

Routing Sheet for Review and Approval

Proposed New Academic Plan or Name Change to Existing Academic Plan

Required steps in the review and approval process for proposed new academic plans and name changes to existing academic plans vary depending upon a number of factors. The Provost's Office reviews each concept for a new academic plan or name change in light of UMBC campus governance procedures and USM/MHEC approval guidelines. This online form has been routed by the Provost's Office to each office or governance group that needs to review this particular proposal.

Name of proposed new program OR program action: Name change: HAPP BA to Public Health

Date of PCG review: 05/20/2020 Review by USM: yes

Date of approval initiation: 07/28/20 Maryland Higher Education

Date Letter of Intent sent to USM: Commission for: admin review

Date RSTARS transfer requested: Target MHEC Submission Date: none

Proposal and Other Attachments

Proposal

Attachment 1

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

Attachment 4



Attachment(s)
may be viewed
starting on
page 4 of this
document.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. The proposal and this routing form are being sent to each office indicated on this form via DocuSign, in the order in which each appears on the list. Each recipient who needs to review the proposal will receive an email notification when it is his or her turn to sign.
2. If you have a concern regarding the proposed new plan or plan change, please do the following: (1) select "Concern" on the dropdown near your designated signature block, (2) enter a brief description of your concern regarding the proposal in the text box that appears, (3) select "Finish Later" under the "Other Actions" menu option, and (4) e-mail Beth Wells at bwells@umbc.edu with a more detailed description of your concern.

If you have questions about this form or the review process, please contact Beth Wells at bwells@umbc.edu, x5-8907. Thank you very much for your assistance.

Note: After reviewing the entire document, click the "Next" on the left of the page to return to your signature block.

SIGNATURES

Click "Finish" on the top right after signing.

Informal Review: **Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs**

Elizabeth Wells

Elizabeth Wells
bwells@umbc.edu

Reviewed: 7/28/2020 | 2:45:55 PM EDT

Department Chair

J. Kevin Eckert

J. Kevin Eckert
eckert@umbc.edu

7/28/2020 | 4:02:35 PM EDT

Approve

In Process

Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Scott Casper

Scott Casper
casper@umbc.edu

7/28/2020 | 4:10:01 PM EDT

Approve

Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs



Katharine Cole

kcole@umbc.edu

7/28/2020 | 4:11:50 PM EDT

Approve

Please contact Beth Wells at bwells@umbc.edu with a brief description of your concern

regarding the proposal. To end this session

please select Finish Later under the "Other

~~Chair, Undergraduate Cases~~ Do Not Decline to Sign.

In Process

Elizabeth Feeser

efeeser@umbc.edu

President, Faculty Senate

Orianne Smith

osmith@umbc.edu

Provost

Philip Rous
rous@umbc.edu

President

Freeman Hrabowski
hrabowsk@umbc.edu

Final Review: **Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Affairs**

In Process

Beth Wells
bwells@umbc.edu

Reviewed:

Date Submitted to MHEC:

Date Submitted to USM:

Proof RSTARS Transfer Attached:

--- END OF FORM; ATTACHMENTS BEGIN ON NEXT PAGE ---

April 22, 2020

The Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Public Health request the approval to change the name of the “Health Administration and Policy” program to the “Public Health” program. This change would only affect the name of the program. Curriculum and requirements will remain the same. The faculty feel this name change will better reflect the nature of the program and serve to recruit students to the department and the university.

The Health Administration and Policy program (HAPP) was initially developed as the Health Science and Policy program in 1973, and first offered to students in the fall of 1978. The Health Science and Policy program included the Health Services Administration track and the Public and Community Health track. In 2000 the name was changed within UMBC to the Health Administration and Policy program, and in 2007 the tracks were changed to Health Administration track, Health Policy track, and Public Health track. While the name was changed in 2000, we were recently notified the change was never registered with MHEC. The Department would like to take this opportunity to change the name to “Public Health” to reflect the strong public health focus that has always been present in the program. Public health includes research, surveillance, education, prevention, and study of disease and health in the population at large. In addition, newly requested track notations on student transcripts would acknowledge the area of specialization to further identify educational attainment.

We have chosen to focus the name of our program on public health for several reasons. First, public health can encompass all areas of healthcare. While public health has historically carried the connotation of advancing population based health metrics, surveillance, and research, it can be argued that all aspects of the healthcare industry ultimately benefit the health of the population, even if they begin from a clinical or individual standpoint. This idea is reinforced by the concept of “Health in All Policies” that is promoted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the American Public Health Association (APHA).

Second, we would like our name to accurately reflect the primary competencies and substance our program provides. Over time the HAPP program has evolved to become grounded in public health. Since its inception in 2007, the Public Health track has received the largest student enrollment, proportionally. Approximately two thirds of our students over time have chosen the Public Health track. Our students frequently comment that their degrees and diplomas do not adequately reflect the training and workforce preparation they have received at UMBC. The name Public Health will not only better reflect the training our students are receiving but make them more competitive in both job search and graduate school applications after graduation. Our graduates have historically selected and been successful in public health graduate programs and public health related employment, so we believe strongly that our curriculum does prepare them well for these options. Undergraduate public health programs are growing nationally, and our program is aligned with this growth.

Third, we believe that prospective students would more readily identify with, and desire an education focused in public health. While health administration and health policy are important aspects of healthcare and public health, the name recognition of Public Health as an undergraduate program would attract first time freshmen, transfer, and non-traditional students. The majority of our current students have heard of the substance of the program through word of mouth. We do not believe our name alone is attracting many students that are not yet familiar with the program, and a name change can only increase

the desirability of our program to students that would otherwise not be aware of the program. Public health is not only desirable to our current students but is a field of growing interest nationally and internationally. The number of universities offering public health programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels has increased significantly over time, with the largest increase being in general public health. Additionally, public health credentialing is gaining increasing interest nationwide as many individuals who work in public health fields do not have formal training or credentialing as public health workers. Rebranding our program to highlight our public health competency would help to recruit students from high schools and community colleges, as well as non-traditional students, looking to build these credentials. We are also a desirable undergraduate option for students who are interested in careers in the medical or allied health fields that require additional clinical education at the graduate level, but our current name does not convey this competency to students.

Lastly, many of our current faculty have graduate degrees in public health. The name change would benefit them as they compete for public health-based grant funded research and publications and represent the program at academic conferences.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request to change the program name from “Health Administration and Policy” to “Public Health.” We look forward to hearing from you if you have any questions.

Katie Birger
Lecturer and Undergraduate Program Director
Health Administration and Policy Program
Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Public Health