

COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Friday, March 11, 2011

DECISION ITEM A-3:

Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology To Be Offered by Indiana University Bloomington at Bloomington

Staff Recommendation

That the Commission for Higher Education approve the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Epidemiology to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington at Bloomington, in accordance with the background discussion in this agenda item and the *Abstract*, February 25, 2011; and

That the Commission recommend no new state funds, in accordance with the supporting document, *New Academic Degree Program Proposal Summary*, February 25, 2011.

Background

In August 2009, the Commission for Higher Education approved a Ph.D. in Epidemiology for Indiana University at its IUPUI campus, which was the first such program in the state. That program places emphasis on the medical and biological aspects of disease, and has its roots in and continued close affiliation with the IU School of Medicine. The proposed program will focus on the biobehavioral aspects of community health and wellness, especially as it relates to Indiana's rural population. The Bloomington program has its roots in physical fitness and the kinesthetic and wellness sciences, and draws upon the exceptional strengths of the Bloomington campus in the social and behavioral sciences.

The degree program will be housed in the Department of Kinesiology, a unit in the School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER), which has numerous resources that contribute to the offering of the proposed program. These resources include: the Office of Community Health Engagement, which is the catalyst for an epidemiology investigation of household violence in Lawrence; the Rural Center for AIDS/STD prevention, which is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and recently hosted a national conference in this area; and specialized laboratories – including the Nutrition Laboratory, the Neuro-Behavioral Laboratory, and the Human Performance Laboratory – which serve as the locus for much research done by program faculty.

The program is intended to ultimately have an impact on the health of the state's population, which ranks well below the national average regarding risk factors resulting in disability

and death, with two-thirds to three-quarters of the states having lower rates of preventable deaths than Indiana. In a 2009 report, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) estimated that the number of epidemiologists will need to increase significantly to meet demand.

This program has sufficient merit on its own to warrant consideration for action by the Commission. Authorization of this program by the Commission should be considered independent of any later decision about establishing one or two schools of public health in Indiana.

Supporting Documents

- (1) *Abstract* - Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology to be offered by Indiana University Bloomington at Bloomington, February 25, 2011
- (2) *New Academic Degree Program Proposal Summary* - Ph.D. in Epidemiology, February 25, 2011

Abstract

Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology
To Be Offered by
Indiana University Bloomington at Bloomington

February 25, 2011

Objectives: To provide rigorous training in the practice of Epidemiology with a defined focus on rural communities by contributing to the understanding of the etiologies of disease prevention and wellness, and the improvement of rural public health through excellence in research and practice. The goal of the program is to educate future professionals who are highly qualified as independent investigators, academicians, and practitioners of Epidemiology and who may specialize in the health disparities of rural communities.

Clientele to be Served: Graduates from accredited programs/schools of public health or related fields. Students are most likely to enroll on a full-time basis.

Curriculum: A total of 90 semester credit hours is required to complete the program, distributed as follows:

Prerequisite Coursework (12 credit hours – only 9 of which count toward 90 total)

- Epidemiology (3)
- Introduction to Research (3)
- Interpretation of Data (3)
- Public Health Foundations and Leadership (3)

Major Coursework (30 credit hours minimum)

- Social Epidemiology (3)
- Advanced Health Behavior Theory (3)
- Global Epidemiology (3)
- Evaluation of Interventions (3)
- Health and Disease Disparities in Rural Communities (3)
- Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3)
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology (3)
- Race, Ethnicity, Culture and Related Determinants of Health (3)
- Advanced Epidemiology (3)
- Advanced Epidemiological Methods (3)

Major Electives (9-12 credit hours)

Supporting Electives (3-28 credit hours)

Minor (9-12 credit hours per minor)

Research Skills (9 credit hours)

Qualifying Examination

Dissertation (21-30 credit hours) and Dissertation Defense

Employment Possibilities: Epidemiologists work at universities, research institutions, local, state and federal agencies, major health organizations, and large corporations.

NEW ACADEMIC DEGREE PROGRAM PROPOSAL SUMMARY

February 25, 2011

I. Prepared by Institution

Institution/Location: Indiana University Bloomington to be offered at Bloomington

Program: Ph.D. in Epidemiology

	Year 1 FY2011	Year 2 FY2012	Year 3 FY2013	Year 4 FY2014	Year 5 FY2015
Enrollment Projections (Headcount)					
Full-Time	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Part-Time	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Enrollment Projections (FTE)					
Full-Time	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>
Part-Time	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>
Degree Completions Projection	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>
New State Funds Requested (Actual) *	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
New State Funds Requested (Increases) *	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>

II. Prepared by CHE

New State Funds To Be Considered For Recommendation (Actual) *	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>
New State Funds To Be Considered For Recommendation (Increases) *	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>	<u>-0-</u>

CHE Code: 10-45

Campus Code: 1809

County: Monroe

Degree Level: 19

CIP Code: Federal – 261309; State – 261309

* Excludes new state dollars that may be provided through enrollment change funding.