

Support to research membership needs of early career professionals in Utah and make organizational changes to support the recommendations from this research

Whereas the Utah Public Health Association (UPHA) is the largest association of public health professionals in Utah and is dedicated to providing education for its members, increasing public health advocacy and promoting quality public health policy; and

Whereas UPHA is looking to retain members after they graduate from the Student Assembly; and

Whereas the current membership and organizational structure of UPHA does not provide a focus on early career professional members; and

Whereas UPHA has supported the American Public Health Association (APHA) in its effort to involve more early career professionals in its sections and programs, and

Whereas UPHA's efforts should continue to align with state and national efforts to engage early career professionals.

Be it therefore resolved that:

UPHA perform its own research on how to increase the attention on recent graduates and professionals within five years of graduation, to better understand their perceptions of professional organizations and the benefits that membership in UPHA could provide, and

UPHA research existing programs and other public health professional organizations which are working with early career professionals, and

During 2016, UPHA Officers and Board appoint a committee to help in the development of this research; and

UPHA direct its Officers and Board to make an informed decision based on this research regarding how to engage early career professionals in Utah; and

At the 2017 UPHA Annual Business Meeting of the Association, the necessary bylaws changes and policy statements/guidelines, creating this organizational change, will be formally presented to the membership for adoption, and

UPHA prepares an abstract for presentation of the preliminary findings and recommendations from the committee's efforts and research at the 2016 or 2017 annual meeting of the American Public Health Association.

Respectfully submitted by:

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