



January 26, 2016

Dear Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs Curriculum Subcommittee:

Thank you for the thorough review of the Obesity Sciences Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) proposal. Please see below for details relevant to the requested changes:

The committee is requesting one edit to the document, and has one content related request.

1. *The revised proposal more clearly describes the required one-hour independent study to be taken the first semester of the student's enrollment in the GIS. The paragraph "First Semester Independent Study" on page 3 of the proposal articulates the scholarly content of the independent study. If the intent is that this independent study is supervised by the student's GIS faculty adviser, please add this content to the paragraph. The paragraph "Identification of a faculty adviser" also on page 3 also contains reference to the one-hour independent study. Please remove this reference and edit this paragraph accordingly, so that the proposal clearly communicates that a single one-credit hour independent study is taken in the first semester of the student's enrollment in the GIS with the intent to advance knowledge in obesity science, and to remove any indication that one-credit hour is earned for simply identifying an adviser and planning coursework for the GIS.*

We have modified the text, it is in red in the new proposal document.

2. *Upon reviewing the "Elective Courses" for the GIS the committee noted that the two Nursing courses listed (7491, 6430) have prerequisites that would prevent most students from selecting these courses. Nursing 7491 has a prerequisite of "enrollment in grad nursing" and Nursing 6430 has a prerequisite of "enrollment in the graduate entry program". If you feel strongly that these two courses should remain on the list of electives despite the enrollment restrictions, please explain the rationale. Alternatively, you might consider Nursing 6114, Strategies for Personal Health, which is open to any student with graduate standing. Please request a concurrence letter from Cindy Anderson, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, College of Nursing.*

Please see attached correspondence from Dr. Anderson, who would prefer to keep the courses are listed, and will allow the Obesity Sciences GIS students to enroll in these two classes with her permission.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., IMFT, AAMFT Approved Supervisor
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Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Presented by the GIS Coordinating Committee:

College of Education & Human Ecology, Department of Human Sciences:

Keeley Pratt (Coordinator), Assistant Professor, Human Development and Family Sciences, Human Sciences

Jacqueline Goodway, Associate Professor, Kinesiology, Human Sciences

Nancy A. Rudd, Professor, Consumer Sciences, Human Sciences

Robert Scharff, Associate Professor, Consumer Sciences, Human Sciences

Ouliana Ziouzenkova, Assistant Professor, Human Nutrition, Human Sciences

College of Public Health, Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion

Phyllis Pirie, Chair & Professor Health Behavior and Health Promotion

Gail Kaye, Assistant Professor of Clinical Public Health

Name of Program: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Degree Title: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS)

Coordinating Graduate Studies Committee: Kinesiology, Department of Human Sciences, College of Education and Human Ecology

Program Rationale & Purpose:

Obesity is a multifaceted, multilayered health condition that affects more than a half of a billion adults, globally (World Health Organization, 2010). The fact that implications of obesity go beyond physical heaviness was underscored in June 2013 when the American Medical Association designated obesity as a disease. Obesity is associated with morbidity (cardiovascular disease, kidney disease, diabetes, and cancers), premature mortality, psychological and emotional issues (depression), reduced quality of life, and social constraints (isolation, bullying, and discrimination). The consequences are complicated and multifaceted, and so are the causes. The 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans reduced the obesity epidemic to an imbalance in the energy balance equation, such that obese Americans consume more calories than they expend. However, there is good evidence that energy imbalance is influenced by genetics and family history, micronutrients, environmental pollution, some health conditions and medications, as well as physical inactivity. When translated to the American people, achieving the ideal dietary and activity patterns suggested in the guidelines is a difficult and complicated process. Socioeconomic status, proximity and access to healthy food choices, difficulty in changing lifelong behavior, access to safe places to play, and sociocultural influences on body image are barriers often faced. The *Farm Bill*, BMI screening in schools, and nutrition standards in supplemental assistance programs are a few examples of policies that have been put in place to respond to barriers that may hamper obesity prevention efforts. Yet one set of guidelines and policies that target one area of the problem will not simply halt the obesity epidemic. Multifaceted etiology needs coordinated, multidisciplinary solutions. Collaborations are needed that engage a diverse range of academic and clinical disciplines that have the

methodologies to study the etiology of obesity and address solutions from a biopsychosocial and relational perspective, and the community partners who have the resources to engage diverse populations.

The Department of Human Sciences and the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion are able to leverage their mix of faculty to create trans-disciplinary teams to address the obesity epidemic. Faculty have been engaged in projects that range from the role of zinc in inflammatory states of obesity, to mediating the intestinal microbiota, and to studying self-regulation of intake and exercise, the role of families in preventing and treating childhood obesity, and the impact of policy change. Fostering the ideals of a *One Ohio State*, the Department of Human Sciences and the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion propose an integrative and translational graduate learning experience in the field of obesity sciences. Our goal is to form a common foundation for graduate trainees and develop an interconnected network of current and future experts to address the etiology and treatment of obesity in a holistic fashion. The GIS Coordinating Committee will be responsible for managing the GIS in obesity sciences and will draw from a cadre of faculty across the University to mentor graduate students in subspecialties that complement the complexities of the obesity epidemic.

