

# ***Mission Moment***

## ***Public Health: Rural, Remote, Underserved***

**#1**

CDC-funded veterinary college for infectious disease research



Holistic leader in the integration of animal and public health

**24/7**

Washington's only 24/7 teaching animal hospital

**1ST**

World's 1st accredited Simulation-Based Education program for veterinary medicine

**\$42M**

annual research powerhouse



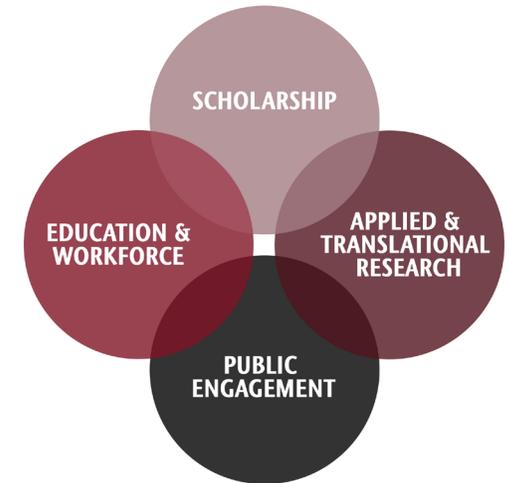
Transforming veterinary education through innovative Teaching Academy

**Dean Dori Borjesson, College of Veterinary Medicine  
January, 2025**

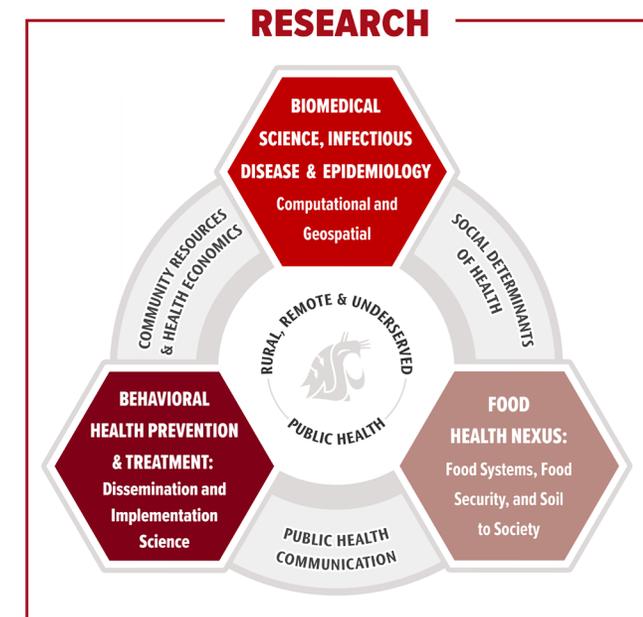
# The Evolution of a **Public Health** Degree

- **2020:** The start of the COVID pandemic, initial faculty discussions, driven by students who entered STEM majors but wanted to *make a difference*
- **2021:** Developed a working group- faculty from all health sciences colleges, CAHNRS, Communication, CAS, CVM and staff from Native American programs and EAGR
- **2022:** Evolved to the Public Health Collaborative
  - A retreat, monthly meetings, an inventory of strengths and assets
- **2022:** Drafted white paper to request funding from state legislature for 2023-2025 regular session
  - Infectious disease track- leverage WADDL and School of global health, CVM, Pullman
  - Behavioral health track- leverage community health and addiction sciences, Vancouver and Spokane
  - **Funded!**
- **2023:** Curriculum developed, faculty senate, accreditation body....lots of paperwork and engagement so that...
- **2024:** Enrolled first public health UG students on Pullman campus

## WSU PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE



## RURAL • REMOTE • UNDERSERVED



# New Public Health Undergraduate Degree

## *Meet the Faculty*

### Pullman

Undergraduate education program housed in CVM however faculty expertise—OneWSU



 **Todd Sabato**, co-director of Public Health Degree Program



 **Kimberly McBride**, co-director of Public Health Degree Program

### Spokane



**Ekaterina Burduli, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Community and Behavioral Health  
Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine



**Anna Hing, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Community and Behavioral Health  
Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine



**Khairul Siddiqi, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Community and Behavioral Health  
Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine



### Vancouver

2 faculty searches currently open

### Pullman

2 faculty searches currently open

- 1) Environmental Health
- 2) Public Policy



# New Public Health Undergraduate Degree

## *Meet the Students*



Meet Glaiza Buenaflor, one of the first students to major in WSU's newly introduced [public health program](#).

### Why did you choose to major in public health?

*--I've always felt fascinated by the idea of making a difference in the lives of others, especially when it comes to improving their well-being.*

*--Growing up, I noticed how some communities seemed to have more access to resources and better health outcomes than others, and I refuse to ignore the disparities. I want a degree that allows me to assist others and help spread knowledge that could benefit everyone.*



Meet Isaiah Rodriguez-Jimenez, one of the first students at WSU to major in the College of Veterinary Medicine's new [public health undergraduate degree program](#).





## New Public Health Undergraduate Degree

*Current Progress...Exceeding Expectations*

- Over 25 students enrolled in “Introduction to Public Health” Fall, 2024 with no marketing
- 10 majors already declared
- Fall, 2025, we will be offering all courses for years 1-3
- Staff hired in student recruitment and marketing, outreach and advising
- Co-Directors developed an advisory board
- Two donors already identified:
  - Student scholarships
  - Travel, conferences, student development
- In addition to the 2 tracks (infectious disease and behavioral health) the faculty have added a minor in public health, 10 concentrations and 5 new tracks

# New Public Health Undergraduate Degree

## *Future Directions*

- Vancouver to open a 4-year program, likely Fall, 2025
- Spokane to work towards a 2+2 program, Fall, 2025 or Fall, 2026
- Develop more relationships with industry, experiential learning, capstone experience
- Enhance marketing
  - Video
  - Translation of brochures into Spanish and native languages
- Microcredentialing with industry input