

**CGSP Resolution 2008-2009C**  
**Master of Public Health (MPH) Degree**

Approval by Commission on Graduate Studies & Policies:	April 1, 2009
First Reading at University Council:	April 22, 2009
Approved by University Council:	May 4, 2009
Approved by the President:	May 4, 2009
Approved by the Board of Visitors:	June 1, 2009
Effective:	Summer 2010

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the proposed professional Master of Public Health (MPH) program is to create and deliver knowledge and skills for the study, evaluation, maintenance, improvement and protection of health of populations and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed MPH program provides an opportunity to address serious community health deficits and disparities in southwestern Virginia and the Appalachian region as a whole, through professional preparation of the public health workforce and engagement in research and outreach; and

**WHEREAS**, the 42-credit professional degree program will have two concentrations in public health education and in infectious disease, and will draw upon faculty expertise available in veterinary medicine, the School of Education, statistics, human development, food science and technology, entomology, and others; and

**WHEREAS**, professional training in public health is a complementary field of study for students in veterinary medicine and in human medicine, and the MPH is a sought-after related credential for students enrolled in DVM and MD programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the creation of this program by Virginia Tech in collaboration with the new Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine reflects the efforts of the two institutions to enhance a mutually beneficial partnership; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association of Schools of Public Health estimates that nearly three times the current number of graduates are needed over the next 12 years to replenish the public health workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed program with two concentrations will prepare students for such jobs as infectious disease specialist, epidemiologist, public health preparedness specialist, communicable disease investigator, environmental health specialist, and health/community/public health educator;

**THEREFORE** be it resolved, that the proposed Master of Public Health degree program be approved by University Council, and forwarded to the president, Board of Visitors, the State Council of Higher Education (SCHEV), and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for their review and approval.