

APPENDIX C

External Letters of Support



September 14, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
P.O. Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, Ohio 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

Please accept this letter as support for the Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology degree that is being developed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. I am the Director of Research at Cleveland Clinic Akron General. In my role, I work with researchers who would be hired from the new MS program. I can confirm that there is a need in Northeast Ohio for graduates with clinical epidemiology and biostatistics skills.

Cleveland Clinic Akron General is supportive of this new program and would be willing to oversee research practicums and internships for students from this program. I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the MS in Clinical Epidemiology and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nairmeen", followed by a large, stylized loop.

Nairmeen Awad Haller, PhD
Director, Department of Research
Cleveland Clinic Akron General, Akron, Ohio

Adjunct Associate Professor in Medical Research, Internal Medicine
Northeast Ohio Medical University, Rootstown, Ohio



**Louis Stokes
Cleveland Department of
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
10701 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44106**

In Reply Refer To: 541/

August 21, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

I am pleased to learn of the new Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology that is being proposed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. Please accept this letter as my support of the program. This program is relevant and important as there is a shortage of graduates with clinical research methods training. The new degree will help to curb some of the shortfall. As an institution that has accepted students from your program before, we are happy to support you and your students on their theses or practicums. We would also be very interested in formalizing an ongoing research internship or thesis placement agreement with the new Clinical Epidemiology program.

I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology.

If you have further questions, please contact me at 216-791-3800, ext. 6076.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Selkirk".

Stephen Selkirk, MD, PhD
Neurologist, Cleveland VA Medical Center, Cleveland Ohio
Director, Cleveland VA ALS Center of Excellence.



ST. VINCENT CHARITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

I am writing this letter in support of the Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology that is being proposed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. This program is important at this time as there is a local and national shortage of graduates with clinical research methods training.

Given the close proximity between our institutions and having collaborated with Kent State University on other initiatives, we are pleased to support this new program and to work with your students on their theses or practicums. Our clinicians are also willing to serve as adjuncts if you have this need. I expect this relationship will be equally advantageous.

In closing, I encourage The Ohio Dept. of Higher Education to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology at Kent State University.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Thom Olmstead', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thom Olmstead
Director, University Partner Collaborations
Saint Vincent Charity Medical Center

Cc: file

August 16, 2017

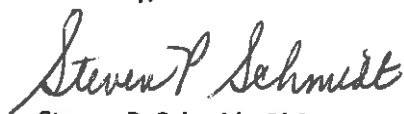
Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

I am writing this letter in support of the Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology that is being proposed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. This program is timely as there is a local and national need to train students in clinical research methods. As a university in proximity to Kent State, NEOMED is willing to support this new program and work with Kent students on research practicums. Our faculty are willing to serve as adjuncts in the new program if you have this need. I expect that this relationship will be mutually beneficial.

I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology.

Sincerely,



Steven P. Schmidt, PhD

Vice President for Research & Dean of the College of Graduate Studies
Northeast Ohio Medical University
Rootstown, OH 44272



Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute

August 8, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

I am writing this letter in support of the Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology degree that is being developed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. I am the new Chief Research Officer in the Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute at Akron Children's Hospital. As we develop a regional approach to pediatric research, I have identified a need for graduates of an MS program.

Graduates with the MS in Clinical Epidemiology are in demand by health research organizations. The Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute has a focus on pediatric population research. Our organization will benefit from both graduates of this program and students in training in Clinical Epidemiology. We are interested in supervising students during research practicums and in partnering with the College of Public Health by offering lectures or physicians as adjunct instructors if you have this need.

I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology and look forward to partnering with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Kelly", with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Michael Kelly, MD, PhD
Chief Research Officer
Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute
Akron Children's Hospital
1 Perkin's Square
Akron, OH 44302
Phone: 330-543-3193
Fax: 330-543-3166



UH Clinical Research Center

11100 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106
Lakeside 1400
(216) 844-5936

August 21st, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

Please accept this letter as support for the Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology degree that is developed by the College of Public Health at Kent State University. I am the Associate Chief Scientific Officer and the Director of the Clinical Research Center at University Hospitals Health System, and my observations are that there is a pressing local need for graduates of an MS program in clinical research.

Graduates with the MS in Clinical Epidemiology will be sought after in health research organizations, like ours. University Hospitals will no doubt benefit from these students' training in Clinical Epidemiology. Our organization is interested in placing students in research practicums and in partnering with the College of Public Health.

I hereby encourage the Ohio Board of Regents to approve the MS in Clinical Epidemiology and look forward to this partnership.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. McComsey'.

Sincerely,

Grace A McComsey, MD, FIDSA
Associate Chief Scientific Officer, University Hospitals Health System
Director, UH Clinical Research Center
Director, Dahms Clinical Research Unit
John Kennell Endowed Chair
Chief, Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Rheumatology
Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
Case Western Reserve University

Richard A. Josephson, M.S., M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University
School of Medicine
Director, Cardiac Intensive Care
Director, Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Rehabilitation

June 26, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno,

Please accept this letter in support of the planned Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology at Kent State University in the College of Public Health. I strongly support this program because of our need for epidemiologists who are trained in clinical epidemiology research methods.

Students with a graduate degree in clinical epidemiology will be able to find work as research associates, research scientists, or epidemiologists at companies including University Hospitals. Our facility recognizes the need for graduate level training in clinical research. In addition, our doctors and staff can serve as research advisors on a thesis project.

