Planning for an Accredited School of Public Health at UW-Milwaukee
Rita Cheng, PhD
Provost and Vice Chancellor, UWM
Chair, Steering Committee

Bevan Baker, CHE
Commissioner of Health, City of Milwaukee
Co-Chair, Planning Team

Randall Lambrecht, PhD
Dean, College of Health Sciences, UWM
Co-Chair, Planning Team
# Importance of Public Health

## Leading Causes of Death in the United States, 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMMEDIATE causes of death</th>
<th>ACTUAL causes of death</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Heart disease 711,000</td>
<td>1. Tobacco 435,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Cancer 553,000</td>
<td>2. Diet/activity patterns 365,000</td>
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<td>3. Stroke 168,000</td>
<td>3. Alcohol 85,000</td>
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<td>4. Chronic lung disease 122,000</td>
<td>4. Microbial agents 75,000</td>
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<td>5. Accidents 98,000</td>
<td>5. Toxic agents 55,000</td>
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Charge to Committee

Conduct feasibility study for school of public health (SPH) in Milwaukee with these goals:

- Identify public health needs & academic resources
- Determination of gaps in resource base
- Convergence on the best means for filling those gaps
Process

- Identification of community stakeholders
- Launch of www.publichealth.uwm.edu
- Survey of UWM faculty and staff
- Two Community Input Sessions, attended by 100 community stakeholders
Public Health Experts
Site Visit and Report

• Patricia Wahl, PhD
  Dean, School of Public Health and Community Medicine
  University of Washington

• Hugh Tilson, MD, DrPH
  Senior Advisor to the Dean, School of Public Health
  University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

• Sylvia Furner, PhD, MPH
  Interim Dean, School of Public Health
  University of Illinois--Chicago
Experts’ Report

Diversity in Milwaukee’s PH workforce “is particularly important.”

“There is an obvious commitment to service and community engagement at UWM.”

“Approximately $10 million in ongoing core support needed…”

“…our commendation that [UWM recognizes] the importance of PH to your community.”
Need for School of Public Health in Milwaukee
Milwaukee Public Health Indicators

Infant Mortality Racial Disparity
Ratio of Infant Deaths Rates in African-Americans, Compared to Whites

2010 Objective = 1.3
## Milwaukee Public Health Indicators

### Immunization Levels, 2-year-olds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Wisconsin</th>
<th>Milwaukee County</th>
<th>Milwaukee City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Completion</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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</table>

Combined completion rates of the recommended:

- 4 doses of Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTP)
- 3 doses of Polio vaccine
- 1 dose of measles-containing vaccine (MMR)
- 3 doses of Haemophilus b vaccine (Hib)
- 3 doses of hepatitis b vaccine
Milwaukee Public Health Indicators

Adult Health, 2003

- Overall Health*: 50% (excellent or very good)
- Dental Checkup (past year): 66%
- Mammogram (Women 50+, past year): 61%
- Not Overweight: 38%
- Flu Shot (past year): 36%
- Vegetables (3+ servings per day): 29%
- Moderate Physical Activity (>5x per week): 37%

*Self-reported health status
Workforce Needs

In Wisconsin and US:
• The public health workforce is facing precipitous declines at local, state and national levels
• More than 50% of PH workforce is aged over 50
• PH workforce declined 28% over past 2 decades

In Milwaukee:
• 37 of 207 PH workers are retirement eligible, 15 of them minorities
• These management-level positions require advanced degrees
Accreditation & Academic Resources
# Accreditation Requirements

<table>
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<th>Minimum Core Requirements</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative infrastructure (Dean, Associate Dean)</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Master’s of Public Health program</td>
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<td>A minimum of 3 doctoral programs</td>
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<td>A minimum of 25 FTE faculty</td>
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</table>
| Depth of education/training in 5 core areas  
(Epidemiology, biostatistics, environmental health, health services administration, behavioral and social sciences) |

**Sufficient Resources**

*Credit: Council on Education for Public Health*
## Sampling of UWM Engagement with the Community

### UWM CENTERS
- Center for Urban Population Health
- Center for Age & Community
- Center for Addiction and Behavioral Health Research
- Center for Urban Initiatives and Research
- Center for Rehabilitation Research and Disability Design

### UWM INSTITUTES
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
- Institute of Environmental Health
- Institute of Urban Health Partnerships
- WATER Institute

### COMMUNITY-BASED CLINICS
- Community Audiology Services
- Community Nursing Centers
- Augmentative and Alternative Communication Clinic
- “Wellness Works” Older Adult Fitness Clinics

### COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS
- Native American Research Center for Health (NARCH)
- Partnerships for Healthy Milwaukee
- Academic Programs
  - PhD Public & Community Health
  - Public Health Microbiology
  - Community Health Nursing
Outcomes of an Accredited SPH

• A highly qualified, diversified workforce
• Research that examines root causes of PH problems
• Strategies that improve overall health outcomes
• Policies that protect the health of the public
• Partnerships
Academic Health Department

- A dynamic academic-practice collaboration
- Senior health department professional staff provide experience-based knowledge.
- Faculty researchers provide high-quality academic data that informs health department policies and translates into better programs.
## Timeline

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<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
<th>YEAR 3</th>
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<th>YEAR 6</th>
<th>YEAR 7</th>
<th>YEAR 8</th>
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<tr>
<td>Expand current UWM academic capacity in Public Health nursing, health sciences, environmental health</td>
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<td>Certificate in Public Health</td>
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<td>Build MPH program</td>
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<td>Joint Ph.D. with MCW</td>
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<td>Third PhD</td>
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<td>Executive MPH</td>
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<td>Announce SPH and start accreditation process</td>
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<td>Gain accreditation for SPH***</td>
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* Accreditation must occur within two years of application for accreditation.
New Resources are Paramount

- New faculty
- New research and teaching facilities
- New partnerships
- Annually, a midsize SPH requires:
  - $10 million in unrestricted funds
  - plus $16 million in grants/contracts
A Commitment to Wisconsin and Its Largest Urban Corridor
Summary of Findings

- Milwaukee County ranks second last of WI counties in health determinants
- Wisconsin public health workforce in critical situation
- 36 accredited schools in US; none in WI
- Community stakeholders express significant interest in SPH in Milwaukee
- Significant new resources are required
Next Steps

- Request for Regent endorsement
- Create SPH Planning Council
- Implement recommendations in report

“The SPH might take time—what can we do right now?”

-Community member at a Stakeholder Input Session
Discussion and Questions