



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CSU PUBLIC HEALTH CAREER CONFERENCE

Date: January 8, 2019

Dear Jennifer:

I am writing to see if any of the members of the USU health care strand would like to attend a unique conference that we are hosting at California State University, Los Angeles, on February 8, 2019. I believe the conference will be of great benefit to California State University students. We also hope that some health care faculty members from other USU campuses, perhaps including yourself, may wish to attend and observe. Perhaps some will find it beneficial and may then consider hosting similar events in their states.

Leaders at the Cal State LA Department of Public Health created the Public Health Career Advisement Project (PH-CAP) out of a growing awareness that many undergraduate public health students—unlike students in many other disciplines—have very limited awareness of career paths in public health.

Accordingly, the goal of the project is to create and test strategies with the potential to build awareness and knowledge of public health career options among California State University (CSU) undergraduate students majoring in public health or interested in pursuing a career in public health.

The project is funded by a generous grant from the California Endowment. The Southern California CSU Public Health Career Conference, scheduled for February 8, 2019, is one of several project activities. Other than transportation expenses, there will be no charge to anyone attending the conference.

The overall goals of this conference are:

- To showcase the diverse opportunities and options for a career in the various fields of public health;
- To highlight the different settings in which various public health practitioners work;
- To describe the skills, competencies, and education needed to pursue these careers.

Given these goals, the conference will have several concurrent breakout sessions, each focusing on a different field of public health. These will include community health and health education, environmental health, health services, administration and management, global health, and epidemiology and biostatistics. A separate set of breakout sessions will focus on the different job settings at which public



health practitioners might work, such as: hospital and clinical facilities; government; non-profit and community settings; and research and academic settings. During each breakout session, invited panelists with diverse experiences and backgrounds will participate in moderated question-and-answer discussions.

Students from all Southern California CSU campuses that offer undergraduate programs in public health or health sciences will be participating. These include Channel Islands, Dominguez Hills, Fullerton, Long Beach, Northridge, San Bernardino, San Diego, as well as the host campus, Los Angeles. As of now we have over 300 students registered. Faculty members from participating CSU campuses, and some from Northern California will also be attending.

Our University President William Covino will greet the students at lunch.

We are hoping that you will forward this letter to members of the health strand and encourage them to consider attending the conference. As noted above, we hope they will find it of value and may view a similar effort as an appropriate means to assist students interested in public health careers in their state.

Please let us know if you will be able to do so, or if you would prefer that we contact them directly.

Anyone interested in learning more about the conference or attending it should contact PH-CAP Project Manager Ms. Athena Foong at wfoong@calstatela.edu. We will also welcome the opportunity to provide additional information about other elements of the Public Health Career Advisement Project.

Sincerely,

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Professor & Chair, Department of Public Health

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