I look forward to the opportunity to work with your faculty and students. I strongly encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Josephson, M.S., M.D.
FACC, FAHA, FACP, FAACVP

11100 Euclid Avenue, LKS 5038
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-5028

richard.josephson@UHHospitals.org
Office: (216) 844-2775
Cell: (330) 414-2905
Fax: (216) 844-7116



Akron City Hospital Campus
Research Administration
55 Arch Street, Suite G1
Akron, OH 44304
tel 330-375-7891
summahealth.org

December 6, 2016

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the proposed Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology in the College of Public Health at Kent State University. There is a strong local and national need to train students in the methods specific to clinical epidemiology and your new degree will do this.

Graduates with the MS in Clinical Epidemiology will be well prepared to substantively contribute to teams conducting clinical health-related research. Summa Health will benefit from these students' intensive training in biostatistics and epidemiology which are needed to address pressing and important issues in health care. Determining how to provide optimal, affordable and patient centered care requires researchers with the training your program will provide.

Many of our researchers may serve as adjunct faculty and research advisors on a thesis or capstone project. We look forward to collaborating with your faculty and students in the development of relevant and timely projects of mutual interest that will support population health goals. I am also able to assist in identifying potential research placements at Summa Health. I look forward to a strong and mutually beneficial relationship.

I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Eaton", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Jennifer L. Eaton, PhD, CHRC
Vice President, Research, Sponsored Programs & Innovation

Sonia Alemagno, PhD
Dean of the College of Public Health
Kent State University
PO Box 5190
326 Lowry Hall
Kent, OH 44242

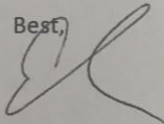
Dear Dr. Alemagno,

I am writing this letter to express my support of the proposed Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology in the College of Public Health at Kent State University. In my experience, there is a need to train students in the methods of clinical research and your new degree will do this.

Graduates with the MS in Clinical Epidemiology will be able to be employed in healthcare settings and research organizations. Akron General will benefit from these students' training in biostatistics and epidemiology.

I encourage The Ohio Board of Regents to approve the request for the MS in Clinical Epidemiology.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin Simon', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Erin Simon DO, FACEP

Attending Emergency Medicine Physician

Emergency Medicine Research Director

Cleveland Clinic Akron General

Associate Professor Northeast Ohio Medical University

APPENDIX F

Letters of Support from Programs on Kent State University Campus



September 12, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, Dean
Melissa Zullo, Associate Professor
College of Public Health
Kent State University
Kent, Ohio 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno and Dr. Zullo,

The College of Nursing is pleased to support the proposal from the College of Public Health to create an online Master of Science (MS) in Clinical Epidemiology. This degree does not duplicate or overlap with any graduate programs in the College of Nursing.

We believe that this program will be a good opportunity for nurses who see themselves working in clinical research roles. There are over 500 open positions in Ohio in clinical research and the proposed program will provide graduate-trained clinicians who can manage clinical trials. With employers such as the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals of Cleveland here in our area, we are confident the added credential of the MS in Clinical Epidemiology will make our students very competitive for these jobs.

We look forward to collaborating with the College of Public Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Broome PhD, RN, FAAN".

Barbara Broome, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor

College of Nursing
P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001
Main Office: 330-672-7930 • Fax: 330-672-5003
Email: nursing@kent.edu • <http://www.kent.edu/nursing>

September 12, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, Dean, College of Public Health
Melissa Zullo, Associate Professor, College of Public Health
Kent State University
Kent, Ohio 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno and Dr. Zullo,

The College of Podiatric Medicine is pleased to support the proposal from the College of Public Health to create an online Master of Science (MS) in Clinical Epidemiology. This degree does not duplicate or overlap with any graduate programs in the College of Podiatric Medicine.

We believe that this program will be a good opportunity for Podiatric Physicians who see themselves working in clinical research roles. There are over 500 open positions in Ohio in clinical research and the proposed program will provide graduate-trained clinicians who can manage clinical trials. With the growing number of diabetic patients and the research required in this area alone, the benefit to our graduates would be significant.

We look forward to collaborating with the College of Public Health.

Sincerely,

Allan M. Boike, DPM, FACFAS
Dean, CEO, Professor of Foot&Ankle Surgery
Kent State University College of Podiatric Medicine

September 14, 2017

Sonia Alemagno, Dean
Melissa Zullo, Associate Professor
College of Public Health
Kent State University Kent, Ohio 44242

Dear Dr. Alemagno and Dr. Zullo:

The College of Education, Health, and Human Services is pleased to support the proposal from the College of Public Health to create an online Master of Science (MS) in Clinical Epidemiology. This degree does not duplicate or overlap with any graduate programs in the College of Education, Health, and Human Services.

We believe that this program could be beneficial for our students in appropriate graduate degree areas, such as exercise physiology, who may be interested in pursuing clinical research roles. There are currently more than 500 open positions in Ohio in clinical research and the proposed program will provide graduate-trained clinicians who can manage clinical trials. With employers such as the Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals of Cleveland here in our area, we are convinced the added credential of the MS in Clinical Epidemiology will make students with an interest in this area very competitive for these positions.

We welcome opportunities to work collaboratively with the College of Public Health for the benefit of Kent State University, our students, and community.

