

ASACR 7

Office of the President
April 29, 2022

Members, Board of Trustees:

REORGANIZATION OF DEPARTMENTS:
COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the following actions, effective July 1, 2022:

- Consolidate the Department of Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health with the Department of Epidemiology.
- Change the name of the Department of Epidemiology to the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health.

Background: In 2019, the College of Public Health (CPH) conducted an external evaluation of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health (PMEH) to determine how to move the small department toward excellence. CPH does not currently have the resources to hire the appropriate number of faculty to ensure a viable, stand-alone department. Therefore, this proposal seeks to establish an alternative administrative structure.

If approved, faculty members in the Department of PMEHE would transfer to the Department of Epidemiology and the Department of Epidemiology would be renamed as the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health. These changes will allow faculty currently in both departments to have access to necessary infrastructure and support while maintaining visibility for environmental health, a core educational and research discipline in CPH.

Upon this action, the college will maintain its Environmental Health concentration for the Master of Public Health degree program and continue to recruit faculty with academic and research interests in environmental health.

The proposed changes have been approved by the faculty of the impacted departments; reviewed and recommended by the Senate Academic Organization and Structure Committee and the Senate Council; and endorsed by the University Senate. The provost of the university supports this recommendation.

Action taken: Approved Disapproved Other _____