

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

SUBJECT: Department of Health Behavior and Health Education

ACTION REQUEST: Rename as the Department of Health Behavior and Health Equity

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 1, 2024

The Dean of the School of Public Health (SPH) requests approval to rename the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education as the Department of Health Behavior and Health Equity, effective September 20, 2024. The Rackham Executive Board recommended approval for this change in September 2023, and the Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) approved the request on January 12, 2024.

The request to update the name is in response to the field's evolution and to better reflect the department's current mission, research, and coursework. Health equity and social justice efforts in public health have grown considerably in recent years. The updated name aligns with broader themes in public perceptions of public health, in public health practice and research, and in applications from prospective students. This request has Dean Bowman's full and enthusiastic support. The department's faculty and students believe this name change is long overdue and necessary to reflect their teaching, research, and service accurately. The alumni who have been consulted are supportive of the name change. The new department name should attract students who are passionate about and committed to health equity and social justice, highlighting the specific training the department provides in accentuating health equity and positioning students uniquely and favorably in the field.

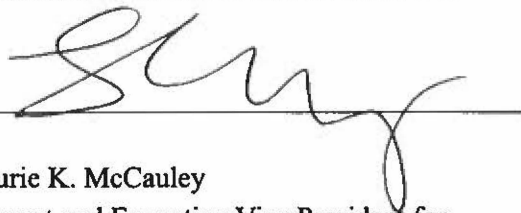
We recommend approval of the School of Public Health's request that the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education be renamed as the Department of Health Behavior and Health Equity, effective upon Regental approval, September 1, 2024.

RECOMMENDED BY:



F. DuBois Bowman, PhD
Dean, School of Public Health

RECOMMENDATION ENDORSED BY:



Laurie K. McCauley
Provost and Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs