

ACTION ITEM #

Establish a Department of Community and Behavioral Health (Elizabeth S. Chilton)

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Department of Community and Behavioral Health

PROPOSED: That the Board of Regents establish a Department of Community and Behavioral Health

SUBMITTED BY: Elizabeth S. Chilton, Provost and Executive Vice President

SUPPORTING INFORMATION: The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine proposes the establishment of the Department of Community and Behavioral Health to best support the behavioral and community health foci embodied by many of the faculty.

This change renames the existing, but inactive, Department of Health Policy and Administration. Doing so aligns the college's administrative structure with national and international practice. This also benefits efforts to secure extramural support by providing faculty with a unit title that explicitly identifies their broad areas of expertise.

In addition, the new department will align with many efforts external to Washington State University for which the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine faculty may be overlooked because they are identified with a department title that that does not reflect their work. Finally, this will set the stage for the future development of both graduate and undergraduate educational offerings in behavioral and community health. These offerings will be in partnership with faculty in other units, both within and outside the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine.

The proposal for the Department of Community and Behavioral Health is attached. This proposal was reviewed carefully and has support from the Provost's Office. This recommendation was recommended by the Faculty Senate Executive and Faculty Affairs Committees on April 6, 2020.

The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine proposes establishment of the Department of Community and Behavioral Health effective as soon as feasible.