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To: Dr. Donnetrice Allison, President of Faculty Senate

From: Dr. Tara L. Crowell, Coordinator of Public Health

Date: July 2, 2018

RE: Revitalization of the Public Health Program

I am pleased to inform you that after careful consideration, the Public Health faculty has requested and given the permission by Administration, to seek support from the Faculty Senate to resume admitting students in fall 2019. The program had temporarily suspended admissions, due to declining enrollments and to reconsider its place among the programs offered in the School of Health Sciences. However, this merger was just in the beginning stages and would not have even been completed till Spring 2020.

This change is a result of several factors:

First, Public Health is a distinct discipline and public health professionals need specialized academic preparation guided by standards put forth by specific credentialing bodies, most notably the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) and the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing. In order to fully service our students to become competent Public Health professionals, the need to maintain the individuality of the program is necessary. The undergraduate PUBH program has a notable history of graduating students who successfully enter both the local workforce and/or competitive graduate degree programs. We anticipate that, as in the past, the PUBH program will continue to offer a rigorous program that prepares its students to continue to be successful in their post-graduate endeavors, whether it be to seek certification, employment, or graduate school admissions.

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Second, the faculty in the School of Health Sciences is currently developing a proposal for a Master of Public Health in Community Nutrition for which the undergraduate degree in PUBH would serve as a natural point of entry. It is anticipated that reactivating the undergraduate program will give interested students the option of pursuing the MPH with a 3+2 or 4+1 dual degree option as well as within the traditional 2 year cycle. A degree in the field of nutrition is highly sought after and would be new to Stockton's offerings. Thus, we anticipate the enrollments will follow the interest in this highly sought after field of study.

Third and finally, the revitalization of the program will offer incoming undergraduate students a viable area of study in the health field without having the admissions restriction of a 570 math SAT score required by other majors.

The program has discussed the renewal of PUBH with Stockton's Chief Enrollment Management Officer and Associate Dean of Enrollment Management both of whom support the effort and believe that PUBH would be a worthwhile option for students who are interested in pursuing an academic degree within the health field. If the revitalization is finalized, effective fall 2019 students interested in Public Health will be admitted to the PUBH program and students currently in the BSHS- PUBH concentrations would be guided through a "teach- out" to enable them to complete their BSHS degree. Concurrently, the PUBH concentrations in BSHS would be phased out. In addition, resuming admissions to the Public Health program would not require any additional resources, it simply enables the program to regain its visibility and identity within the University while simultaneously offering students an additional choice in course of study.

Please let this letter serve as our official notification to Faculty Senate regarding these changes, along with a request to speak at the mid-September Faculty Senates meeting to reiterate our intentions and field any questions Faculty Senate may have. As always, we appreciate the time and efforts of the Faculty Senate and look forward to meeting with you this fall.