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**Agenda Item:** II.A.

**DATE:** November 15, 2007

**SUBJECT:** University of Memphis proposal to establish a School of Public Health

**ACTION RECOMMENDED:** Approval

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** Memphis, Shelby County, and the Mid-South have some of the highest rates of health problems and levels of disparity in health status in the United States. Rates of infant mortality, heart disease, diabetes deaths, and homicides and suicides are among the highest in the nation. Those rates require population-based solutions. To address such issues, the University of Memphis (U of M) proposes to create a School of Public Health (SPH). The purpose of the School will be to provide education for the region and state's public health professional needs, conduct research on public health issues, and provide leadership and outreach addressing those challenges.

**PROPOSED START-UP DATE:** Upon approval.

Commission staff reviewed this program proposal according to the academic standards adopted by the Commission on January 29, 1997. Each relevant standard is referenced below.

**1.1.20A MISSION:** The mission of the School of Public Health at the University of Memphis is to provide a stimulating academic environment in a metropolitan setting that supports excellence and innovation in education, research, and service to enhance the lives and health of individuals, families, and communities in the Mid-South and Tennessee.

**1.1.20B CURRICULUM:** The School will house the existing Masters in Public Health and the proposed Ph.D. in Public Health. Curricula for both programs are designed to comply with standards of the accrediting body for public health programming, the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Accreditation through CEPH requires an MPH with programs in five areas: administration, behavioral health, biostatistics, environmental health, and epidemiology. Accreditation eligibility also requires doctoral programs in three of the five areas.

**1.1.20C ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** The University of Memphis has based enrollment projections for the MPH and proposed Ph.D. on enrollment patterns at three schools of public health: the University of Alabama-Birmingham, the University of Arkansas, and North Texas University. These institutions, like U of M, are located in southern metropolitan areas, are state supported institutions, and offer degree programs similar to the programs proposed for the U of M School. To assess the net gain in new students, the enrollment estimates assume that 15 percent of the total enrollments in the School's programs are

students shifting from other U of M graduate programs. It is assumed that 85 percent of total enrollments will be in-state students.

The assumed distribution of students by level of degree program:

Year 1	30 masters	9 doctoral
Year 2	80 masters	18 doctoral
Year 3	130 masters	30 doctoral
Year 4	170 masters	39 doctoral
Year 5	190 masters	42 doctoral

**1.1.20D FACULTY:** Distribution of instruction in MPH and Ph.D programs by faculty rank and FTE faculty to students ratios required by CEPH will be met.

**1.1.20E LIBRARY RESOURCES:** N/A

**1.1.20F ADMINISTRATION/ORGANIZATION:** The proposed School will house the existing MPH and the proposed Ph.D in Public Health. Establishment of the School will require appointment of a dean and support staff.

**1.1.20G SUPPORT RESOURCES:** A collaborative arrangement with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will provide for enhanced research opportunities and support the mission of the proposed School.

**1.1.20H FACILITIES/INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT:** N/A

**1.1.20I STUDENT/EMPLOYER DEMANDS:** National evidence supports the need for additional public health educational programs. The number of applicants to schools of public health continues to rise, with virtually all schools having a surfeit of applicants (Associated Schools of Public Health, 2005). Graduates in public health pursue careers in many different public, not-for-profit, and private health-related settings. These include local and state health departments and other governmental agencies, hospitals, community health agencies, health delivery systems, health maintenance organizations, universities, insurance companies, and pharmaceutical and medical supply technologies. According to the *Eight and Ninth Reports to the President and Congress of the Status of Health Personnel in the US*, shortages of personnel exist in the following specialties: epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental and occupational health, public health nutrition, public health nursing, public health education, and preventive medicine.

**1.1.20J NO UNNECESSARY DULICATION:** The establishment of the School at the University of Memphis will not compete with the viability of the College of Public Health at East Tennessee State University, the only college of public health in Tennessee. The University of Tennessee at Knoxville offers an accredited MPH program, and Tennessee State University is developing master's and doctoral programs in public health. By virtue of distance and difference in focus, the proposed School of Public Health and the programs it will house will not duplicate existing and emerging offerings at these institutions.