This GIS would be one of a kind in the nation, addressing a bounty of obesity issues from a biopsychosocial and relational perspective. We envision tremendous value in training future academic professionals to have a firm appreciation for translational research as well as cooperating as researcher with scientists from diverse disciplines. Completers of the GIS in Obesity Sciences will be able to 1) refine their curricular knowledge of the complex causes, consequences and solutions of the obesity epidemic in four content modules: biomedicine, policy and industry, behavior, and sociocultural; 2) identify opportunities to form trans-disciplinary teams to address obesity issues; 3) integrate curricular knowledge and methodologies with the knowledge and methodologies of others (students and faculty) outside of their professional discipline; 4) develop the skill set necessary to prepare publishable trans-disciplinary scholarship in obesity sciences; and 5) market themselves for positions in academia, industry, and government that require advanced skills and knowledge in obesity sciences.

Description of the Proposed Curriculum:

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Students enrolled in the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences must be Masters or PhD students in good standing (i.e., GPS \geq 3.0) with permission of their primary advisor and currently enrollment in the University. To earn GIS designation on their transcripts upon graduation, students must complete at least 13 hours of graduate-level course work. At least 9 hours must be completed from outside the home graduate program, but may include cross-listed courses (see suggested elective courses below). Obesity: Multidisciplinary Foundations (cross-listed in Human Sciences and Public Health) is a 2-credit required core course that should be taken the first spring semester after enrollment in the GIS. Components of the program are described below.

Obesity Sciences Portal (to be used concurrently with course work)

The curriculum will be anchored with an *Obesity Sciences Portal* that will harbor content and experiential resources for students. The portal will be established through Carmen and contain webinar discussions on topics to introduce the causes, consequences and current solutions of the obesity epidemic. The portal will also serve as a conduit to share up-to date information (scholarly publications, webinars, conferences, grants) and resources (research projects, manuscript development, access to SciVal Experts) pertaining to obesity sciences. We anticipate the portal to assist students in developing a common knowledge base while integrating their unique area of study into the larger framework of obesity sciences. ELearning resources will support the design of the portal, which is envisioned as a hybrid program that will meet Quality Matters criteria. Upon approval, we will engage assistance from the College of Education and Human Ecology Office of Technology and Enhanced Learning (OTEL) and the Office of Distance Education & eLearning (ODEE) to develop the portal as an ongoing Carmen course. Four designees of the Coordinating Committee representing each of the four content modules will maintain the Obesity Sciences Portal. Graduate students, faculty and administrators will be able to post and share information and resources.

Identification of a faculty advisor

Students will identify a faculty advisor (this could be the student's graduate advisor or a member of the GIS Coordinating Committee) who will help them to develop a curricular plan to complete the GIS that both will sign (see attached). The advisor and the student will work together to ensure that the requirements of the GIS are met. Students are encouraged to develop scholarly deliverables (e.g., review papers, meta-analyses, intervention designs, program evaluations) that build on the foundational knowledge learned through the *Obesity Sciences Portal* and recommended course work (see below). Furthermore, students are encouraged to utilize community, industry and or political connections that the faculty mentor may have to execute the aims developed for their scholarship.

First Semester Independent Study

Students will enroll in an one-credit independent study credit **with their GIS faculty advisor** to complete either a community outreach project or a manageable research project within the time frame of the course enrollment (i.e, literature review). The intent of this early independent study is to explore potential options for the capstone project. The result from the first semester independent study will result in a scholarly output in the form of a poster presentation, literature review, reflection paper, or other negotiated output.

Capstone Project

Students will enroll with a faculty mentor for 1-2 credit hours of independent study to be counted toward their GIS requirement. Students will be aligned with the mentor to immerse themselves in the mentor's research and to learn a new area of obesity research. Student will enroll in independent study credit through his/her mentor's department. An additional requirement is that the student will integrate his or her GIS coursework to create a scholarly deliverable (e.g., review paper, meta-analysis, intervention design, and program evaluation) and present the product in a capstone symposium with other students in the GIS. Symposiums will be scheduled during the last three weeks of the autumn and spring semesters of the independent study and open to the university community.

Course Work

Below is a list of courses to fulfill the curricular requirements of the GIS in Obesity Sciences. Support letters from administrators of the Colleges associated with the courses are attached (Education and Human Ecology; Public Health; Glen College; Social Work; and Health and Rehabilitation Sciences; Nursing; Arts and Sciences). Course Instructors are listed with the course number and title. *indicate rotating instructors and the name of program director names are listed

Core Required Courses: (4-5 cr hrs)

PUBHHBP 7550/HUMNSCI 5194 Obesity: Multidisciplinary Foundations (2 cr hrs)

This course examines the context, causes, and consequences of obesity in the United States today. We will begin with an examination of trends in obesity and a description of the scope of the problem. Next, the course will examine physiological, psychological, sociological and economic factors that contribute to the obesity problem. This will inform our understanding of what preventions strategies may be used to avoid obesity. We will then describe adverse health outcomes associated with obesity, followed by an examination of consequences of obesity for individuals in their relationships, as workers, and as consumers. Finally, we will examine treatments for obesity and potential policy options. Guest speakers with expertise in the above areas will be used extensively to convey the latest science from the field.