Sincerely,



Dr. James C. Hannon, C.S.C.S., FNAK #561
Dean and Professor
Kent State University
College of Education, Health, and Human Services
jhannon5@kent.edu
330-672-0566

Office of the Dean

APPENDIX B

Student Surveys

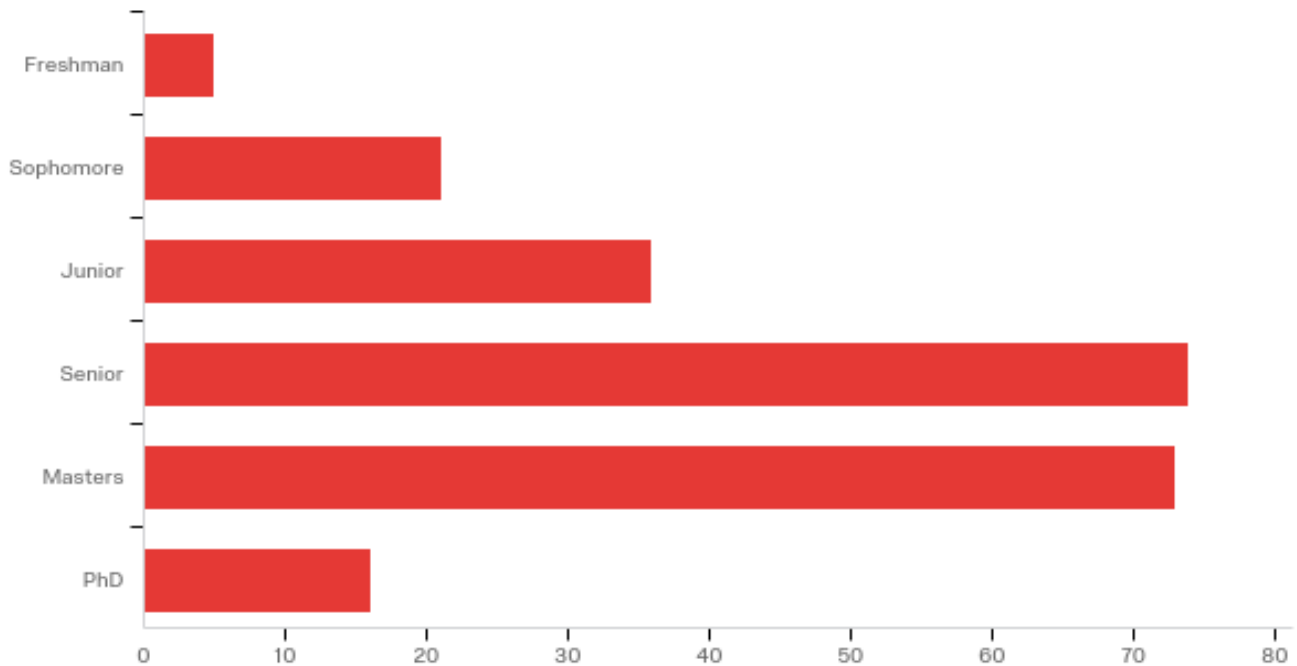
The first survey to follow is from the College of Public Health BSPH and graduate students. It was administered in November, 2016.

Default Report

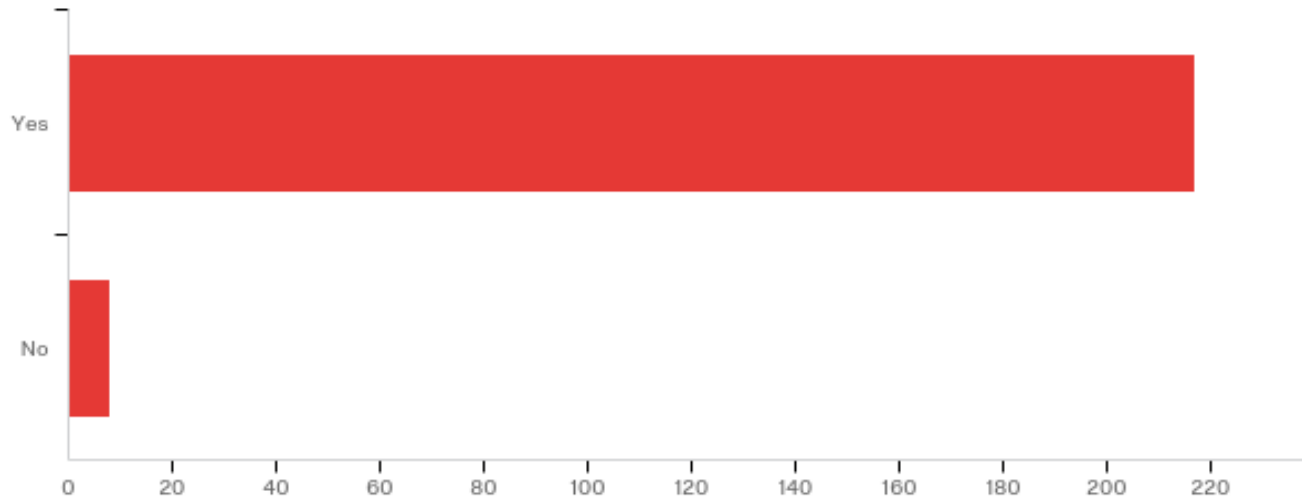
Clinical Epidemiology Survey

September 12th 2017, 11:15 am EDT

Q3 - What is your class rank?

