

Dean
Public Health

Joint venture with the
New York State Department of Health
In affiliation with Albany Medical College



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UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

September 24, 2003

Carlos E. Santiago, PhD
Provost and Vice President
For Academic Affairs
University at Albany, UAB 400
1400 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12222

Dear Provost Santiago;

I am requesting your approval of our plan to merge this School's Departments of Biometry & Statistics, and Epidemiology into a single Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.

We are eager to combine these two departments due to the very small size of the Biometry & Statistics Department that currently consists of two full-time professors, supplemented by a few adjunct faculty. An additional reason for this request is that it is a very common practice in schools of public health to have a single department representing these two related disciplines. Furthermore, the unification of these disciplines into a single Department, supported by a combined faculty component of seven full-time faculty, will also be well received by our accreditation organization – the Council on Education for Public Health. Dr. David Strogatz, Chair of the Department of Epidemiology has assumed the responsibilities of Interim Chair of Biometry & Statistics since the retirement last year of the immediate past Chair of this department - Dr. Lloyd Lininger. We have seen that this structure can work, and you have my assurance that faculty in both departments support this merger.

We presented the proposal for merger to our Faculty Council at their meeting last week and received unanimous support (see enclosed letter from Dr. Timothy Hoff, Chair of the SPH Council). With this strong support from the Faculty Council and the support of Dr. Strogatz, I now request permission to take such action.

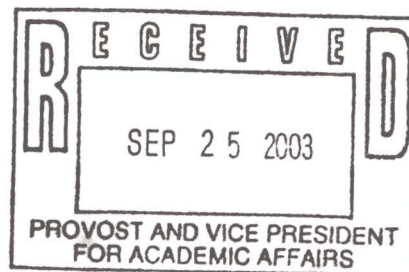
Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Levin, ScD
Dean

Encl.

Cc: Dr. Strogatz





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To: Peter Levin, Dean ✓
Nancy Persily, Associate Dean

From: Tim Hoff, Chair, SPH Council ✓

Subject: Support for Proposed Merger of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Departments in the School

Date: September 22, 2003

This is to inform you that the School of Public Health Faculty Governance Council discussed the proposed merger of the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at its monthly meeting on September 20, 2003.

Subsequent to that discussion, and at that meeting, we considered and voted unanimously in favor of a motion "to support and endorse the proposed merger", believing as a council that there is sound logic for doing it rooted in a combination of curriculum, resource, and student-related justifications.

Please let me know if there is anything further you need from the Council in relation to this proposed action.