Independent Study (first semesters in GIS) (1 cr hr)

Independent Study (capstone) (1-2 cr hrs)

Elective Courses: (minimum 9 cr hrs)

Students will choose at least three separate courses from the following list of courses that represent the content modules: biomedicine, policy and industry, behavior, and sociocultural. Additional or alternate courses may be included with input from their GIS advisor. We anticipate as new partnerships with faculty at the University develop, and new courses are offered related to Obesity Sciences that we may choose to expand the current elective course offerings. If the list of elective courses should need to change, the coordinating committee will compile a list of the proposed electives to be added, along with letters of college support to be approved by the Graduate School.

Biomedicine

HUMNNTR 7761 - Macronutrient Metabolism (4 cr hrs) Jeffrey Firkins

In-depth treatment of digestion, absorption, transport, and utilization of dietary carbohydrates and fat for energy production and fat deposition in humans and other higher animals.

HN/AS/FST 8801 – Advanced Lipid Metabolism (3 cr hrs) Kichoon Lee, Ouliana Ziouzenkova, William Weiss

Discussion of lipids as storage molecules used for energy and metabolism modulation as well as how they influence energy balance conditions such as obesity, cachexia, weight loss and weight gain.

HUMNNTR 8833 - Diet, Nutrition and Cancer (3 cr hrs) Martha Belury, Steven Clinton

Epidemiological, clinical and basic perspective of how diet and nutrition practices.

PUBHEPI 6415 - Nutrition in Public Health (3 cr hrs) Susan Olivo-Marston*

Relationships between dietary intake and diseases affecting the public health.

PUBHEPI 8411 - Epidemiology of Obesity (3 cr hrs) Sarah Anderson

Prevalence, trends, risk factors, measurement, outcomes and issues related to obesity; critical reading and discussion of research on epidemiology of obesity.

Policy and Industry

PUBHHBP 7542 - Settings and Special Populations in Health Promotion (3 cr hrs) Randi Love

Critical characteristics of principal settings in which health promotion interventions occur and populations to which they apply such as youth, elderly, racial and ethnic minorities.

PUBHHBP - 7558 Social-ecological strategies in prevention (2 cr hrs) Elizabeth Klein

Community health promotion strategies using policy, systems, and environmental change perspectives.

HDFS 5897 - Special Topics in Prevention Science (3 cr hrs) Sarah Schoppe-Sullivan*

Review, interpretation, and evaluation of current literature and research in prevention science.

PUBAFRS 5890 – US Food Policy (3 cr hrs) Neal Hooker

An examination of national food affairs; the policy and practice of food. The approach is to introduce institutions, tools and topics. The numerous federal public and private agencies such as the FDA, USDA, CDC and others are described.

PUBAFRS 5900 – Food Systems Planning and the Economy (3 cr hrs) Jill Clark

The purpose of this course is to build knowledge of the food system from local planning and policy and applied economic perspectives.

Behavior

Med Diet 6300 - Advanced Nutrition and Metabolism (3 cr hrs) Christopher Taylor, Colleen Spees, Jacqueline Buell

An in depth examination of the role of nutrients and food components and their impact of body systems and health.

Med Diet 6900 - Nutritional Genomics (3 cr hrs) Colleen Spees*

An introduction to nutritional genomics and translational medicine for the prevention and treatment of disease.

Med Diet 6200 - Community Nutrition (3 cr hrs) Chris Taylor*

Methods of discovering problems in community nutrition and practical application of nutrition information for improvement of the nutritional and health status of a diverse population.

ConSci 8270 - Managing Consumer Risk (3 cr hrs) Robert Sharff*

An examination of challenges involved in managing consumer risk. Topics include the economics of risk, methods of risk management, and quantitative risk analysis.

EdStudies 5271 - Wellness: Achieving a Healthy Lifestyle (3 cr hrs) TBA

Study and application of a holistic approach to understanding and implementing individual wellness for healthy lifestyles.

KNHES 5491 - Body Composition Evaluation (1 cr hr) TBA

Practical experience in the assessment and interpretation of body composition for a variety of adult, youth and special populations.

EdStudies 7933 - Wellness and Prevention Counseling (3 cr hrs) Paul Granello

Study and application of principles and practices of wellness and prevention in counseling.

HUMNNTR 5705 - Nutrition and Physical Performance (2 cr hrs) Richard Bruno

Integration of nutrition, exercise physiology, and biochemistry. Use of nutrients as fuel, interaction between nutrients and exercise performance, assessment of energy expenditure and nutritional status, interactions among diet, exercise and health.

HUMNNTR 7765 - Nutritional Assessment of Individuals and Populations (2 cr hrs) Richard Bruno*

Role of nutrition assessment in the planning, surveillance and monitoring of individuals, populations and health interventions.

HUMNNTR 7804 - Advanced Community and International Nutrition (3 cr hrs) Carolyn Gunther, Irene Hatsu

Current issues in community and international nutrition.

HUMNNTR 8806 - Advanced Nutrition Education (3 cr hrs) Richard Bruno*

Discussion of principles of nutrition education and behavior change target audience will be discussed. Course will focus on concepts and methods from related disciplines such as behavioral medicine, psychology, sociology, and education.

KNHES 7726 – Changing Physical Activity Behavior (3 cr hrs) Brian Focht*

Introduction to theoretical foundations and research base of physical activity behavior. Demonstration of skills in analyzing and implementing appropriate methodologies for exercise behavior research and interventions for individuals and groups.

KNHES 7720 - Measurement in Physical Activity Behavior (3 cr hrs) Rick Petosa*

Addresses basic and advanced considerations in the measurement of physical activity behavior.

