

Research and Graduate Programs  
The Graduate School

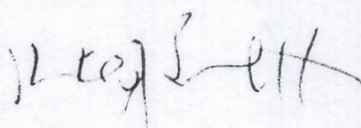
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February 16, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Stephanie Hanson, Executive Associate Dean  
College of Public Health and Health Professions

FROM: Kenneth J. Gerhardt, Interim Dean  
Graduate School



RE: Proposal for a Ph.D. in Biostatistics

Your proposal for a Ph.D. in Biostatistics was approved by the Graduate Council with a starting date of Fall 2007 pending approval from the Faculty Senate, Board of Trustees and Board of Governors. It will be sent to the University Curriculum Committee as an information item and to the Faculty Senate for action.

KG/ld

cc: Elena Andresen, Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics  
Mike Daniels, Division Chief of Biostatistics  
Robert Frank, Dean, College of Public Health and Health Professions  
Ramon Littell, Associate Chair, Statistics  
Diana Hull, Associate University Registrar, Office of the University Registrar  
Sheila Dickison, Associate Provost, Honors Office  
✓ Amelia Hugus, Faculty Senate Secretary  
Gann Enholm, Coordinator, Academic Support Services

College of Public Health and Health Professions  
Office of the Dean

101 S. Newell Drive  
PO Box 100185  
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www.php.ufl.edu

January 18, 2007

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Kenneth J. Gerhardt, Ph.D.  
Interim Dean, Graduate School  
164 Grinter  
Campus

FROM: Stephanie Hanson, Ph.D.  
Executive Associate Dean

RE: Ph.D. Proposal in Biostatistics

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the College of Public Health and Health Professions is proposing a Ph.D. in Biostatistics (the proposal, UCC1 forms and three syllabi are enclosed). As you are probably aware, biostatistics is one of the five core areas of public health, and we have developed the Ph.D. in Biostatistics to represent one of the three doctoral programs required for accreditation as a college of public health by the Council on Education for Public Health, the national accrediting body for public health schools. Although the Ph.D. in Biostatistics will be offered by the College of Public Health and Health Professions, program design involved active collaboration with faculty in the Department of Statistics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and program implementation will continue to involve select members of these departments as noted in the enclosed proposal. We are requesting review and approval of the Ph.D. in Biostatistics at this time. Please let me know if we can provide any additional information. Thank you.



SH/gl

cc: Dr. Elena Andresen, Chair  
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Mike Daniels, Division Chief of Biostatistics

Dr. Robert G. Frank, Dean  
College of Public Health and Health Professions



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**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Kenneth J. Gerhardt, Interim Dean of the Graduate School

FROM: Robert G. Frank, Professor and Dean *R.G.F.*

DATE: February 2, 2007

SUBJECT: Biostatistics Proposal and PhD Proposal Inquiry

Enclosed please find a revised proposal for the Ph.D. program in Biostatistics. We believe we have addressed the concerns e-mailed to Dr. Hanson by Karen Bradley regarding curricular titles, names, and course availability. Specifically, we have made the following changes:

- Course titles for STA 7346, STA 7347, and PHC 7980 have been corrected
- We have revised the third section of the curricular table in which the course choices for the three biostatistics electives were presented. We have:
  - Eliminated from the list: STA 6248, 6576, 6746, 6876, 7506
  - Added to the list: STA 6178, 6209, and 6826
- All corresponding course descriptions for new courses have been added.

In addition to the curricular changes, you had requested that we address several points regarding operations of and support for the program. In the remainder of the letter, I will attempt to address the issues about which you inquired.

Given that the Biostatistics major will be offered in our college, we will be responsible for its management, including ensuring appropriate allocation of resources for any future growth. Faculty hires will be the responsibility of our college, although we will explore opportunities for sharing faculty with other colleges should this be appropriate and beneficial to the program. You asked for either revised or new letters of support from the deans of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Agricultural and Life Sciences, and Medicine, and these have been requested.

You also inquired about the provost's involvement regarding moving these programs forward. President Machen had direct correspondence with me approximately one year ago regarding the importance of our college offering three Ph.D. programs relevant to public health knowledge in order to be accredited as a College of Public Health. We submitted the pre-proposal for each Ph.D. program to Dr. Barrett, MD, as the Senior Vice President of Health Affairs and chief administrative and executive officer governing the Health Science Center Colleges; we received his authority to proceed with program planning. We plan to meet with Provost Fouke next week to discuss the proposals in detail.

We hope we have addressed the concerns raised. We appreciate your sensitivity to the issue that the site visitors from the Council on Education for Public Health are scheduled to be here in March, 2008, and all three Ph.D. programs must be implemented (i.e. at least one student in each program) prior to that time. Please contact me if you have additional concerns.

R. Kirby Barrick, Dean

February 2, 2007

Dr. Barbara Curbow  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Behavioral Science and Community Health  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
University of Florida

Dear Dr. Curbow,

Thank you for providing information regarding the proposed doctoral program in Behavioral and Community Public Health (BCPH) in the College of Public Health and Health Professions. As I understand it, you will be admitting approximately four students per year and each of these students has the opportunity to select one of six concentrations, some of which involve courses in the Department of Family, Youth, and Community Sciences. I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the PhD program and the Department of FYCS' willingness to have specific courses available to your students as part of their concentration. I also understand that our graduate students would be eligible to take courses in your program, which I appreciate. I wish you success with the proposal.

