



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

**Kentucky School
of Public Health**

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Fax: (859) 257-6644
<http://www.mc.uky.edu/Kysph/>

December 10, 2003

Thomas Samuel, JD
Acting Director
University of Kentucky School of Public Health
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Samuel:

I am pleased to report that the faculty members in the Health Behavior Division of the School of Public Health unanimously and strongly endorse the formation of a College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky, and offer our individual and collective commitment to making this College a successful academic unit; one that is of service to all the citizens of the Commonwealth.

I heartily endorse the unanimous vote of the faculty in the Health Behavior division and attach the appropriate letters of endorsement from all faculty and staff in the Division supporting this change.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard R. Clayton".

Richard R. Clayton, PhD
Director, Division of Health Behavior



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

Center for Prevention Research
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10 December 2003

David S. Watt, Ph.D.
Associate Provost
University of Kentucky
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Watt:

As you know, I have been on the faculty at the University of Kentucky since August of 1970. During that period of time I have seen a great many organizational and structural changes in the university. Among all of those changes, I can think of none ultimately more important or with a greater likelihood of having a positive impact on the daily lives of Kentuckians than the creation of a College of Public Health.

At the present time we have outstanding Colleges of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Health Sciences. The principal focus of the disciplines within these colleges is clinical—one patient at a time. While this is extremely helpful to these patients and important for the service function of the University of Kentucky, these activities will unfortunately not have a large impact on the overall health of the state. It is difficult to improve the health of all one patient at a time. Significant improvement in the population rates for what President Todd calls the Kentucky uglies can only occur using macro-level strategies and programmatic efforts. In public health this is called the Rose Theorem. The essence of the Rose Theorem is that a small change in a large population has a bigger effect than a large change in a much smaller percentage of the population. A good example of this is the smoking cessation program that Tom Cooper and I developed and that is now being used in every health department in the state. Even though our program has high success effects, it is unlikely that doubling, tripling, or increasing even more the number of smokers going through our program will have an effect on the percentage of smokers in the state. On the other hand, implementing clean indoor act legislation that bans smoking in restaurants and bars would have a much larger impact—reaching and influencing many more smokers.

One of the reasons I moved to the School of Public Health from the Department of Sociology in January of 2001 was the opportunity to work directly on the Kentucky uglies from a population-based perspective. The faculty members that are now on-board, and those who will be joining us soon are impressive. In the Health Behavior Division of the School that I chair we have been able to recruit a diverse faculty consisting of 3 women and 2 men, including one African American and one Hispanic. In March we have

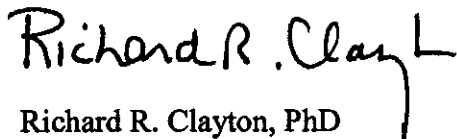
a faculty member joining the Division who has published almost 100 articles, has won two teaching awards, and has significant extramural funding.

Perhaps more important, the School of Public Health has been able to recruit a large and very diverse number of outstanding students. I have been very impressed with the quality and commitment of our MPH and DrPH students, and believe that they offer an incredible opportunity for the University of Kentucky to have a direct impact on the health and well being of large numbers of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

I realize that, under most circumstances, this is probably not the optimal time to create a new college within the university. However, from the financials that I have seen and because of the existing infrastructure support, creating a College of Public Health will be relatively inexpensive compared to the benefits that will be available to the university from this change. The potential impact of the university through a College of Public Health is huge.

I therefore offer the strongest possible support for the creation of a College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky that can move through the accreditation process in a very timely fashion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard R. Clayton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning and a long, sweeping underline that extends under the name.

Richard R. Clayton, PhD
Good Samaritan Foundation Chair in Health Behavior



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December 5, 2003

Richard Clayton, PhD
Director, Division of Health Behavior
School of Public Health
University of Kentucky
1141 Red Mile Road, Suite 201
Lexington KY 40504

Dear Dr Clayton:

This letter is in support of the transition from the UK School of Public Health to the UK College of Public Health. This change will enhance the mission and goals of the school and the University of Kentucky as a whole. Our mission is continually to improve the public's health in Kentucky through research, education and service.

I am particularly committed to helping prepare professionals for service in Public Health programs on the state and local levels. My experience in state government taught me the value of direct training in the public health especially understanding evidence –based literature reviews, data sets and community–based interventions. Movement to a College status means more resources that are available to both students and faculty to engage in active collaborative and cooperative partnerships to promote health, prevent disease and reduce injuries. It will establish the University of Kentucky as the premiere resource for offering public health training regionally.

Kentucky struggles in many areas that would benefit from development of the public health infrastructure. The move to College of Public Health status will ultimately contribute positively to health and well-being of Kentucky. Please give every consideration to making this important change.

Sincerely

Zaida Belendez, ND, RN
Assistant Professor
Health Extension Specialist
School of Public Health/Family and Consumer Science
College of Medicine/College of Agriculture.