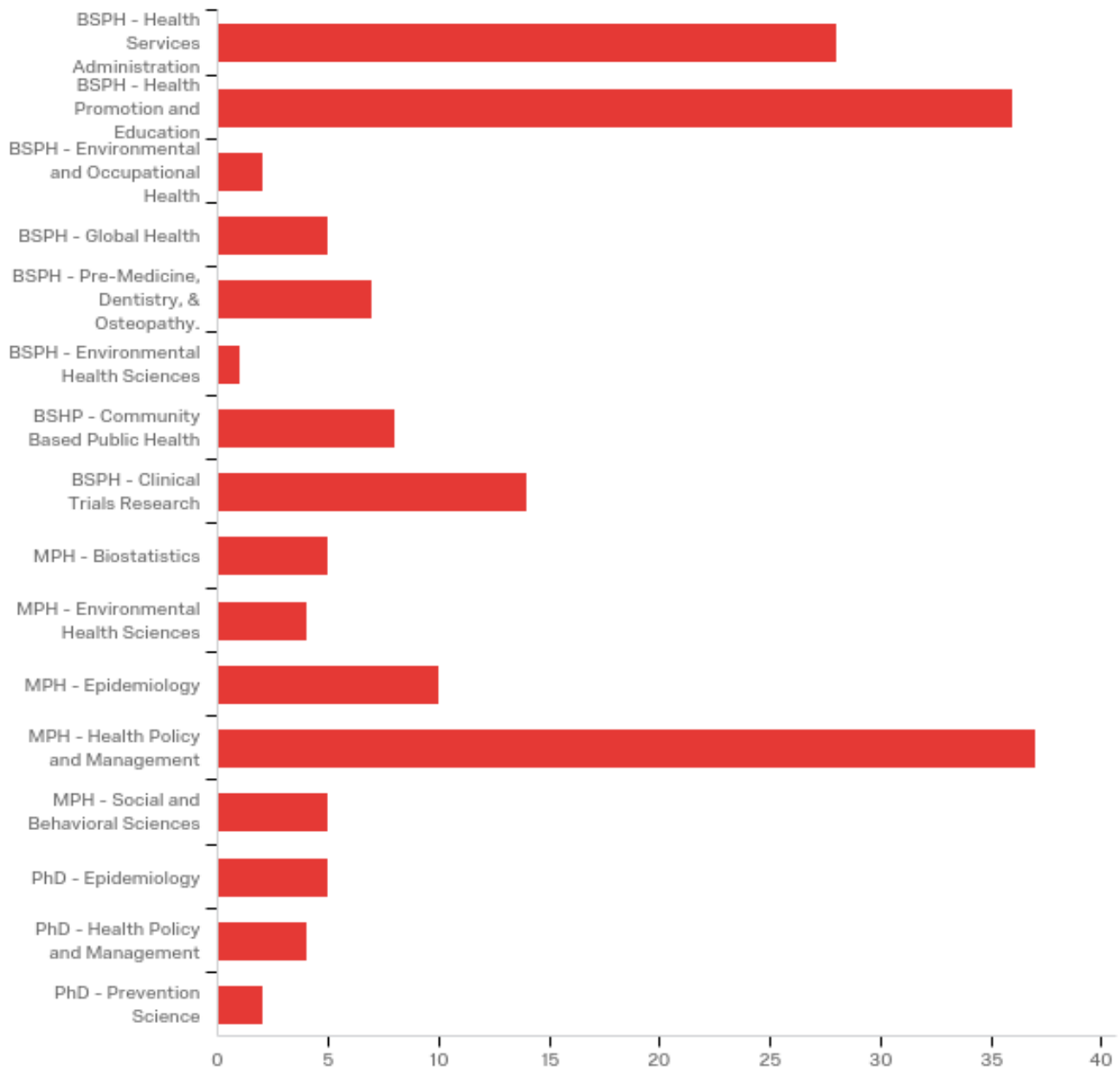


#	Answer	%	Count
1	Freshman	2.22%	5
2	Sophomore	9.33%	21
3	Junior	16.00%	36
4	Senior	32.89%	74
5	Masters	32.44%	73
6	PhD	7.11%	16
	Total	100%	225

Q10 - Are you currently a student at Kent State University?

#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	96.44%	217
2	No	3.56%	8
	Total	100%	225

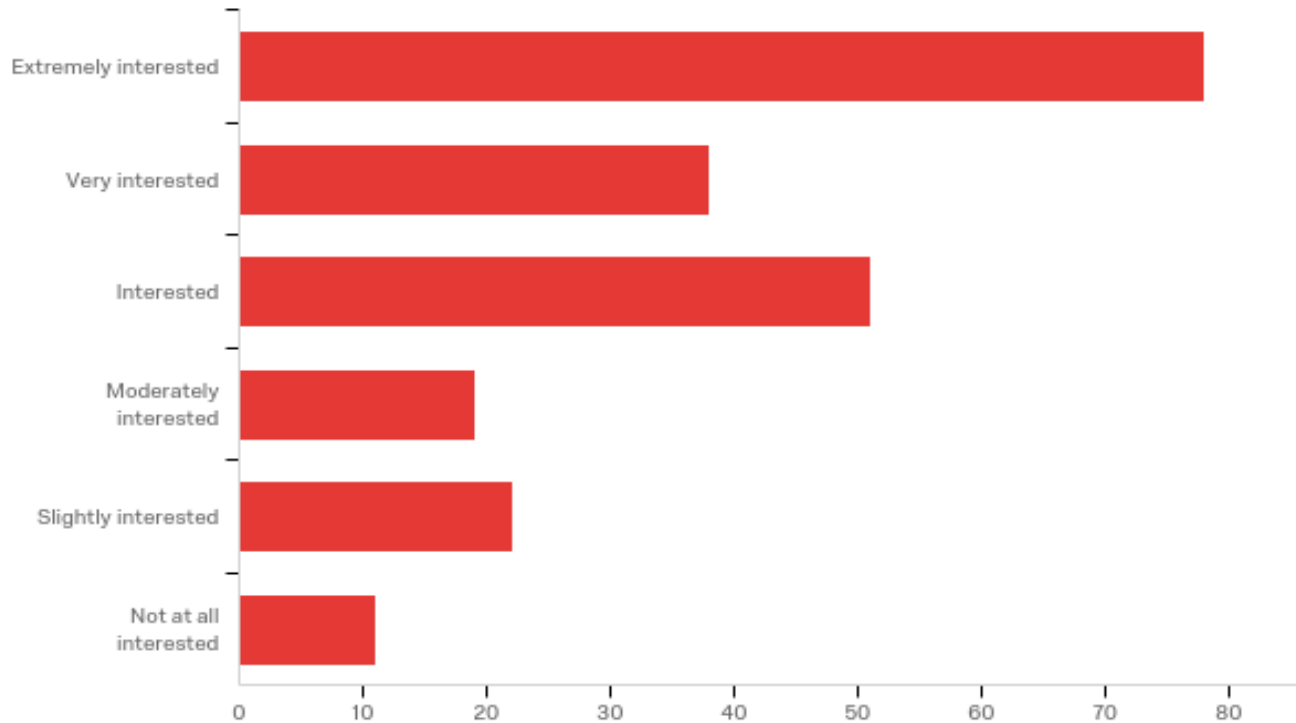
Q4 - What is your area of concentration?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	BSPH - Health Services Administration	16.18%	28
2	BSPH - Health Promotion and Education	20.81%	36
3	BSPH - Environmental and Occupational Health	1.16%	2
4	BSPH - Global Health	2.89%	5
5	BSPH - Pre-Medicine, Dentistry, & Osteopathy.	4.05%	7
6	BSPH - Environmental Health Sciences	0.58%	1

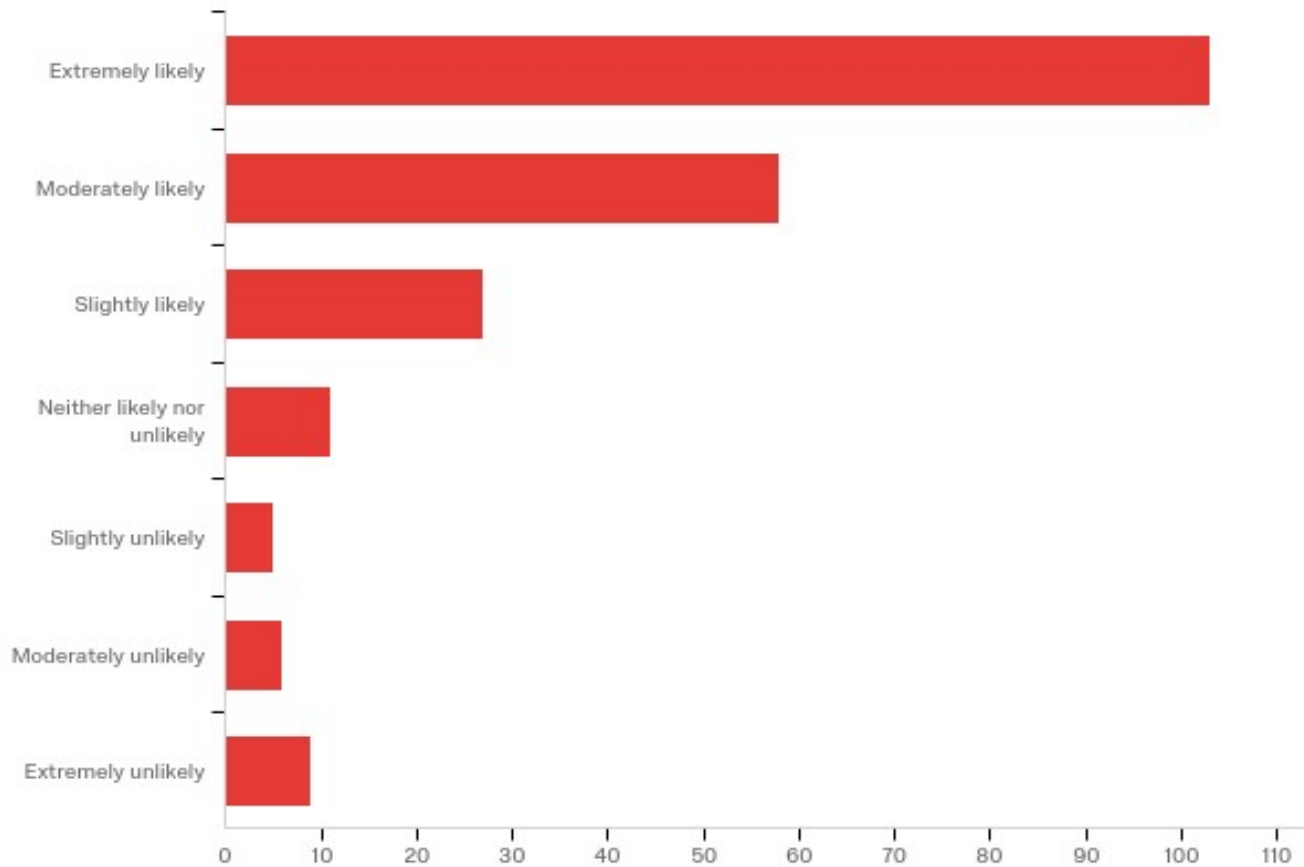
7	BSHP - Community Based Public Health	4.62%	8
8	BSPH - Clinical Trials Research	8.09%	14
9	MPH - Biostatistics	2.89%	5
10	MPH - Environmental Health Sciences	2.31%	4
11	MPH - Epidemiology	5.78%	10
12	MPH - Health Policy and Management	21.39%	37
13	MPH - Social and Behavioral Sciences	2.89%	5
14	PhD - Epidemiology	2.89%	5
15	PhD - Health Policy and Management	2.31%	4
16	PhD - Prevention Science	1.16%	2
	Total	100%	173

Q8 - How interested are you in a Clinical Epidemiology MS degree?



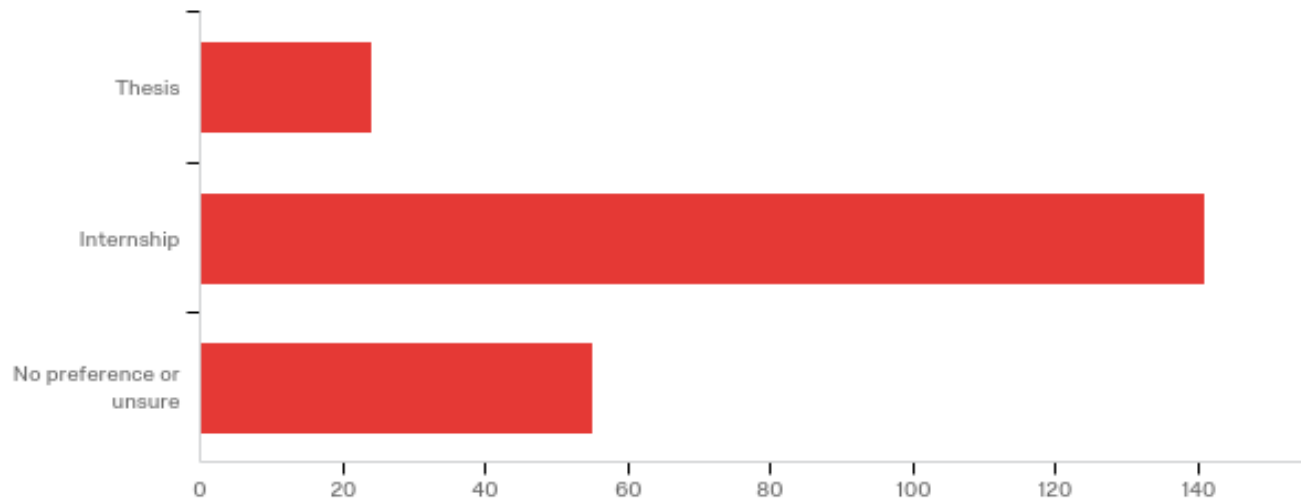
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Extremely interested	35.62%	78
2	Very interested	17.35%	38
3	Interested	23.29%	51
4	Moderately interested	8.68%	19
5	Slightly interested	10.05%	22
6	Not at all interested	5.02%	11
	Total	100%	219

Q5 - How likely are you to take a class in Clinical Epidemiology as an elective?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Extremely likely	47.03%	103
2	Moderately likely	26.48%	58
3	Slightly likely	12.33%	27
4	Neither likely nor unlikely	5.02%	11
5	Slightly unlikely	2.28%	5
6	Moderately unlikely	2.74%	6
7	Extremely unlikely	4.11%	9
	Total	100%	219

Q9 - Would you be more interested in a Masters in Clinical Epidemiology that requires 1) a thesis (research project) or 2) an internship (experiential learning)?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Thesis	10.91%	24
2	Internship	64.09%	141
3	No preference or unsure	25.00%	55
	Total	100%	220

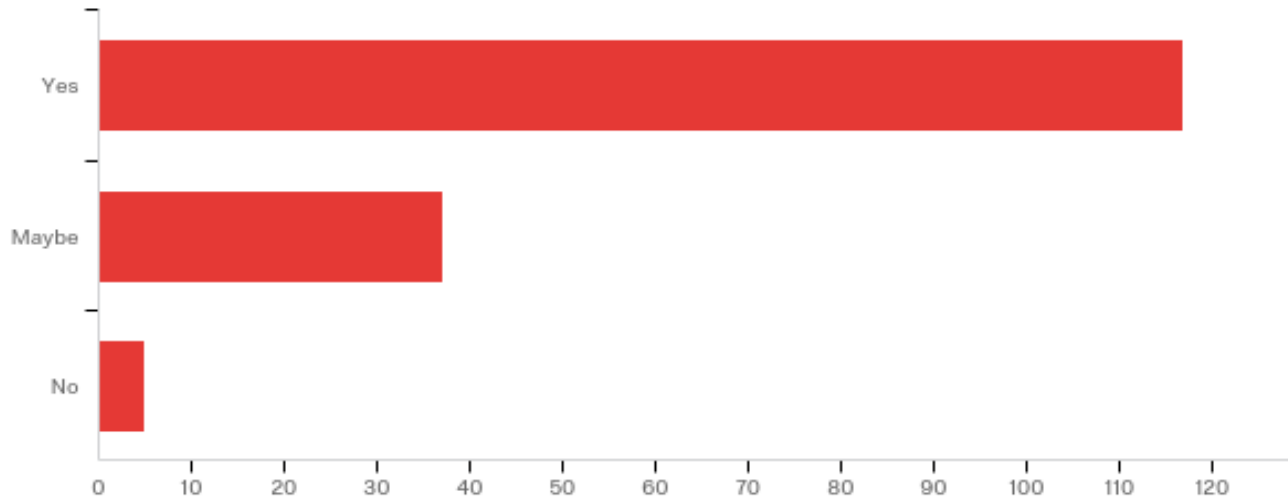
The survey to follow is from the College of Nursing students. It was administered in August, 2017.

