social science concern and not something that faculty throughout campus focus on in their research, teaching, and service. Intellectually, this is akin to if Economics requested to start a major in “Applied Math,” completely ignoring that many other units on campus also actively engage in research, teaching, and training on the subject (e.g., Mathematics, Statistics, Engineering, Computer Science, Psychology, GSOE, BUS, SOM, and SPP).

2. **Faculty Resource Scarcity and Sustainability:** Several items were raised for this issue.
   a. The proposal includes numerous courses taught by SPP faculty. However, SPP is unable to offer many of these courses every year—including PBPL 010, which is listed as part of the core curriculum and not as an elective.

   b. Given the extent of PBPL courses included in the proposal, concern was raised about potential requests for cross-listing our courses with the new program. SPP’s current policy is to not support cross-listing PBPL courses due to high student demand among majors/minors.
c. If the creation of this department means that some units throughout CHASS will lose faculty, then it is difficult to see how the departments these faculty leave behind will be able to continue offering the same range of courses as they do now—many of which are listed as being necessary to comprise this major/minor. Sociology offers an instructive example. In the past two to three years, it has lost multiple faculty and is struggling to maintain its current teaching demands. If faculty leave SOC to join this new department, their current situation will only become more fraught, further undermining its ability to admit non-majors into many of its courses. The proposal does not indicate how an EHSQ department would be able to regulate outside course offerings to ensure their consistent availability so as to avoid a bottleneck for these majors/minors.

3. **Who Is Actually Involved in This New Department?** On page 2, the proposal includes a long list of faculty from various units all over campus, but uses vague language that obfuscates who actually is or is not planning to be involved with this potential department. This gives the impression of padding to make the potential department look more significant than it really is—especially considering that Environment, Sustainability, and Health Equity are far more distinct than overlapping in many areas of their respective foci (especially Health Equity vis-à-vis the Environment and Sustainability) and in terms of what specific faculty have scholarly and teaching expertise in. For example, three of our SPP colleagues are included on the list. When we asked them what their involvement was to understand the proposal better, all three indicated they attended a meeting and offered to have a course they teach be part of this curriculum, but never agreed to be involved with the department or indicated wanting to relocate their appointment. Furthermore, it is necessary to recognize that, while faculty members may develop a course and teach it regularly, the term-specific scheduling of course and which faculty member is assigned to teach it both fall outside faculty control.

4. **The letters of support do little to justify specifics as to why this should be a new department or even new majors/minors.** The support letters listed in the proposal cherrypick particular comments from the letter writers, but, beyond broad platitudes (some by people with little familiarity of the social sciences and humanities in general and/or with regard to the three areas of environment, sustainability, and health equity; and some from campus units with no involvement in teaching undergraduates or at very least teaching undergraduates from these majors/minors like the BCOE dean), do little to justify specifics as to why this should be a new department or even new majors/minors. Further concerning is how the SPP Associate Dean Kurt Schwabe is listed on page 11 under a section that includes all unit heads with affiliated courses who have approved this proposal. Associate Dean Schwabe’s letter is listed as “Pending,” which, by inclusion in this section, gives the impression that he approves of this proposal/initiative, but has just not submitted his letter. Knowing this background makes us
question the extent and degree of campus support, particularly from other unit chairs and directors, as expressed in the proposal.

5. **Why is the Subject Code already approved?** It was brought to our attention that the subject code for ESHQ has already been approved (and now under review again for a modification to this subject code). Why was this request granted for a department that has not even been approved to exist?

6. **No Science Component:** As SPP faculty know well through their own involvement on policy panels and other advisement activities with decision-makers, many problems that we face in policy are based on ignorance of science. For issues related to environment, sustainability, and health inequity, it is crucial for students to have some grounding in the natural sciences via a science component to the curriculum. This curricular need provides UCR with a unique opportunity to create a truly campus-wide, interdisciplinary major/minor program that is co-led by a steering committee of faculty from multiple colleges and schools across campus and, in doing so, ensures students receive a comprehensive interdisciplinary training experience in environment and sustainability or health equity.

7. **Low Unit Bearing Major:** The health equity major only requires 48 units, which, compared to other UCR majors is very low and leaves it up to students to figure out how to make up the remaining credit hours they need to graduate.

8. **Disparity in Training across the Three Data Analysis Course Options.** Choosing from one of the three options means that students will graduate with vastly different levels of data literacy required for engaging in discourse of environment, sustainability, and health equity. Statistics courses like STAT 010 provide a broad, essential foundation for interpreting and engaging in research while PBPL 010 and STAT 004 respectively cover highly specialized topics in Geographic Information Systems and Data Science, but do not provide students with foundational skills to interpret research and even be prepared for many jobs listed in the proposal’s appendix as well as graduate training in the social sciences, public policy and administration, as well as public health and other health sciences.

9. **The Justification for a New Department is Insufficient.** Question 3 on page 129 offers weak rationales for needing to form a department. Notably, it conflates the activities of a research center with that of an academic department, the latter of which is a far broader administrative unit in terms of its activities. Realistically, no department or unit on campus (or elsewhere) has the extent of collaboration that is detailed in this section and, given the faculty who will likely be associated with the new department, it is unreasonable to conjecture that the new department will be anything different. One only has to look at SPP, a cohesive, supportive unit of teaching,
research, and engagement with a robust, successful program of faculty research, yet only a few collaborations between existing faculty. Hence, speaking from experience, the authors’ claim that “Consolidating our efforts into a department will enhance our ability to obtain competitive multidisciplinary research grants” is untrue and unrealistic.

10. The Proposal needlessly tries to justify creating a New Department by conflating it with new major/minor programs. Overall, it is difficult to read this proposal and not view it as the creation of new curricula to justify a new home for faculty who may, unfortunately, feel unhappy in their existing CHASS departments. There already exist ample teaching/mentoring, research, and community engagement opportunities throughout campus for faculty interested in these topics (e.g., CNAS, Global Studies, SPP, Center for Health Disparities Research). Notably, SPP offers many such opportunities as an existing program and is welcoming of petitions to serve as cooperating faculty. Given the extent to which the curricula are already based on existing courses offered throughout CHASS, there is no need to have a department to support these new majors.

Conclusion
Given the above issues, we arrive at the broader conclusion that there are aspects of these ESHQ major/minor programs that could be modified to make this a more unique, truly interdisciplinary initiative that is less co-opting and cannibalistic, more collaborative with existing campus units, and more beneficial to them and students seeking training in these areas. However, the need to create a brand new CHASS department (that monopolizes broad areas of campus research to name its own circumscribed focal areas) to offer a curriculum based on courses that are already extensively offered in existing UCR units in CHASS and beyond makes little practical sense in terms of student benefit and administrative burden. Lastly, given the enduring resource constraints on our campus, we find it difficult to support any initiative for a new department in the absence of new hires. In this case, CHASS would need to agree to replace the lines that will be depleted in existing departments if faculty move into this new department.

Sincerely,

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