

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Department of Global Health – Establishment of the Doctor of Philosophy in Global Health Degree Program

RECOMMENDED ACTION

It is the recommendation of the administration and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the Board of Regents grant authority to the graduate faculty of the Department of Global Health, in the School of Public Health and the School of Medicine at the University of Washington, Seattle, WA, to offer the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Global Health degree program with emphases in Metrics and Implementation Science, effective Autumn Quarter 2012. The tuition will be set at Graduate Tier III. The degree program will have provisional status with a review to be conducted by the Graduate School in the 2017-2018 academic year. At such time that continuing status is granted, a ten-year review cycle would begin.

BACKGROUND

In September 2011, the Graduate School received the full proposal from the graduate faculty in the Department of Global Health requesting authority to offer a Doctor of Philosophy in Global Health degree with emphases in Metrics and Implementation Science. Program implementation is planned for Autumn Quarter 2012. The department anticipates enrolling 3 students per year, increasing enrollment to 15 by 2016, with 3 students graduating annually.

The Ph.D. in Global Health will serve students interested in measuring health outcomes and the impact of health interventions (Metrics), or determining appropriate methods to implement and scale up evidence-based health interventions (Implementation Science). It will prepare program graduates for careers in academia, international organizations, national agencies, foundations, non-governmental organizations, and businesses. The Ph.D. in Global Health is unique in that no other such program is offered by any of the public or private institutions in the world. Only 11 doctoral programs in the field of global health, of which four are in the United States, supply the faculty needed to address the increasing demand. None of the programs offer a focus on metrics and implementation science. The doctoral program would respond to community demand for health intervention accountability and benefit from graduates' ability to close the gap between research and its translation into effective health care interventions and programs.

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In June, 2011, the Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School appointed two faculty in the field from other universities to evaluate the Ph.D. in Global Health proposal. Both reviewers supported approval of the proposed Ph.D. program. Each reviewer made recommendations on the proposal to which the Department responded. It was revised based on the recommendations.

On October 20, 2011, the Graduate School Council considered the Ph.D. proposal. The Council recommended unanimously that the proposal be forwarded to the Higher Education Coordinating Board for review and approval. The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School concurred with the Council's recommendation.

On March 13, 2012, the HECB Education Committee discussed the Ph.D. proposal. It was then considered by the full Higher Education Coordinating Board on March 29, 2012. The Board approved the Department of Global Health proposal to offer the Doctor of Philosophy in Global Health degree program at the University of Washington.

The Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School, the Dean of the School of Medicine, and the Dean of the School of Public Health have reviewed and approved the recommendation.