Search Underway for Founding Dean

A search and screen committee has been formed to identify finalists for the position of dean of the Indiana University School of Public Health-Bloomington, Provost and Executive Vice President Lauren Robel has announced. Sarita Soni, Vice Provost for Research at IU Bloomington, will chair the committee, which will conduct an internal search and recommend finalists to Robel.

"The dean of the new School of Public Health-Bloomington will play a critical role in completing the school's accreditation process and cementing its position as a key partner on this campus for interdisciplinary research in the interest of public health," Robel said.

Other members of the search committee include: David Lohrmann, professor and interim department chair, Department of Applied Health Science; Maresa Murray, associate clinical professor, Department of Applied Health Science; Lisa Kamendulis, associate professor, Department of Environmental Health; Ka He, professor and department chair, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics; Jan Wallace, professor, Department of Kinesiology; Lynn Jamieson, professor, Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Studies; Kosali Simon, health economics professor, School of Public and Environmental Affairs; and, Kay Connelly, computer science associate professor, School of Informatics and Computing.

Professional Staff will be represented by Jody Vaught, director of business affairs and budget, School of Public Health-Bloomington and Lisa Cooper, Bloomington Professional Council.

John Lester, president of the School of Public Health Alumni Association will represent the School’s alumni while students’ voices will have input through Susan Barnett, doctoral student in leisure studies and John Nguyen, a sophomore in recreational therapy.

The committee began meeting in October. The goal is to appoint the permanent dean during the spring semester.

Mohammad R. Torabi, Chancellor’s Professor, has served as interim dean since late 2010 as the school of HPER, the third largest school on campus, continues to work through the transition.

Curricular Revisions Update

Faculty members in the School have been extremely busy revising their curriculum to ensure that all degree programs are in compliance with CEPH standards. All non-public health undergraduate programs have included at least one three credit course that provides a broad understanding of public health. At the master’s level a graduate course has been added to every MS degree program and for academic degrees, a general course in epidemiology has also been added. A doctoral-level course in epidemiology as well as a graduate course in public health was infused into all of the non-public health doctoral programs in the school.
Office of Global and Community Health Partnerships

The Office of Global and Community Health Partnerships (OGCHP) was created by combining the staff and resources of the former Office of Community Health Engagement, Global Health and AmeriCorps Improving Health Throughout Indiana. The Office’s mission is to improve global and community health by fostering partnerships that promote student engagement, workforce development, continuing education, community service, and collaborative and community-based research. OGCHP will support and track all partnerships between the School of Public Health and its global and community constituents; assess the needs of the public health workforce and implement continuing education initiatives that support professional development; help meet community needs by connecting constituents with university experts and information; and support and track community-based service activities. OGCHP opened on July 1, 2012 but waited until the start of the academic year to hold its formal launch and reception on October 16, 2012 in the Royer Foyer of the School of Public Health.

Student Government Organization Joins School

By approval of the SPH Academic Council, the School of Public Health has initiated the development of the School of Public Health Student Government in order to facilitate collaboration among the school’s student organizations and to ensure a process through which student input will be connected to the school’s academic governance process. Each department will have two representatives. The group will be advisory to the Dean, with direct linkages to the school’s faculty governance process through the Undergraduate Studies Committee and the Graduate Studies Committee. Drs. Rasul Mowatt and Maresa Murray will serve as co-advisors of the group, with consultation provided by Drs. Susan Simmons and Deb Getz given their respective roles in career services and student leadership development. The student representatives are:

APHS = Tilicia Mayo and Sarah Thomas
ENVR = Shirisha Chittiboynia and Jill Kays
EBIO = Kristin Gillett-Heacock and Rickie Lee Heacock
KINE = Adam Burns and Ren-Jay Shei
RPTS = Olivia Severn and Jill Sturts

Accreditation Update

Accreditation Contact:
Dr. Michael Reece
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies
Room 111
mireece@indiana.edu
812.855.0068

Newsletter Contact:
Dr. Evelyn S. Goldsmith
Special Assistant to the Dean
Room 121
evsgold@indiana.edu
812.855.3686

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