

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The Watershed Institute for Collaborative Environmental Studies (Watershed Institute) requests approval to establish a Public Health Major with options to pursue either a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) or Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree. The development of this program responds to demand by students for undergraduate education in public health and by employers representing the public, private, and non-governmental sectors seeking well-trained public health professionals. The 36-credit standard major consists of three components: (1) a set of core courses; (2) a coherent group of elective courses from a variety of academic domains; and (3) a capstone or culminating experience to allow students to demonstrate and apply their public health knowledge and skills to real world public health issues.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. High student demand for the public health major is reflected by the growth in the number of undergraduate degrees granted in this field.
2. Requirements to complete a second program.
3. Seat availability for certain elective courses, specifically in the sciences.
4. Culminating experience options.
5. Distinction between current Environmental Public Health major.

Pros of Recommendation:

The proposed B.A. and B.S. in Public Health aligns with UW-Eau Claire's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. The public health degree's emphasis on interdisciplinary and experiential learning also aligns with UW-Eau Claire's Academic Master Plan. Offering of both a B.A. and a B.S. in Public Health will meet student's interests and career goals.

Cons of Recommendation:

none

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

None

Committee Recommendation:

The committee approved the creation of a 36-credit major in Public Health.

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of 7 for to 0 against on November 20, 2018 (Date)

Recommends that:

The creation of a 36-credit major in Public Health starting 2019-2020 AY:

Implementation Date: 19/20 catalog

Signed: _____
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office