Yours truly,



R. Kirby Barrick  
Dean

R. Kirby Barrick, Dean

February 2, 2007

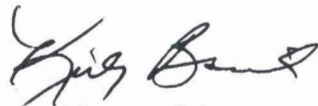
Robert G. Frank, Dean and Professor  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
P.O. Box 100185  
Campus

Dear Dr. Frank:

I provide this letter in regard to the establishment of the PhD program in biostatistics in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is supportive of this new degree program, and we look forward to having our students engaged in various opportunities the program will present.

Dr. Linda Young will be changing her appointment from PHHP to the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences this summer 2007 and would like to have a small role in the PhD program, which she helped design. Similarly, Dr. Mary Christman has been involved in academic program design for this new PhD and would also contribute her teaching expertise to students in the biostatistics program. We look forward to initiation of the program and expanded opportunities for collaboration.

Yours truly,



R. Kirby Barrick  
Dean





# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Office of the Dean

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5 February 2007

Robert G. Frank, Dean and Professor  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
P.O. Box 100185  
Campus

Dear Bob:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the establishment of the PhD program in biostatistics in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). The faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, specifically faculty in the Department of Statistics, have been directly involved in planning this new degree program with PHHP and are committed to working with PHHP students through course-specific activities and mentorship. As chair of the Department of Statistics in CLAS, Dr. Ramon Littell will coordinate our college's statistics collaboration with PHHP once the new PHHP program is approved and implemented. This will include negotiation of additional course sections as needed. Because PHHP biostatisticians and CLAS statisticians are working collaboratively, we anticipate little, if any, problem arising regarding course duplication. It is understood that new faculty hires required for the delivery of the biostatistics program will be the responsibility of PHHP unless mutual benefit in a shared fiscal arrangement is apparent and supported by CLAS. We look forward to our teaching and research collaboration with PHHP as this program moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Glover", written over a horizontal line.

Joe Glover  
Interim Dean

JG/eb

College of Medicine  
Office of the Dean  
Folke H. Peterson/Dean's Distinguished Professorship

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February 2, 2007

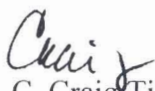
Robert G. Frank, Ph.D.  
Dean  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
Box 100185

Dear Bob:

I am writing to provide this letter of support for the establishment of the Ph.D. program in biostatistics in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). We have not seen a copy of the proposal so the College of Medicine is providing support for the establishment of the program based on the following understanding. First, Dr. Keith Muller, Division Director for Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Health Policy Research, in collaboration with other biostatistics faculty members in the College of Medicine is developing elective courses that will be incorporated into the Ph.D. in biostatistics. These faculty members are working with Dr. Michael Daniels to ensure that there is no duplication of courses.

In addition, we understand that biostatistics faculty in the College of Medicine will participate fully in Ph.D. students' doctoral committees and also will be involved in other mentoring activities including providing graduate research assistantships within the Department of Epidemiology and Health Policy Research to these students. Based on these understandings, the College of Medicine is providing support for establishment of the proposed Ph.D. in Biostatistics and we look forward to our participation.

Sincerely,



C. Craig Tisher, M.D.  
Dean, College of Medicine  
Folke H. Peterson/Dean's Distinguished Professorship

CCT/hcb



College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Department of Statistics

102 Griffin-Floyd Hall  
PO Box 118545  
Gainesville, FL 32611-8545  
352-392-1941  
352-392-5175 Fax

February 5, 2007

Robert G. Frank, Dean and Professor  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
PO Box 100185  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida 32610-0185

Dear Dean Frank:

As Chair of the combined Departments of Statistics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) and IFAS, I enthusiastically support the proposed PhD program in biostatistics in the College of Public Health and Health Professions (PHHP). Faculty members in Statistics participated in program planning and design, and specific faculty members will continue to be involved in teaching and student mentorship. Statistics faculty members in general are supportive of this proposed program and wish it success. Several of them have bio-statistical interests and are interested in working with biostatistics students as outlined in the program proposal. In addition, statistics students will be interested in taking courses in biostatistics and working with faculty members in PHHP.

On behalf of the Statistics Department, I will coordinate our continuing involvement in the biostatistics program including the need to address curricular or resource demands over time. I will cooperate closely with Dr. Michael Daniels, division chief of biostatistics in PHHP, to ensure that our collaboration is fruitful and that the program is a success. Most courses in which CLAS faculty will be involved are already in place and have the capacity to meet program needs. I do not anticipate course duplication. Since the biostatistics PhD will be offered by PHHP, it is my understanding that future faculty hires required for the delivery of the program will be the responsibility of PHHP unless there proves to be mutual benefit in a shared fiscal arrangement.

The PhD program in biostatistics is long overdue. It will benefit the entire university and the Statistics Department in particular. I look forward to our continuing collaboration.

Sincerely,



Ramon Littell  
Professor and Chair

*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*

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