Appendix G. Letters of Support
November 3, 2011

Professor Jay Maddock, OPHS Chair
University of Hawaii-Manoa
Office of Public Health Studies
1960 East West Road, Biomed D-204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Professor Maddock:

The Hawaii State Department of Health is pleased to endorse the Authority to Plan (ATP) proposal submitted by the Office of Public Health Studies (OPHS), University of Hawaii-Manoa. Our understanding is that the proposed BA degree in Public Health (PH) program would be designed to train undergraduates interested in public health and/or a health profession in basic concepts in public health practice and research.

As the agency that has oversight of the health and safety of the State are aware of the need to better identify and train entry level PH workforce, noting that the U.S. Department of Labor recently identified the health sciences field representing the largest single industry in the U.S., accounting for 14.3 million jobs across 200 different fields. Also, nationally, there is a clear growing trend towards the development of undergraduate course and programs in public health in colleges and universities.

We look forward to working with the OPHS to develop and implement this new BA-level Public Health program. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding our letter of support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health
Promoting Lifelong Health & Wellness
November 4, 2011

Professor Jay Maddock, OPHS Chair
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
Office of Public Health Studies
1960 East-West Road, BioMed D-204
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Jay,

I am pleased to endorse the Authority to Plan (ATP) proposal for a BA degree in Public Health to be offered by the Office of Public Health Services. It is my understanding that the proposed BA degree in Public Health program is designed to train undergraduates interested in public health, practice and research. Students enrolled in this program would complete at least 21 credits in undergraduate public health courses and add credits in elective public health-related courses from within the UHM system.

This degree program will be important to train students for entry level public health work. The U.S. Department of Labor recently identified the health sciences field as the largest single industry in the U.S., accounting for 14.3 million jobs across 200 different fields. Also, nationally, there is a clear growing trend towards the development of undergraduate courses and programs in public health in colleges and universities.

We look forward to working with the Office of Public Health Services to develop and implement this new BA degree in Public Health.

Best Wishes,

Richard Dubanoski
Dean
October 28, 2011

Professor Jay Maddock, OPHS Chair
University of Hawaii-Manoa
Office of Public Health Studies
1960 East West Road, Biomed D-204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Professor Maddock,

Kapi'olani Community College wholeheartedly endorses this Authorization To Plan (ATP) proposal being submitted by the Office of Public Health Studies (OPHS) of the University of Hawaii-Manoa, for a proposed BA degree in Public Health (PH). Kapi'olani CC strongly supports UHM's plan to offer an undergraduate BA or BS in PH, which would provide our graduates in two-year, health related fields with a strong and viable baccalaureate degree health pathway within the UH System.

Our understanding is that the proposed BA degree in Public Health will be designed for undergraduates interested in public health and/or a health profession related to public health practice and research. Students enrolled in this program will be expected to complete at least 21 credits in undergraduate public health courses and added credits in elective PH-related courses from within the UHM system, for a total of 120 undergraduate credits.

We at Kapi'olani Community College take pride in our mission to “build partnerships within the University” and “prepare students to meet rigorous baccalaureate requirements.” Our mission molds the Kapi'olani CC perspective, as stated in our Strategic Plan Outcomes for 2008-2015, e.g., as we strive to “address critical workforce shortages and prepare students for effective engagement and leadership in a global environment.” Based on events, both man-made and natural, that have occurred over the past few years, nowhere is this outcome more relevant than in the field of Public Health. Thus, we are very aware and supportive of the need to better prepare and educate an entry level PH workforce, noting that the US Department of Labor recently indentified the health sciences field as representing the largest single industry in the U.S., accounting for 14.3 million jobs across 200 different fields. Also, nationally, there is a clear growing trend towards the development of undergraduate courses and programs in public health in colleges and universities.

In addition to the importance of the field itself to our community and global health, establishing this degree and potential transfer pathway will support Kapi'olani CC
Professor Jay Maddock  
October 28, 2011

in its efforts to increase student transfers to four year programs and beyond, as well as to meet our Strategic Outcome goal to increase the educational capital of the state by increasing the participation and degree completion of our students. As the designated community college in the University of Hawai‘i system for academic health programs, Kapi‘olani’s educates students in a wide variety of health science fields, as well as Emergency Medical Services, and Nursing. These programs are nationally accredited and include Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapy Assistant, Exercise and Sport Science, Respiratory Care Practitioner, Adult Residential Care Home Operator, Long-Term Care Nurse Aid Training, Practical Nurse (PRCN) program, and Nursing Associate Degree in Science. Cohorts graduating from Kapi‘olani CC programs have regularly obtained 100% on the national licensure exam. Graduates from these programs are well prepared to transition to the BA in Public Health. Thus, this proposal has the potential of offering many of our graduates another viable pathway to continued lifelong learning in a related field of interest.

We look forward to collaborating with the OPHS to develop and implement this new baccalaureate in Public Health and designing a seamless pathway for our students into education and careers in Public Health.

Sincerely,

Leon Richards, Chancellor  
Kapi‘olani Community College