SECTION: 16

DATE:

October 1, 2013

# BOARD OF REGENTS EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATION

## **NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAM**

### **ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents approve a new Undergraduate Academic Program: Public Health Major.

#### **SUMMARY**

The proposed undergraduate major focuses on issues surrounding health and disease in large population groups. Public Health majors would be prepared for work in both the public and private sectors. Public sector positions for graduates cluster in government health departments in areas such as food and drug safety protection and inspection of production and packaging facilities, environmental protection, health education programs and policy administration, policy evaluation and data analysis. When combined with graduate study, public health majors may find work as clinical researchers, administrators and epidemiologists. Those interested in working for non-profit groups find jobs in areas such as health advocacy, policy development, program management, or conducting research for health focused organizations. In the private sector, graduates seek employers such as pharmaceutical companies (random trials), health insurance, health promotion, and other related companies.

The proposed major's course work develops competency in areas including: research methodology (especially statistical techniques), epidemiology, health care systems including reform proposals, management within the heath care environment (law, financial management, clinic management, policy analysis), change strategies to enhance health of populations.

#### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this time. Program will be funded through the re-allocation of faculty, staff and other resources. It is proposed by existing faculty and builds on a range of existing courses in the life and social sciences, health administration and clinical lab administration. It involves the creation of a limited number of new or exclusive introductory and specialized courses.

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval