



Susan Lozier, Chair  
Academic Council  
Campus

Dear Susan,

I am pleased to present a proposal for a Master of Science in Global Health to be offered at Duke Kunshan University. Duke Global Health Institute (DGHI) plans to launch a global health research center at DKU in 2013 with a research focus on chronic diseases, environmental health, and health systems. Our planned research center, along with this degree program, will provide a strong focal point for our evolving research and education collaborations with several Chinese universities. This will also provide an opportunity for us to be at the forefront of educating the next generation of global health leaders and researchers in Asia and thus to develop relationships with more partners in other Asian countries. Teaching and advising in the program will be conducted primarily by regular rank faculty, including current DGHI faculty and new faculty to be based in Kunshan hired according to DGHI Bylaws. The number of students will be limited (initial cohort of 20 expanding to 35 in year 3) to ensure that there will be adequate mentoring of thesis research.

We have benefitted from discussions of the proposal with the China Faculty Council, Executive Committee of the Graduate School, the Global Priorities Committee, and the Academic Programs Committee. Our plan is to offer this Duke degree as a three year pilot program. We will provide yearly reporting on metrics of success. We expect to matriculate a student body with significant intellectual and disciplinary diversity, and we will work to ensure academic freedom and unfettered internet access for students in the program. The requirements for the degree will be identical to the program offered on the Durham campus. Thus, the Durham and Kunshan programs will offer the same degree at different locations. However, we expect some synergies across the two programs including student exchanges for their research projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Merson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael Merson, M.D.  
Director, Duke Global Health Institute  
Wolfgang Joklik Professor of Global Health