

Resolution 2016-17.J

Resolution to Approve New Degree, Bachelor of Science in Public Health

Recommended by the Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies

First Reading: April 10, 2017

Faculty Senate Waiver: April 12, 2017

Second Reading: April 24, 2017

Approved by University Council:

Approved by President:

Effective: Fall 2018

WHEREAS, individual and community health problems can be ameliorated through implementation of public health core responsibilities and essential services; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine (now the Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine) sees a public health trained workforce as an important component in helping the United States close gaps in health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that serious public health workforce shortages exist; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no accredited Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree offered at other higher education institutions in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Tech is advancing health sciences curricula, research, and majors; and

WHEREAS, the undergraduate demand for a Bachelor of Science in Public Health degree is sizable; and

WHEREAS, a Master of Public Health degree, accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), is currently offered by the Department of Population Health Sciences in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; and

WHEREAS, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, to be offered in the Department of Population Health Science in the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, would be added to the CEPH accreditation of the Public Health Program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Bachelor of Science in Public Health be approved effective Fall 2018 and the proposal forwarded to the President, the Board of Visitors, and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) for approval, and to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for notification.