Sociocultural

CSFRS 7574 - Aesthetics, Appearance Management, and Self-Presentation (3 cr hrs) Nancy Rudd

Understanding aesthetics of dress as a medium of visual communication, with analysis of appearance management strategies employed in the social presentation of self.

ESSPSY 7028 - Cultural Diversity (3 cr hrs) Antoinette Miranda

Provide students with the opportunity to develop a multicultural awareness as they explore the impact of an increasingly diverse society in the United States.

Health & Rehab Sci 7010 - Health Literacy (2 cr hrs) Lorraine Wallace

Examine and analyze issues of low health literacy, including populations at risk, measurement tools, writing in plain language; health communication techniques; and organizational approaches.

HDFS 7500 - Family Systems and Health (3 cr hrs) Keeley Pratt

Study of illness and the impact that it may have on individuals, couples, and family systems across the lifespan.

Nursing 7491- Health and Promotion across the Lifespan (3 cr hrs) Michele Balas, Lauren Smith, Ann Deerhake

Analyze strategies to encourage change in both individual's and population's health behaviors that influence risk reduction in multiple settings. Develop educational strategies utilizing advanced critical thinking

Nursing 6430 - Cultural Competence in Health Care: US and Global Contexts (3 cr hrs) Victoria von Sadovszky, Janine Overcash

Introduction to concepts and techniques for the provision of culturally competent care within the U.S. and across global contexts.

SOCWORK 6201 - Social and Economic Justice (3 cr hrs) Michelle Kaiser, Danielle Smith, Keith Warren, Rene Olate

Foundation knowledge related to social justice in the context of social welfare in advancing human rights of all people.

SOCWORK 6202 - Diversity and Cultural Competence (3 cr hrs) Anna Stewart, Geneva Sanford, Lavonda Harrington, Lois Stepney, Evie Bradley

Conceptual framework for effective and culturally sensitive social work practice with oppressed and vulnerable populations.

Administrative Arrangements and Support:

The GIS Coordinator will be Keeley Pratt, College of Education and Human Ecology (Human Sciences) and will share administration with the Coordinating Committee faculty. We anticipate that the obesity coordinator position will be a two-year term, but given that it is a new GIS we will reanalyze at the end of the first two years the feasibility of this. Tentatively, we plan on at the end of the two-year period, the coordinator may request to remain in the position or can ask to step down. If the coordinator chooses to step down, a member of the coordinating committee can volunteer to step into the role pending a majority vote from all GIS committee members. The GIS coordinator must have faculty M-Status at the time of appointment as the coordinator. Additional faculty from across the university may participate as the program develops. The Coordinating Committee will meet twice per semester during the first year of implementation, and once per semester thereafter or as needed. The purposes of the meetings are to review students' progress, to plan recruitment and retention activities, and to review the management of the Obesity Sciences Portal. The Coordinating Graduate Studies Committee will be the Kinesiology Graduate Studies Committee.

Plans to Enroll Students:

New and current masters and PhD students from any graduate program across the University may enroll in this GIS. Applications to enroll in the GIS are accepted during the first three weeks of autumn semester and the first three weeks of the spring semester and are reviewed soon thereafter by the GIS Coordinating Committee.

We anticipate that enrollees would come from all four graduate programs in Human Sciences (Consumer Sciences, Kinesiology, Human Nutrition, and Human Development and Family Sciences), Public Health, Social Work, Nursing, OSUN, and Health & Rehabilitation Sciences. An eligible student would meet three requirements: (a) be a graduate student in good standing, (b) have the permission of their primary advisor, and (c) have an interest in the etiology of obesity and solutions to the obesity epidemic and associated consequences from a biopsychosocial and relational perspective.

Students may start the GIS in a given academic year, with the total number of spots available based on faculty members willing/able to take on an advisee within the program. We anticipate a gradual incline in enrollment.

From: [Anderson, Cindy M.](#)
To: [Pratt, Keeley J.](#)
Subject: RE: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science
Date: Sunday, January 24, 2016 4:07:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Sounds great!

From: Pratt, Keeley J.
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2016 2:53 PM
To: Anderson, Cindy M. <anderson.2765@osu.edu>; DeGiralomo, Erin K. <degiralomo.5@osu.edu>
Subject: RE: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science

Thank you Cindy! If it is OK with you, I will go ahead and PDF your email and submit that. If I need (another) letter, I will be in touch. Thank you!



Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., IMFT-S, Assistant Professor

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From: Anderson, Cindy M.
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2016 2:00 PM
To: Pratt, Keeley J. <pratt.192@osu.edu>; DeGiralomo, Erin K. <degiralomo.5@osu.edu>
Subject: RE: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science

Keeley,
Congrats on your progress with this GIS.
We are happy to support your GIS with accommodating your students' enrollment in N7491 and N6430. If we can talk about a process and timeline that we could use to identify students planning to enroll, we will be able to plan adequately in support of your request.

Do you need an additional letter from me beyond what was included by Dean Melnyk? If so, I will provide.

Thanks, Cindy



Cindy Anderson, PhD, CRNP, FNAP, FAHA, FAAN

Associate Professor

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Educational Innovation

College of Nursing

346 Newton Hall, 1585 Neil Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210

614-292-4179 Office

anderson.2765@osu.edu

From: Pratt, Keeley J.