**1.1.20K COOPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS:** N/A

**1.1 20L ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION:** The School will seek accreditation through the Council on Education for Public Health. The third year of MPH and Ph.D. operation would be the first year the School would be eligible for a CEPH accreditation visit. Only accredited schools of public health are eligible for specific grants and contracts that support workforce development and public health research.

**1.1.2M ARTICULATION:** N/A

**1.1.20N EXTERNAL JUDGMENT:** N/A

**1.1.20O COST/BENEFIT/SOURCE:** All costs associated with the School will be administered through two degree programs, the existing MPH and the proposed Ph.D. in Public Health. Funds for these programs will be covered by tuition, fees, gifts, and grants. Administrative start-up costs for the School will be met through grants or gifts. The University has a documented commitment from the Urban Child Institute of Memphis in the amount of \$1.5M. This gift is designated to meet costs associated with the proposed School of Public Health.

An analysis of existing courses and faculty shows that many of the resources required for the School are in place. Establishment of the School, therefore, requires realignment of existing resources provided from a variety of sources. Based on enrollment and funding patterns in similar settings and as startups, it is expected that the new School will enroll 232 students in its programs in its fifth year of operation. By that time it will also be producing a positive net of approximately one-half million dollars a year.

**University of Memphis**  
**School of Public Health - Administrative Costs**

Five-year projections are required for baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate programs and certificates. Three-year projections are required for associate degrees and undergraduate certificates. Projections should include cost of living increases per year.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>I. Expenditures</b>					
<b>A. One-time Expenditures</b>					
New/Renovated Space	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Equipment	10,000	-	-	-	-
Library	15,000	19,000	23,000	28,000	28,000
Consultants	4,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	-
Travel	-	-	-	-	#
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-Total One-time	<u>\$ 49,000</u>	<u>\$ 27,000</u>	<u>\$ 31,000</u>	<u>\$ 36,000</u>	<u>\$ 28,000</u>
<b>B. Recurring Expenditures</b>					
<b>Personnel</b>					
<b>Administration</b>					
Salary	\$ 186,700	\$ 192,301	\$ 194,980	\$ 200,829	\$ 206,854
Benefits	62,808	64,692	65,706	67,678	40,008
Sub-Total Administration	<u>249,508</u>	<u>256,993</u>	<u>260,686</u>	<u>268,507</u>	<u>246,862</u>
<b>Faculty</b>					
Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Benefits	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-Total Faculty	<u>\$ -</u>				
<b>Support Staff</b>					
Salary	\$ 14,550	\$ 25,287	\$ 24,809	\$ 26,827	\$ 27,631
Benefits	5,984	8,541	8,426	9,061	9,333
Sub-Total Support Staff	<u>\$ 20,534</u>	<u>\$ 33,828</u>	<u>\$ 33,235</u>	<u>\$ 35,887</u>	<u>\$ 36,964</u>
<b>Operating</b>					
Travel	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
Printing	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
Equipment	15,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Sub-Total Operating	<u>\$ 48,000</u>	<u>\$ 58,000</u>	<u>\$ 58,000</u>	<u>\$ 58,000</u>	<u>\$ 58,000</u>
Total Recurring	<u>\$ 318,042</u>	<u>\$ 348,821</u>	<u>\$ 351,921</u>	<u>\$ 362,394</u>	<u>\$ 341,826</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b> (A+B)	<u><b>\$ 367,042</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 375,821</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 382,921</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 398,394</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 369,826</b></u>
<b>II. Revenue</b>					
Tuition and Fees <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	398,394	369,826
Institutional Reallocations <sup>2</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Federal Grants <sup>3</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
Private Grants or Gifts <sup>4</sup>	367,042	375,821	382,921	-	-
Other <sup>5</sup>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<u><b>\$ 367,042</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 375,821</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 382,921</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 398,394</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 369,826</b></u>

**1.1.3P POST APPROVAL MONITORING:** An annual performance review of the proposed program will be conducted for the first five years following approval. The review will be based on benchmarks established in the approved program proposal. At the end of this period, campus, governing board, and Commission staff will perform a summative evaluation. The benchmarks include, but are not limited to, enrollment and graduation, program cost, progress toward accreditation, library acquisitions, student performance, and others set by the institution and agreed upon by governing board and Commission staff. As a result of this evaluation, if benchmarks are not met during the monitoring period, the Commission may recommend that the governing board terminate the program. The Commission may choose to extend the period, if additional time is needed and requested by the governing board.