



Robert C. May  
Telephone: (510) 987-0711  
Email: [robert.may@ucop.edu](mailto:robert.may@ucop.edu)

Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate  
Faculty Representative to the Regents  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 26, 2019

**MICHAEL T. BROWN**  
**PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

**Approval of UCSD's Proposal for a School of Public Health**

Dear Michael:

In accordance with the *Universitywide Review Processes For Academic Programs, Units, and Research Units* (the "Compendium"), the Academic Council has solicited input from the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA), the University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB), and the University Committee on Educational Policy (UCEP), regarding UC San Diego's proposal to establish a School of Public Health. The Senate's three Compendium Committees are unanimous in support of UCSD's proposal.

Because this is a new School, and the Assembly of the Academic Senate is not meeting within 30 days of CCGA's approval, Council must approve the program per Senate Bylaw 125.B.7. The Academic Council endorsed the proposal at its June 26, 2019 meeting.

I am enclosing CCGA's report on its review of the new School, as well as the reviews conducted by UCEP and UCPB. I respectfully request that your office complete the process of obtaining the President's approval.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in brown ink that reads "Rob C May".

Robert C. May, Chair  
Academic Council

cc: Academic Council  
UCSD Senate Director Rodriguez  
Academic Planning and Research Analyst Procello



**COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON GRADUATE AFFAIRS (CCGA)**

Onyebuchi A. Arah, Chair  
[arah@ucla.edu](mailto:arah@ucla.edu)

**ACADEMIC SENATE**

University of California  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 17, 2019

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR ROBERT MAY**

Dear Robert,

At its June 5 meeting, the Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA) voted 9-0-1 to approve a new School of Public Health (SPH) on the San Diego campus.

In proposing to establish the new SPH in the Health Sciences at San Diego, UC San Diego (UCSD) aspires to provide transformative public health education, research, innovation, and community impact. It is envisioned that the new SPH will comprehensively pool an impressive range of expertise within UCSD and beyond. Indeed, the SPH should bridge the continuum of UCSD's biomedical, clinical, population health, social science, and engineering expertise with public health. The new school will serve as a strategic focal collaborative point for the UCSD community and non-UCSD partners.

The SPH will provide modern interdisciplinary public health education for students directly enrolled in the SPH as well as for students in medicine, pharmacy, business, engineering, oceanography, public policy, international relations, economics, social sciences and humanities, urban planning, and joint degree programs with public health. It has ambitions and plans to address public health problems by training creative, entrepreneurial, and ethically aware and civic-minded public health professionals and researchers who will integrate individual and population health perspectives at scale.

The Lead Reviewer evaluated the program proposal along with three external reviewers, including a recent Dean Emeritus and an incoming Dean of Public Health. All were in strong favor of approving the School, with some minor suggestions for improvement.

CCGA recommends approval of the program. I submit this for your review and have enclosed the Lead Reviewer's report. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions regarding the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Onyebuchi A. Arah', written in a cursive style.

Onyebuchi A. Arah  
Chair, Coordinating Committee on Graduate Affairs (CCGA)

cc: Kum-Kum Bhavnani Academic Council Vice Chair  
CCGA Members  
Hilary Baxter, Academic Senate Executive Director  
Michael LaBriola, Academic Senate Analyst  
Chris Procello, Academic Planning and Research Analyst  
Paul Yu, UCSD Interim Graduate Dean  
Ray Rodriguez, UCSD Academic Senate Executive Director  
Lori Hullings, UCSD Academic Senate Associate Director

Enclosures (1)



June 3, 2019

To: CCGA

From: Ramesh Balasubramaniam, Lead Reviewer

### **Review of School of Public Health, UCSD**

In this report, I summarize my reading of the proposal. This was written after consultation with three external reviewers. The reviewer comments were largely positive, if not laudatory.

My recommendation is to recommend approval of the proposal to establish the new school.

### **Summary of the proposal**

UC San Diego (UCSD) proposes to establish a School of Public Health (SPH) based in Health Sciences that aspires to be transformative in public health education, research, innovation, and community impact. Our vision is to incorporate a comprehensive and novel range of expertise across the UCSD campus by fostering extensive education and research partnerships, leveraging our many existing outstanding traditional public health-oriented faculty and programs, and better engaging our world-class strengths in non-traditional state-of-the-art public health domains. The critical components of our SPH include business concepts for sustaining public health initiatives, innovative technologies (person, home, and community based), and perspectives of environmental science (climate change, etc.), engineering (bioengineering, nanoengineering, mechanical engineering, electrical and computer engineering, information technology and data sciences), social science (particularly economics, anthropology, political science, public policy, communication, psychology, and cognitive sciences), and the humanities (arts, ethics, history, etc.). A School is needed to provide a central point for connection and fostering collaboration within our community and non-UCSD partners. Situated within Health Sciences, the SPH would more directly bridge the continuum of our biomedical, clinical, population health, social science, and engineering expertise with public health.