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 3:36 PM

To: Anderson, Cindy M. <anderson.2765@osu.edu>; DeGiralomo, Erin K. <degiralomo.5@osu.edu>

Subject: FW: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science

Importance: High

Hello Dr. Anderson,

I hope this email finds you well. I am the coordinator for the proposed Obesity Sciences Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS). We are on our final leg of getting things approved to official offer the GIS. The Graduate School noted one detail with the nursing course offerings as listed electives in the GIS that I would love to get your opinion on. See highlighted text below. Please let me know how you would like me to handle this: 1) offer NURS6114 in place of 7491 and 6430, 2) keep things as they are, knowing likely only nursing student can take these two courses, or 3) offer all three courses. Thank you in advance! I have also attached the past concurrence letter for Dean Melnyk.

Sincerely,

Keeley Pratt



Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., IMFT-S, Assistant Professor

Department of Human Sciences: Human Dev. & Family Science/Couple & Family Therapy Programs

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Pratt.192@osu.edu (email)

<http://u.osu.edu/pratt.192/> (website)

From: Montalto, Catherine

Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 1:58 PM

To: Pratt, Keeley J. <pratt.192@osu.edu>; Warnick, Bryan <warnick.11@osu.edu>

Cc: Herness, Scott <herness.1@osu.edu>; Montalto, Catherine <montalto.2@osu.edu>

Subject: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science

Good afternoon Keeley and Brian,

The Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs Curriculum Subcommittee met on Friday, December 18, 2015 and reviewed the revised proposal for the GIS in Obesity Science. The committee wants to thank you for a well done revision, and clear communication of the changes made in response to our comments.

The committee is requesting one edit to the document, and has one content related request.

1. The revised proposal more clearly describes the required one-hour independent study to be taken the first semester of the student's enrollment in the GIS. The paragraph "First Semester Independent Study" on page 3 of the proposal articulates the scholarly content of the independent study. If the intent is that this independent study is supervised by the student's GIS faculty adviser, please add this content to the paragraph. The paragraph "Identification of a faculty advisor" also on page 3 also contains reference to the one-hour independent study. Please remove this reference and edit this paragraph accordingly, so that the proposal clearly communicates that a single one-credit hour independent study is taken in the first semester of the student's enrollment in the GIS with the intent to advance knowledge in obesity science, and to remove any indication that one-credit hour is earned for simply identifying an adviser and planning coursework for the GIS.
2. Upon reviewing the "Elective Courses" for the GIS the committee noted that the two Nursing courses listed (7491, 6430) have prerequisites that would prevent most students from selecting these courses. Nursing 7491 has a prerequisite of "enrollment in grad nursing" and Nursing 6430 has a prerequisite of "enrollment in the graduate entry program". If you feel strongly that these two courses should remain on the list of electives despite the enrollment restrictions, please explain the rationale. Alternatively, you might consider Nursing 6114, Strategies for Personal Health, which is open to any student with graduate standing. Please request a concurrence letter from Cindy Anderson, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, College of Nursing.

Please incorporate changes into a revised proposal. Once this information is received, the committee will return to the review of the proposal.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Thank you.



Chair

Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs Curriculum Subcommittee



Catherine P. Montalto, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

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montalto.2@osu.edu osu.edu

Buckeyes consider the environment before printing.

From: [Montalto, Catherine](#)
To: [Pratt, Keeley J.](#); [Warnick, Bryan](#)
Cc: [Herness, Scott](#); [Montalto, Catherine](#)
Subject: Proposal for GIS in Obesity Science
Date: Thursday, January 14, 2016 1:58:00 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Good afternoon Keeley and Brian,

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Please incorporate changes into a revised proposal. Once this information is received, the committee will return to the review of the proposal.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

Thank you.



Chair

Graduate School/Council on Academic Affairs Curriculum Subcommittee

The Ohio State University



Catherine P. Montalto, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

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GIS in Obesity Sciences – Student Advising Sheet

Name: _____

Email: _____

College, Department, Program: _____

Advisor in Home Program: _____

Advisor in GIS (if known): _____

Course Numbers and Titles*	Credit Hours	Semester Taken	Grade
Required Courses (4-5 credits)			
1. PUBHHBP 7500/HUMNSCI 5194 – Obesity: Multidisciplinary Foundations	2	First spring semester enrolled	
2. Independent Study	1		
3. Independent Study – Capstone	1-2		
Elective Courses (minimum 9 credits)			
1. req	3		
2. req	3		
3. req	3		
4.			
5.			
<i>Total of 13 hours required for completion of the GIS in Obesity Sciences.</i>			
Date Received:		Date Sent to Grad School:	
Student Signature:		Date:	
GIS in Obesity Sciences Coordinator Signature:		Date:	

*At least 9 credit hours (approx. 3 courses) out of the 13 credit hours required must be completed from outside the student's home graduate program. These 9 credit hours may include cross-listed courses.



March 4, 2015

Dr. Brian Warnick,
Assoc. Dean Academic Affairs
College of Education & Human Ecology

Dr. Keeley Pratt
Assistant Professor
Dept. Human Sciences

GIS in Obesity Science

Brian and Keeley,

The Graduate School Curriculum Committee (GSCC) met on February 26th and, among its agenda items, considered the proposal to create a new Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences. The GIS is designed to create an integrative and translational graduate learning experience in the field of obesity sciences. A minimum of 13 credit hours is required. The curriculum consists of a required independent study course (1 credit hour), a multidisciplinary foundations course (2 credit hours), a capstone independent study course (1 – 2 credit hours), and a minimum of nine credit hours of elective courses.

