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	
Examples of Methods	**What was learned** (students may be in more than 1 category below)
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				
Activities May Include	**Lead**	**Resources Required**	**Anticipated Products**	**Timeframe**
Evaluate options to build on existing strategies (e.g., scholarships, Western state tuition program)		➢ CSPH national, state, and local resources ➢ CSPH personnel time	More students have affordable education costs	

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

Activities	Lead	Resources Required	Anticipated Products	Timeframe
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