The SPH will support interdisciplinary public health education not only for students directly enrolled in the SPH, but also for students in medicine, pharmacy, business, engineering, oceanography, public policy, international relations, economics, social sciences and humanities, urban planning, and other joint degree programs or public health courses. Addressing public health problems in the future will require creative, entrepreneurial, and ethically aware and civic-minded professionals who take both an individual and population perspective as they run hospitals, design modes of transport, apply best practices in engineering and design, and create policy. We anticipate offering cross-discipline training in MD-MPH, MPH-MBA, PharmD-MPH, engineering MS-MPH and/or PhD, and other joint programs. The proposed SPH will be committed to diversity in students, faculty, and research. Students and faculty who will transition into the school demonstrate this commitment: 25% of the students in the undergraduate Bachelor

of Science in Public Health (BSPH) are Latino, and 5% are African-American, compared to 16% and 2% among undergraduates overall. Among the Public Health faculty in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health, 18% are members of underrepresented minorities; as are 35% of the faculty in the global public health group in the Department of Medicine. These statistics compare to 7% among UCSD faculty overall. A central challenge in public health is reducing the large disparities in health outcomes between the advantaged and the disadvantaged – in the United States men in the top 1% of the income distribution live 15 years longer than men in the bottom 1%<sup>1</sup>. The effects of climate change will almost certainly exacerbate disparities, both within the US and globally. Innovative new technologies have the potential to further exacerbate disparities, as the rich often benefit from these technologies much more than the poor. The SPH will catalyze interdisciplinary work on reducing disparities, in which traditional public health faculty conduct research with colleagues in climate science, engineering, and the social sciences focused on how to improve the public's health. Inevitably, this work focuses on improving health outcomes for the disadvantaged. Focusing on these issues, the FMPH Department has a research center of excellence in Health Promotion and Equality. This central challenge faced in public health creates an environment in which diversity in students, faculty, and research is supported and encouraged.

### **External reviews**

I sought the opinion of three external reviewers. All three of them were in favor of approving the School, with some minor suggestions for improvement.

The three reviewers are:

1. Nancy Burke, Chair, Public Health, UC Merced
2. Linda Rosenstock, Dean Emeritus, UCLA Jonathan and Karin Fielding School of Public Health, Professor of Health Policy and Management, Environmental Health Sciences, and Medicine
3. Michael Lu, Associate Dean, Public Health, George Washington University (and incoming Dean of Public Health at UC Berkeley as of July 1, 2019).

The three reviewers suggested some minor points for improving the proposal, but most of their comments were positive and all of them recommend the creation of the School without any reservations.

### **Reviewer Summary**

Overall, I believe that this is a good proposal and I endorse moving forward with the approval process for the School of Public Health at UCSD.

Sincerely,

Ramesh Balasubramaniam, PhD  
Professor, Cognitive & Information Sciences  
University of California  
Merced, CA 95343 USA  
Phone: +1-209-228-2314

Web: <http://www.rameshlab.com>  
Email: [ramesh@ucmerced.edu](mailto:ramesh@ucmerced.edu)



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET (UCPB)  
James Steintrager, Chair  
[jsteintr@uci.edu](mailto:jsteintr@uci.edu)

Assembly of the Academic Senate  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
Phone: (510) 987-9466  
Fax: (510) 763-0309

April 12, 2019

**ROBERT MAY, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**RE: Full Proposal for School of Public Health at UC San Diego**

Dear Robert,

The University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB) has reviewed UC San Diego's Full Proposal to establish a School of Public Health (SPH). UCPB appreciates UCSD's responses to the questions and concerns UCPB raised during our [July 2018 review](#) of the Pre-Proposal concerning costs; the additional philanthropy needed to support the School; support from other UC Schools of Public Health; and the feasibility of the target opening date.

In general, we find that the Full Proposal is well-considered, makes a convincing case for need, and generally satisfies the four Compendium review categories for new schools: academic rigor, financial viability, need, and fit within the UC system and the segments. However, UCPB also has a few lingering concerns related to a lack of details in the budget, particularly the staffing and the space resources needed to support the school and avoid a "start and starve" budgeting scenario. We recommend that UCSD clarify and monitor these issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Steintrager".

James Steintrager, Chair  
UCPB

Encl.

cc: UCPB  
CCGA Analyst Harms



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY (UCEP)  
Anne Zanzucchi, Chair  
azanzucchi@ucmerced.edu

Assembly of the Academic Senate  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
Phone: (510) 987-9466  
Fax: (510) 763-0309

March 11, 2019

**ROBERT MAY, CHAIR  
ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**RE: UCSD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROPOSAL**

Dear Robert,

UCEP discussed UC San Diego's proposal for a School of Public Health during our March 4<sup>th</sup> videoconference. The committee was pleased with UCSD's responses to our questions about the pre-proposal and voted unanimously to approve the new School of Public Health.

UCEP appreciates the opportunity to comment on this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Zanzucchi".

Anne Zanzucchi, Chair  
UCEP