The proposal was straightforward and compliant with the Graduate School's requirements. The GSCC complimented the proposal on its use of the Obesity Sciences Portal, established through Carmen, as a central repository for its students as well as the foresight of not admitting students to the GIS without an available faculty member to take on the advisee.

Overall, the GSCC was supportive of establishing this GIS. However, the committee notes several areas of the proposal that could be strengthened or clarified. These suggestions are made to not only ensure that the GIS best serves its students but also to strengthen the proposal for its subsequent approval steps. In that vein, the GSCC offers the following suggestions:

- The committee questioned if full concurrence for the GIS had been sought across campus. Given the interdisciplinary nature of obesity science, many units on campus may additionally study this topic. These units might include the College of Medicine, Veterinary Sciences, Glenn School, Social Work, and Arts & Sciences (e.g. Psychology). It was questioned if these units have been approached for their concurrence.
- There are a few courses listed in the electives that are offered by units which have not provided concurrence letters. These include Food Science (FDSCTE 7810), Glenn School (PUBAFRS 7910), Communication (COMM7870), Health & Rehabilitation Sciences (Health & Rehad Sci 7010), and Social Work (SOCWORK 6201 and 6202).

- The statement “Students will choose at least two separate courses, minimum of 4 semester hours, from the following list...” remains confusing. Students are required to take 9 semester hours of electives and, per graduate school rules, take at least three courses outside their home program. While required courses could count towards the three, it is unclear how the nine hour requirement is met with two courses from this list.
- Some clarification about the Coordinator’s position would be helpful, particularly so there will be continuity at the time of transition. For example, it is not stated how long the coordinator will serve, how the coordinator will be appointed, or that the coordinator must have graduate faculty status.
- The curriculum includes a required one hour course in Independent Study in the student’s first semester. The academic content of this course is not obvious. Its description does not extend beyond identifying an advisor and planning a curriculum, activities that seemed insufficient on their own to earn academic credit.
- It is stated that applications will be reviewed once per year. How will students requesting mid-year entry be advised?
- There are two references to the GIS as a “certificate” in obesity science (pg. 2). A certificate is a different mechanism than a GIS; hence, these references should be removed.
- The PUBAFRS 7910 course appears potentially confusing to a prospective student since it is described as a capstone course and the GIS itself requires a capstone. It is assumed that this course will not substitute for the GIS capstone experience.
- The proposal states that approval of new electives will be granted by the GIS coordinating committee. A GIS operates on a defined curriculum and the addition of new courses requires approval of the Graduate School.
- It may be helpful to develop a student advising sheet. A copy of an example is attached.

I will return the proposal on curriculum.osu.edu for its revision. Once revised, please re-submit it on curriculum.osu.edu for further review. Once approved by the GSCC, the proposal will subsequently be submitted to the Graduate Council for their review followed by Committee on Academic Affairs. As always, I am available for any questions or clarifications.

Many thanks,



Scott Herness
Associate Dean
The Graduate School



Memo

January 20, 2015

To: Scott Herness, Associate Dean
Jill Toft, Administrative Associate to Associate Dean

CC: Andrew Zircher, Director of Assessment and Curriculum
Sarah Odum, Curriculum Coordinator

From: Bryan Warnick, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

RE: NEW GRADUATE INTERDISCIPLINARY SPECIALIZATION: OBESITY SCIENCES

The faculty and administration of the College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE) have approved the new graduate interdisciplinary specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences. The GIS is from the EHE Department of Human Sciences and the College of Public Health (CPH), the Division of Health Behavior and Health Promotion. The proposal was approved unanimously by the EHE Curriculum Committee on September 15, 2014, pending revisions. The GIS in Obesity Sciences is now ready for review and requests Graduate School approval.

Documents included with this request include:

1. Program request
2. List of curriculum and courses
3. Program rationale and summary
4. EHE letter of support
5. CPH letter of support
6. Kinesiology letter of support
7. Concurrence letters of support

If there are any questions, please contact me at Warnick.11@osu.edu or our curriculum coordinator, Sarah Odum, at odum.11@osu.edu.



September 18, 2015

To the Coordinating Committee for the proposed GIS in Obesity Science:

The Glenn College is happy to provide concurrence for the proposed Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Science. After reviewing the proposal, we find it to be both a unique and valuable offering to graduate students at Ohio State. Many Glenn College students will find this to be an attractive specialization. Further, we are pleased to be able to offer food policy courses that students in the GIS may find to be beneficial.

We look forward to future collaborations.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Greenbaum
Associate Dean for Curriculum
John Glenn College of Public Affairs
greenbaum.3@osu.edu



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF NURSING

College of Nursing
Office of the Dean

Newton Hall
1585 Neil Ave
Columbus, OH 43215

September 2, 2014

Phone (614) 292-8900
Fax (614) 292-4535
E-mail nursing@osu.edu
Web nursing.osu.edu

The Ohio State University Graduate Council
250 University Hall, 230 N Oval Mall
CAMPUS MAIL

RE: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Dear Graduate School Council,

I am pleased to offer my support for the proposed Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences submitted by the planning committee which consists of established obesity researchers/faculty members in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences, and the College of Public Health. I understand that the proposed program will be housed with the Graduate Studies committee in the Program Area of Kinesiology in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences. Given the prevalence of obesity among US and international populations, collaborations are needed that engage a diverse range of academic and clinical disciplines that have the methodologies to study the etiology of obesity and address solutions from biopsychosocial and relational perspectives. The College of Nursing is pleased to have courses included in the GIS electives in which graduate students in the GIS can enroll outside of the College of Nursing. In addition, faculty obesity experts in the College of Nursing, such as Dr. Lauren Smith, can serve as mentors to students in the GIS in Obesity Sciences.