Default Report

Nursing Student Survey

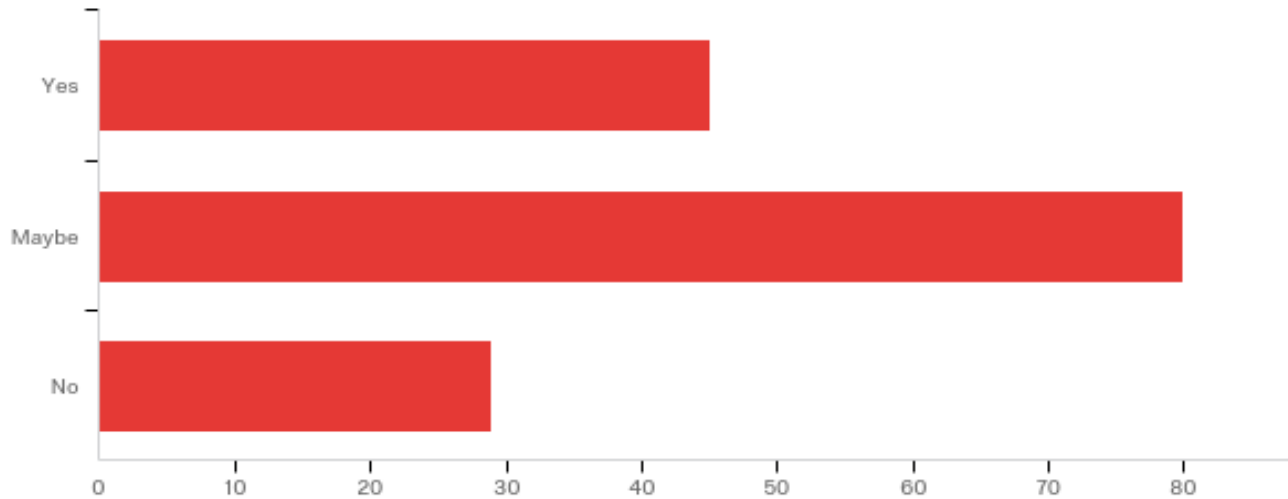
September 12th 2017, 11:20 am EDT

Q1 - Are you interested in a graduate degree after you complete your BSN?



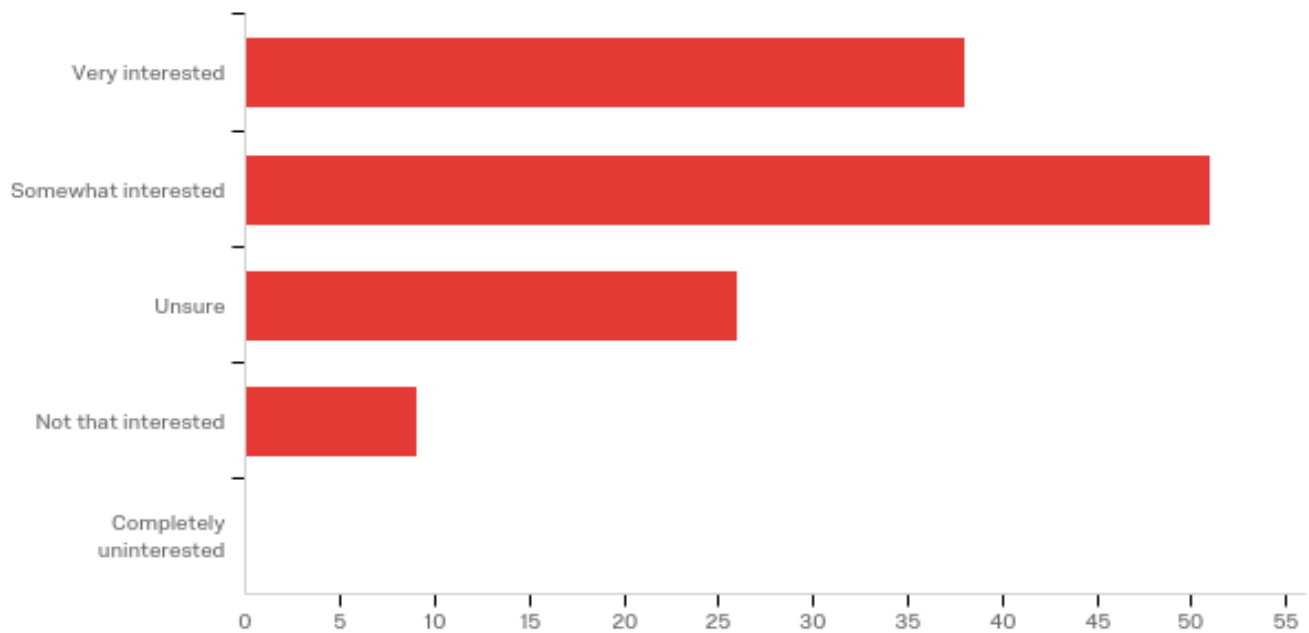
#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	73.58%	117
2	Maybe	23.27%	37
3	No	3.14%	5
	Total	100%	159

Q2 - Are you interested in doing nursing research (working as a clinical nurse researcher)?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	29.22%	45
2	Maybe	51.95%	80
3	No	18.83%	29
	Total	100%	154

Q3 - After you complete your BSN, how interested would you be in a Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology that can be taken completely online through the College of Public Health?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Very interested	30.65%	38
2	Somewhat interested	41.13%	51
3	Unsure	20.97%	26
4	Not that interested	7.26%	9
5	Completely uninterested	0.00%	0
	Total	100%	124