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Friday, December 5, 2003

Dear Dr. Clayton,

I am writing to strongly support the establishment of a College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky. I am currently an assistant research professor in the College of Medicine's School of Public Health. My work on grant-funded studies involving youth health risks, HIV/AIDS care and prevention, and early childhood interventions take me throughout Kentucky. Consistently, agencies and individuals look to the University of Kentucky to be the leader in public health education, research, and program evaluation for all of Kentucky's residents.

Having a UK College of Public Health as a freestanding unit will assist in the University's joint missions of education and service. On both an external and internal basis, such a college will have many benefits:

- Currently lines of decision-making regarding signatures on grants, courses, and other documents are confusing because of the School of Public Health's placement as a separate unit within the College of Medicine. From budget account numbers to course titles, public health units currently operate in a byzantine structure that needs clarity. Having a separate college will clarify the mission, goals, and command structure of the College of Public Health and its divisions/departments.
- Kentucky sadly is a leader in a number of public health crises: adult smoking, lung cancer, youth smoking, obesity, prescription drug abuse, diabetes, cervical cancer, and low levels of youth exercise. The University of Kentucky is best situated to serve the Commonwealth through innovation and research to address these crises. Having a College of Public Health will provide the clarity of structure and purpose to focus divisions' educational, prevention, research, and grant-writing activities towards addressing the specific needs of Kentuckians.
- The success of the professional programs in public health over the last few years speaks for itself regarding the need and desire within Kentucky for strong public health programs. These programs have attracted hundreds of students and their tuition dollars to the University. Having a College of Public Health is critical to gaining accreditation. Without this accreditation, students may well choose other institutions out of state where they will both study and often eventually settle. Educating and keeping well-trained public health advocates in Kentucky is vital to addressing both Kentucky's health crises and our state's dearth of medical professionals.



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The University of Kentucky College of Public Health will provide clarity structure and mission for the University and a solid, top notch educational, service, and research presence in Kentucky around critical health care issues. As such, our interwoven communities of University and Commonwealth will both only benefit from the College of Public Health's establishment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff A. Jones'.

Jeff A. Jones, Ph.D.
Center for Prevention Research
School of Public Health, College of Medicine
2365 Harrodsburg Road, Suite B100
Lexington, KY 40504

UK **COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE**
University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture

Linda A. Jouridine, EdD
Associate Professor
Extension Health Specialist

Family & Consumer Sciences
Kentucky School of Public Health
1141 Red Mile Road, Suite 002
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December 9, 2003

Richard R. Clayton, PhD
Director
Health Behavior Division
School of Public Health
University of Kentucky
121 Washington Avenue
Lexington KY 40506

Dear Dr. Clayton:

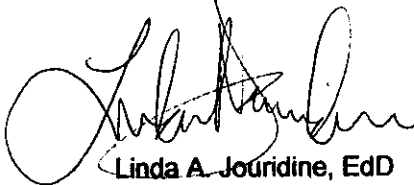
It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the School of Public Health at the University of Kentucky to transition to a College of Public Health. It is indeed an exciting day when one is able to be a part of a significant part of history that will change the health and well-being of Kentuckians.

Our state is long overdue for an extensive focus and effort in public health. Having a College of Public Health to formally train current and future public health professionals will provide the manpower needed for our state to address and reduce the major public health problems we face: obesity, cardiovascular disease, and tobacco use, to name a few.

Having expanded opportunities to pursue funding as an accredited College of Public Health will further expand the possibilities of program development, curriculum development, and practicum experiences for students not currently realized.

I enthusiastically support the transition of the School of Public Health to become a College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky.

Sincerely,



Linda A. Jouridine, EdD
Associate Professor



UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

December 5, 2003

Richard R. Clayton, Ph.D.
Center for Prevention Research
B100 2356 Harrodsburg Road
UK School of Public Health
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40504

**Gerontology
Ph.D. Program**

306 Health Sciences Building
900 South Limestone
Lexington, KY 40536-0200
Tel.: (859) 257-1450
Fax: (859) 323-5747
www.mc.uky.edu/gerontology

Dear Dr. Clayton:

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the transition of the School of Public Health to a College of Public Health. As a faculty member with a joint appointment in the Ph.D. Program in Gerontology and the School of Public Health, I am highly aware of how this move will strengthen the position of the School within the University. Indeed, it was a major factor in the decision of the faculty of the Ph.D. Program in Gerontology to write a memorandum of understanding that contemplates becoming a department/center under the anticipated College of Public Health. We believe that the University of Kentucky (UK) is making a strong commitment to support the new College. We recognize that the School of Public Health has at present, and, is attracting even more, cutting-edge scholars in diverse areas within the field of public health.

Externally, the transition to college status will make possible the accreditation of the public health degrees offered by UK. Also, it will strengthen the position of public health when applying for extramural funding.

I highly support the transition of the UK School of Public Health to the UK College of Public Health. The time for such a move has arrived, and I am confident in the foresight of the University to affect this change with dispatch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela B. Teaster".

Pamela B. Teaster, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
UK School of Public Health and Ph.D. Program in Gerontology