The GIS in Obesity Sciences will provide a forum for graduate students across campus to enroll in foundational multidisciplinary courses, including those in the CON, with an emphasis in obesity. This specialization will be the first of its kind in the nation to bring together multidisciplinary orientations to approach the prevention, consequences, and treatment of obesity. I believe this adds tremendous value in training future academic professionals to have a firm appreciation for translational research as well as cooperating with researchers and scientists from diverse disciplines. A GIS in Obesity Sciences will only enhance The Ohio State University's national and international reputation by producing researchers and practitioners in the most prevalent epidemic facing today's society. I fully support the GIS in Obesity Sciences and encourage you to approve this program.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Bernadette Mazurek Melnyk, PhD, RN, CPNP/PMHNP, FAANP, FNAP, FAAN
Associate Vice President for Health Promotion
University Chief Wellness Officer
Dean and Professor, College of Nursing
Professor of Pediatrics & Psychiatry, College of Medicine

From: [Wolf, Kay](#)
To: [Pratt, Keeley J.](#)
Subject: RE: GIS in Obesity Sciences proposal
Date: Thursday, August 28, 2014 1:04:06 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Sure with those courses added, I would be glad to provide a letter. I can do so. Many of these come through with an e-mail concurrence. I can do a formal letter if you prefer.

Kay N. Wolf, PhD RDN LD FAND
Professor – The Ohio State University
College of Medicine – School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Director of Education, Graduate Studies Chair – School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Director – Division of Health Sciences and Medical Dietetics
306 Atwell Hall, 453 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-8131 Office / 614-292-0210 Fax
kay.wolf@osumc.edu <http://medicine.osu.edu/hrs/>



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

From: Pratt, Keeley J. [<mailto:pratt.192@osu.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2014 1:03 PM
To: Wolf, Kay
Subject: RE: GIS in Obesity Sciences proposal

Hello,

Absolutely! I will add them in today, after copying the course descriptions from online. Thanks for sending this. Would you be comfortable providing a LOS as well? Again, I am happy to draft it.

Thanks,

Keeley



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., IMFT, Assistant Professor

Department of Human Sciences: Human Dev. & Family Science/Couple & Family Therapy Programs

College of Education & Human Ecology, The Ohio State University

130 B Campbell Hall (office)

1787 Neil Avenue, Columbus OH 43210

614-247-7883 (office phone)

Pratt.192@osu.edu (email)

<http://u.osu.edu/pratt.192/> (website)

From: Wolf, Kay [<mailto:Kay.Wolf@osumc.edu>]

Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2014 1:00 PM

To: Pratt, Keeley J.



August 1, 2014

The Ohio State University Graduate Council
250 University Hall, 230 N Oval Mall
Columbus OH 43210
Phone: 614-292-6031; Fax: 614-292-3656

RE: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Dear Graduate School Council,

I submit this letter to indicate my enthusiastic support for the proposed *Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences* submitted by the planning committee which consists of established obesity researchers/faculty members in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences, and the College of Public Health. I understand that the proposed program will be housed with the Graduate Studies committee in the Program Area of Kinesiology in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences. Given the prevalence of obesity among US and international populations, collaborations are needed that engage a diverse range of academic and clinical disciplines that have the methodologies to study the etiology of obesity and address solutions from biopsychosocial and relational perspective.

The *GIS in Obesity Sciences* will provide a forum for graduate students across campus to enroll in foundational multidisciplinary courses with an emphasis in obesity. This specialization will be the first of its kind in the nation to bring together multidisciplinary orientations to approach the prevention, consequences, and treatment of obesity. I believe this adds tremendous value in training future academic professionals to have a firm appreciation for translational research as well as cooperating with researchers and scientists from diverse disciplines.

The coordinating committee has worked together for over a year, and I am confident in their ability to oversee the program. A *GIS in Obesity Sciences* will only enhance The Ohio State University's national and international reputation by producing researchers and practitioners in the most prevalent epidemic facing today's society. I support the *GIS in Obesity Sciences* and encourage you to approve this program. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Achterberg, Dean

College of Education and Human Ecology

Subject: RE: GIS in Obesity Sciences proposal

Keeley,

We do have courses that would absolutely fit into the GIS. So, I would like to see some of those courses on it for the elective courses. Is this a possibility?

