


December 11, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Anne D'Alleva, Ph.D.   
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Program Closure: Graduate Certificate in Global Health

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approve the closure of the Graduate Certificate in Global Health.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2022 the Board of Trustees approved a new Graduate Certificate in Global Health. This was a 12-credit interdisciplinary program offered through InCHIP (the Institute for Collaboration on Health, Intervention, and Policy), in partnership with Global Affairs. The certificate recognized the interdisciplinary nature of global health and offered students concentrated exposure to foundational concepts, opportunities to dive deeper into an area of interest, and exploration of interdisciplinary methodological concepts. The certificate program also recognized that global health encompasses not only international contexts, but also local health, and more importantly how local and global health influence each other.

Projections for the program were that it would enroll 10-15 students per year. Recruitment was aimed at current UConn graduate students in areas that intersected with the graduate certificate, as well as potential external applicants for a standalone certificate. However, nearly two years after approval, the program has not received any inquiries or applications from prospective students. Crucially, several key faculty are no longer at UConn or available to teach the courses offered through the certificate program. Although this area may be revisited for future program development, at present, the lack of demand coupled with lack of available faculty support means that the program is being closed.

As there are no students in the program, no teach out plan is needed. Applications to the program had already been suspended. The closure will be effective in the fall 2025 term.