

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

FR: Kurt Schwabe, Chair 
Executive Committee, School of Public Policy

RE: **[Comments] Proposal: 2nd Round - Bachelor of Science**

Date: October 23, 2025

The Executive Committee of the School of Public Policy has reviewed the **Proposal: 2nd Round - Bachelor of Science**. We appreciate the effort, considerations, and updates from previous comments and concerns we and others raised. *Previously*, we had three comments:

[SPP Comments:

“In the “Genetics in Healthcare Track” section b, it is unclear:

- a. why there is only one class to select (PSYC 178 “Health Psychology”), unlike the other components that offer students a choice in which courses to select to fulfill the area
 - b. what the goal of this lone course is with respect to the track’s curriculum. It appears haphazardly placed.
 - c. why only this course fulfills that requirement and not also other relevant social and behavioral science courses in CHASS, SPP, or elsewhere that focus on social, cultural, and even political dimensions of health, disease, health care, science, and medicine and thus complement the track’s genetic focus as part of the range of contributors to health and disease.”
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We appreciate the reasoning and recognize that you changed the title of the track to “Pre-Genetic Counseling in Healthcare Track.” That said, we are still a bit surprised that there isn’t more flexibility for course substitutes for Psychology 178 since (i) there are other courses that provide other important dimension on health from a social science perspective that still seem to fit into your overall objectives and (ii) more viable options would likely lead to fewer impediments from a scheduling perspective for students.

Overall, though, we are supportive of the program.