To: Martha Hickey

Re: Clarification statement for BA/BS degree in Applied Health and Fitness

In response to the recent American College of Sports Medicine ACSM survey (see proposal rationale in packet) results indicating the current employment trends in the fitness marketplace, a number of certification and accreditation associations are revising eligibility requirements for programs and individuals. Amongst these are:

- The Council for Education in Public Health (CEPH) offering for the first time an accreditation for undergraduate programs in Public Health
- The National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) revising the eligibility requirements for certification in anticipation of creating an accreditation for undergraduate programs in Personal Training, Strength and Conditioning and Special Populations.

Since the eligibility requirements for the specific accreditations from CEPH and the NSCA demand completely different core and required coursework, it is necessary to divide the existing BA/BS in Community Health into the newly approved Community Health degree and the proposed BA/BS in Applied Health and Fitness.

With the undergraduate program in the School of Community Health being one of the largest undergraduate programs in Public Health nationwide, it is important for the program to put ourselves on the best path to pursue these new accreditation opportunities. This proposal places the curriculum in the best position to accomplish this.