Med Diet 6300 – Advanced Nutrition and Metabolism,
Med Diet 6900 Nutritional Genomics
Med Diet 6200 Community Nutrition

Kay N. Wolf, PhD RDN LD FAND
Professor – The Ohio State University
College of Medicine – School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Director of Education, Graduate Studies Chair – School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Director – Division of Health Sciences and Medical Dietetics
306 Atwell Hall, 453 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, OH 43210
614-292-8131 Office / 614-292-0210 Fax
kay.wolf@osumc.edu <http://medicine.osu.edu/hrs/>



From: Pratt, Keeley J. [<mailto:pratt.192@osu.edu>]
Sent: Friday, August 22, 2014 1:55 PM
To: Wolf, Kay
Cc: Pirie, Phyllis
Subject: GIS in Obesity Sciences proposal

Hello Dr. Wolf,

I hope this email finds you well. We met about a year ago at a Mid-Ohio Food Bank meeting, when I was a first year assistant professor. Since then I have been working with colleagues in the Colleges of Education and Human Ecology and Public Health to develop a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences. We have been working for over a year, and are now in the final stages of the process. Currently we are reaching out to other programs, departments, and colleges who have faculty members conducting obesity-related research and training in hopes of obtaining a letter of support. I've attached the current proposal that we are planning to upload for the Graduate Council to review. Of note, the list of electives in the attached document will continue to evolve as additional collaborators and new courses are developed. The goal is for us to have students enrolled from a variety of colleges and departments across OSU to create a truly interdisciplinary student body for the GIS in Obesity Sciences. Dr. Pirie mentioned you and the Medical Dietetics and Health Sciences Program as being very applicable to the GIS, and we hoped you would be willing to write a letter of support. I would be happy to draft a letter to send to you as well. I am also happy to answer any questions you might have about the GIS in Obesity Sciences. Thanks for your time, and I hope all is well!

Sincerely,
Keeley J Pratt



Keeley J. Pratt, Ph.D., IMFT, Assistant Professor

Department of Human Sciences: Human Dev. & Family Science/Couple & Family Therapy Programs

College of Education & Human Ecology, The Ohio State University

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1787 Neil Avenue, Columbus OH 43210

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<http://u.osu.edu/pratt.192/> (website)



July 14, 2015

The Ohio State University Graduate Council
250 University Hall, 230 N Oval Mall
Columbus OH 43210
Phone: 614-292-6031; Fax: 614-292-3656

RE: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Dear Graduate School Council,

I submit this letter to indicate the College of Social Work's support for the proposed Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences. This GIS addresses an important issue that crosscuts multiple disciplines including social work. We understand that two foundation MSW courses will be included among the course options for this specialization. We believe this will be a valuable addition to the university curriculum and recommend its approval.

Sincerely,

Denise E. Bronson, MSW, PhD
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs



Michael S. Bisesi, PhD
Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
Director, Center for Public Health Practice
Interim Chair, Environmental Health Sciences
(614) 247-8290 bisesi.12@osu.edu

June 3, 2014

The Ohio State University Graduate Council
250 University Hall, 230 N Oval Mall
Columbus OH 43210

RE: Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Obesity Sciences

Dear Graduate School Council,

I submit this letter to indicate my enthusiastic support for the proposed *Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences* submitted by the planning committee which consists of established obesity researchers/faculty members in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences, and, the College of Public Health. I understand that the proposed program will be housed with the Graduate Studies Committee in the Program Area of Kinesiology in the College of Education and Human Ecology Department of Human Sciences. Given the prevalence of obesity among US and international populations, collaborations are needed that engage a diverse range of academic and clinical disciplines that have the methodologies to study the etiology of obesity and address solutions from biopsychosocial and relational perspectives.

The *GIS in Obesity Sciences* will provide a forum for graduate students across the campus to enroll in foundational multidisciplinary courses with an emphasis in obesity. To my knowledge, this specialization would be unique in the nation in its multidisciplinary orientation to a growing health problem, with students selecting courses from basic science, treatment applications, and population approaches. The coordinating committee has worked together for a substantial period in the development of this proposed specialization and show good evidence of an ability to continue to oversee the development and implementation.

For the above reasons, I support the proposed *GIS in Obesity Sciences* and respectfully request approval of this program. Thank you and the Council members for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Bisesi, PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

From: [Ward, Phillip](#)
To: [Buckworth, Janet](#); [Graham, Timothy \(Tim\)](#); [Kamp Dush, Claire](#); [Hanna, Sherman](#); [Harrison, Earl](#)
Cc: [Snyder, Anastasia](#); [Pratt, Keeley J.](#); [Folden, H](#); [Maresh, Carl M.](#); [Allen, Carla](#)
Subject: GIS update.
Date: Thursday, May 15, 2014 12:39:56 PM

Colleagues:

The Kinesiology graduate studies committee has agreed to house the Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Sciences. And the committee supports the proposal.

Keeley,

I believe the proposal should reflect both the above statements. Let me know if you need anything more from me

Phil

--

Phillip Ward Ph.D.
The Ohio State University
Department of Human Sciences
Rm A256 PAES building
305 West 17th Avenue
Columbus, OH. 43210-1221
Ph: (614) 688-8435
Web Site: <http://people.ehe.osu.edu/pward/>

April 13, 2015

To the Coordinating Committee for the proposed GIS in Obesity Science:

I have reviewed the proposal for a Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization (GIS) in Obesity Science, and I find the proposal to be clear, rigorous, and interesting. On behalf of the College of Arts and Sciences, I am pleased to provide our College's concurrence for the proposal, and we anticipate that it will further enrich the educational opportunities for the graduate and professional students here at Ohio State.

Sincerely,



Steven Fink, Associate Executive Dean for Curriculum and Instruction

College of Arts and Sciences