

September 16, 2022

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

TO: Aron Sousa, Dean, College of Human Medicine

FROM: Prabu David, Dean, College of Communication Arts and Sciences

RE: ComArtSci support for and collaboration with Department of Public Health,

College of Human Medicine

The College of Communication Arts and Sciences (ComArtSci) strongly supports the creation of a Charles Stewart Mott Department of Public Health in the College of Human Medicine (CHM) at MSU. Faculty in our colleges already collaborate with each other and believe these collaborations will be strengthened with the creation of the department.

ComArtSci has a flourishing Health and Risk Communication Center (HRCC) with more than 50 affiliated faculty who are funded by NIH, CDC, NSF, Robert Wood Johnson, and other agencies.

The work of ComArtSci faculty touches on many topics in health communication, including technology, campaigns, neuro/biological bases of health communication, intercultural, diversity, and social determinants of health. More specifically, the Department of Communication's undergraduate degree in Communication offers a concentration in health communication. ComArtSci offers an M.A. degree in health and risk communication. Two PhD programs in ComArtSci offer specializations in health and risk communication.

The College of Human Medicine has faculty across multiple public health disciplines and a long history of collaborative work with multidisciplinary teams including health communication experts from ComArtSci. The faculty in ComArtSci and the Charles Stewart Mott DPH will benefit from our collective expertise.

Thus, we hope to develop formal and informal channels to reflect a strong relationship between ComArtSci, CHM generally, and specifically with the new CHM Charles Stewart Mott Department of Public Health.

In addition, through this MOU, CHM provides assurance that the Charles Stewart Mott DPH will consult and collaborate with ComArtSci when developing new programs (minors, certificates, or majors) that involve health or risk communication within the curriculum. In addition, CHM will avoid creating redundant degree programs in health or risk communication. Similarly, ComArtSci will consult with CHM Charles Stewart



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Mott DPH when developing new program(s) in health or risk communication that include courses or curricula that are in competition with offerings in DPH.

The Charles Stewart Mott DPH will approach ComArtSci faculty for any new course needs in health or risk communication but reserves the right to ensure accreditation of its programs. ComArtSci will similarly approach the Charles Stewart Mott DPH for support of courses involving public health but reserves the right to ensure the accreditation of its programs.

As needs arise in the new department for training in health, risk, or environmental communication, students are welcome to take ComArtSci courses and ComArtSci students are welcome in DPH courses. Further, ComArtSci faculty are willing to work with Charles Stewart Mott DPH faculty to develop courses that address curricular needs.

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