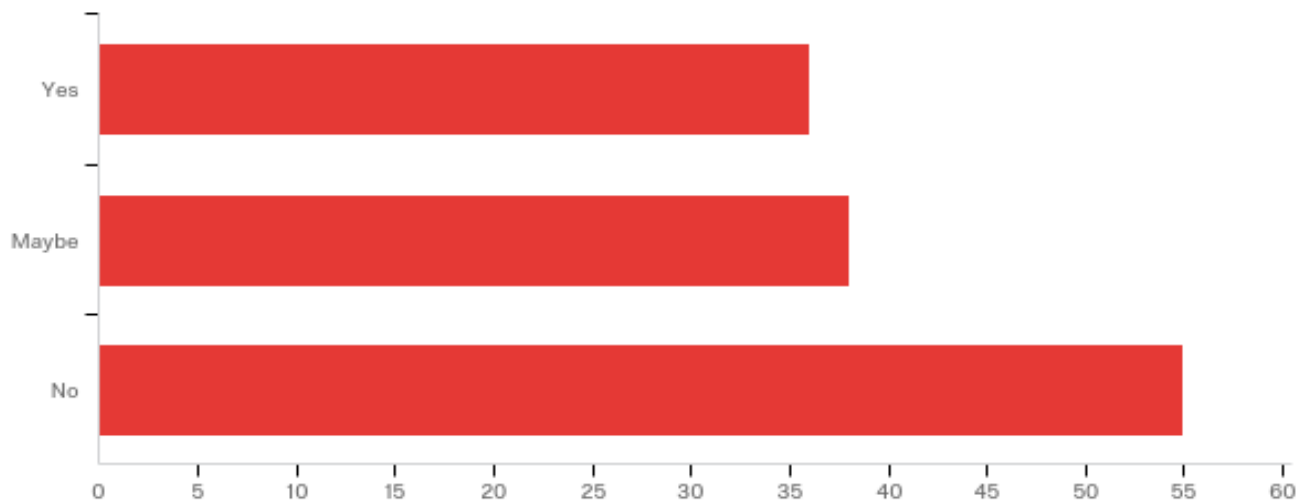
The survey to follow is from the College of Podiatric Medicine students. It was administered in August, 2017.

Default Report

Podiatry Student Survey

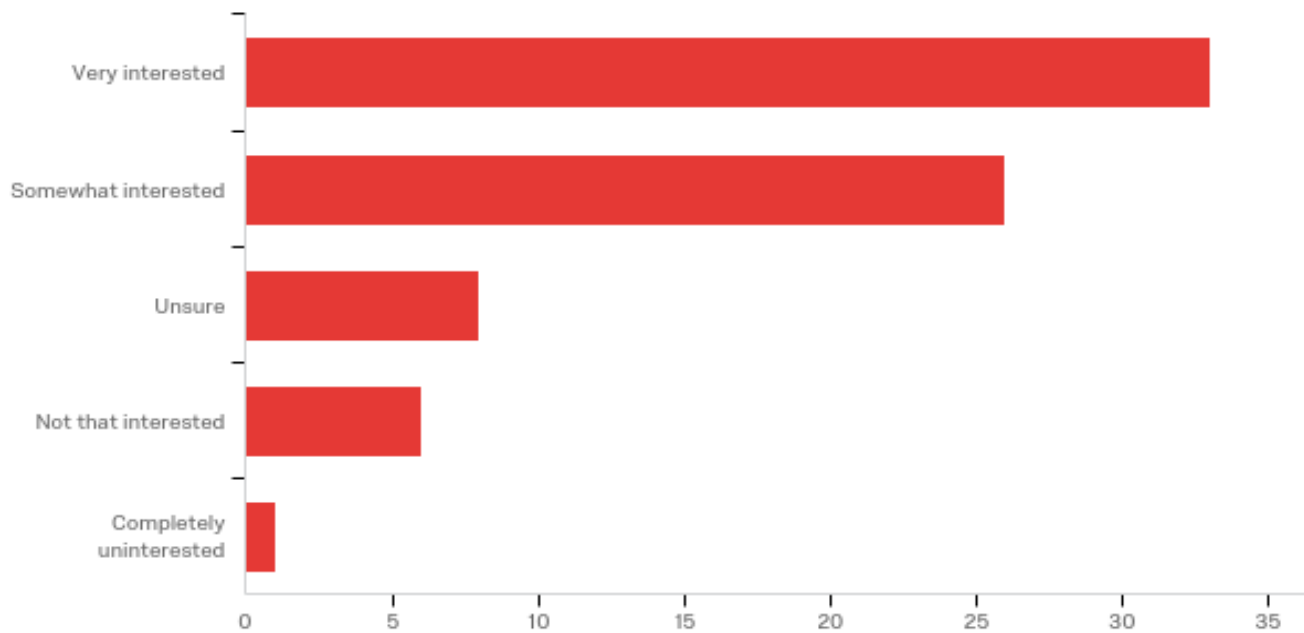
September 12th 2017, 11:35 am EDT

Q1 - Are you interested in a graduate research degree after you complete your Podiatric Medicine degree?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	27.91%	36
2	Maybe	29.46%	38
3	No	42.64%	55
	Total	100%	129

Q2 - After you complete your Podiatric Medicine degree, how interested would you be in a Masters of Science in Clinical Epidemiology that can be taken completely online through the College of Public Health?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Very interested	44.59%	33
2	Somewhat interested	35.14%	26
3	Unsure	10.81%	8
4	Not that interested	8.11%	6
5	Completely uninterested	1.35%	1
	Total	100%	74