Dear MPH students:

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the nationally recognized accrediting agency for graduate schools and programs in public health acted on October 6-7, 2016 to place the SIU MPH program on probation for a term of 2 years.

It is my responsibility as the Interim Department Chair to advise you regarding your status as a student in the MPH program. CEPH guarantees that your diploma will be recognized as being from an accredited program, if you have completed all of the requirements of your degree by May 15, 2018. However, students who anticipate completing the requirements after this date are not guaranteed that their diploma will be recognized as being from an accredited program. We are committed to satisfying all the CEPH requirements, to enable all the MPH students to graduate from an accredited program at SIU, regardless of their completion date.

We respect CEPH’s decision and resolution of the deficiencies is the highest priority at SIU. The CEPH report acknowledges that the SIU MPH program demonstrates an understanding of the public health core knowledge and offers joint degrees. They also acknowledge that the program pursues active service activities, which are consistent with our mission, through which faculty and students contribute to the advancement of public health practice.

The vacancy of the MPH Coordinator position is now filled and Ms. Sandra Schwartz will advise and give career counsel to students pursuing their MPH degree. The MPH coordinator will collaborate with faculty and committee members to develop updated assessments, establish tracking methods and update syllabi. In addition, the Department is actively searching for two new tenure – track faculty members primarily for the MPH program.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Ms. Schwartz or myself if you have any questions regarding completion of your MPH degree from SIU.

Sincerely,

Juliane P. Wallace, Ph.D., FACSM
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