The FS Curriculum Committee reviewed the proposal for revisions to the Bachelor of Science degree in Health. Currently, the Department of Health and Kinesiology [COEHD] offers a B.S. degree in Health with two specializations: (1) Community and Public Health and (2) School Health. Their proposal requests that the Community and Public Health specialization be changed to a formal concentration in Community and Public Health, and that the specialization in School Health be eliminated.

Elimination of Specialization in School Health

The proposal indicated that the demand for school health educators has decreased. Based upon the lack of demand, the committee concurs that the specialization should be eliminated.

Change Specialization to Concentration

The committee discussed concentrations in general, and concluded that the major difference between specializations and concentrations is that concentrations appear on a student’s transcript. However, it was noted that concentrations are counted by the Coordinating Board similar to majors. If the number of students in a specific concentration does not meet minimum graduation rates, the concentration may be phased out or consolidated with another program. According to the proposal, the number of graduates should be adequate. As noted in Report No. 1 on the B.S. in Public Health, there is considerable overlap between the two programs. It is possible that the introduction of the B.S. in Public Health may reduce the number of students pursuing the B.S. in Health degree.

Although the committee recognized the similarities in the programs, it was unanimously recommended that the specialization be changed to a concentration.

Be it resolved that the School Health Specialization be eliminated from the B.S. degree in Health.

Be it resolved that the Community and Public Health Specialization be changed to a Concentration in Community and Public Health.