CEPH APPROVES CHANGE

The letter, dated June 27, 2012 and addressed to Mohammad R. Torabi, Interim Dean, School of Public Health, was signed by none other than Stephen W. Wyatt, DMD, MPH, President of the Council on Education for Public Health. The contents could not have been more significant, “I am pleased to advise you that the governing body of the Council on Education for Public Health, the nationally recognized accrediting body for programs in public health, formally acted at its June 21 – 23, 2012 meeting to approve Indiana University Bloomington’s request to begin the accreditation process for a School of Public Health.”

In summary, it went on to detail that the self-study must be submitted by June 23, 2014; that an on-site visit by a team of peer reviewers will follow the submission of the self-study by approximately five months; and a “by invitation only” accreditation orientation workshop needs to be attended by the school’s leadership team prior to the accreditation review.

The letter was followed by a news release from IU Vice President Ed Marshall indicating that the university plans ceremonies on both the Bloomington and Indianapolis campuses in September to formally recognize the formation of the each new School of Public Health.

September 28, 2012 is the date for the formal Naming Ceremony, to be presided over by IU President Michael A. McRobbie. The event will take place in the Tony A. Mobley Auditorium at 3:00pm. Indiana Health Commissioner Gregory Larkin, MD, will be the keynote speaker.

ASPH GRANTS MEMBERSHIP

The summer continued to be filled with exciting and history making news. On July 18, 2012 the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) notified Dean Torabi that it was granting Associate Membership to Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington. Until we are fully accredited by CEPH as a School of Public Health, Associate Membership is the highest form of membership available. After we secure accreditation we may apply to become a Member School of ASPH, of which there are currently 49 Members and seven Associate Members (designated with yellow stars on the map).

Established in 1953, the Association of Schools of Public Health represents the CEPH-accredited schools of public health and promotes the efforts of those schools to improve the health of every person through education, research, and policy.
ACCREDITATION ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ATTENDED

CEPH conducts an annual Accreditation Orientation Workshop required of all applicant schools and recommended to representatives of institutions undergoing the reaccreditation process. The purpose of these workshops is to explain CEPH accreditation policies, procedures and criteria; to discuss the self-study process and expectations for the resulting document; and to elucidate guidelines for hosting a site visit. The senior leadership from the School was in Washington, D.C. August 2nd and 3rd, 2012 for the workshop including Dean Torabi, Executive Associate Dean Gilbert and Associate Dean Reece.

STATE OF THE SCHOOL ADDRESS

August 13, 2012 was a proud occasion as the annual State of the School, stipulated by shared governance requirements to occur every fall, found us reporting as a newly established School of Public Health (SPH) while reflecting on the previous year’s many achievements as a School of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation (HPER).

Highlights included the introduction of 49 people who are either new to the School or are serving in new capacities or roles within the SPH; 16 steps in the transition process; faculty and staff achievements over the past year; enrollment increases at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; and increases in total credit hour production, mean SAT and GRE scores, grants and contracts submitted and received as well as dollars, actual indirects received from grants and contracts, peer reviewed publications, and total giving. Regardless of our name, we continue our proud tradition of excellence in all that we do. Plans for next academic year were also outlined.

FALL TIMELINE

August – December 2012: Departments finalize degree program competencies and curricular revisions
August – December 2012: Working Groups continue to meet (contact evsgold@indiana.edu to join a Working Group)
August – December 2012: Bi-weekly meetings of Core Group continue development of Self-Study
August 2012 – December 2012: Monthly meetings of Steering Committee continue to review progress on Self-Study