## Education Affordability Committee Strategic Priority Action Plan

### Phase I: Identify existing strategies to make education affordable and increase the diversity of the student body

**April – October 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples of Methods</th>
<th>What was learned (students may be in more than 1 category below)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Understand the number of students who 1) were awarded scholarships or other funding or 2) lowered tuition costs through the Western Regional Graduate Program | During the 2020-2021 academic year:  
➢ Over 50 students had scholarships or other funding  
➢ During the 2020-2021 academic year, approximately 70 students from selected Western states and Hawaii paid in-state tuition for their graduate program. |
| Understand the number of students who work on campus in various positions, some that include tuition benefits and some that include personnel benefits | During the 2020-2021 academic year:  
➢ Opportunities varied by program (MPH, MS, PhD, DrPH) and included TA (~32), RA (~40), and GA (~16) positions, mostly doctoral students; a number of MPH students hold student assistant (worker) positions (~90)  
➢ Some students work as PRAs, SPRAs, or in other positions on campus |
| Understand student costs (e.g., tuition, housing, health coverage, books) | ➢ Options to reduce different types of costs should be explored |

### Phase II: Evaluate solutions to make education affordable and increase the diversity of the student body

**November 2021 – February 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities May Include</th>
<th>Lead</th>
<th>Resources Required</th>
<th>Anticipated Products</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evaluate options to build on existing strategies (e.g., scholarships, Western state tuition program)</td>
<td>CSPAN national, state, and local resources, CSPAN personnel time</td>
<td>More students have affordable education costs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>
| Assess new solutions for student employment | CSPH personnel time  
➢ CSPH funding supplemented by funding from other sources | More students have employment opportunities |
| Assess pros and cons of reducing CSPH costs and other costs (e.g., housing, health insurance) | CSPH personnel time  
➢ Options that address changes in revenue | Some CSPH and other costs are reduced |

**Phase III: Develop and implement solutions that support affordable education and increase the diversity of the student body.**  
*Spring and Summer 2022*

<table>
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</table>
| Implement plans to expand existing solutions:  
**Example** - student employment | | Funding | MPH positions (GA level) to assist faculty in writing research proposals | Fall 2022 |
| Implement plans for new solutions:  
**Example** – training grant | | Funding | Training grant submitted | Spring 2023 |
| Implement or evaluate options for reducing some costs:  
Tuition costs, Increase affordable housing, Health coverage cost reduction | **Example: Housing**  
Lead: Office of Student Affairs & Academic Operations | **Example: Housing**  
Personnel time (salary) to build linkages with apartment complexes | **Example: Housing**  
50 students placed in affordable housing | **Example: Housing**  
Fall 2022 |