Dean Wykoff Co-Chairs 4th Annual Undergraduate Education for Public Health Summit

Dean Randy Wykoff served as Co-Chair and Panel Participant for the 4th Annual Undergraduate Education of Public Health Summit in New Orleans. The summit, co-sponsored by the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH) and the Association of American Colleges and Universities, brought together almost 200 participants from over 100 colleges, universities, and organizations from across the country.

In 2009, the Chronicle of Higher Education identified Public Health as one of the 5 college majors on the rise. Information released by ASPPH at this conference reinforced this remarkable national trend. [http://www.publichealthreports.org/userfiles/15_508_PHR130-1_ASPPH.pdf](http://www.publichealthreports.org/userfiles/15_508_PHR130-1_ASPPH.pdf) These data show, for example, that the number of colleges and universities that grant undergraduate degrees in public health has increased from 45 in 1992 to 176 in 2012. Even more impressive—the number of degrees awarded has increased in the same time period from 759 to 6,464—almost an eight-fold increase. A remarkable [interactive map of undergraduate public health](http://www.publichealthreports.org/userfiles/15_508_PHR130-1_ASPPH.pdf) is available from the ASPPH Data Center. Click on the link “Where are public health degrees being conferred?”

To address this rapidly expanding need, the Summit included 12 concurrent sessions and workshops ranging from “CEPH Accreditation” to “Faculty Development and Mentoring UGPH Students” to “Innovative Tools for Course Development” and many more, as well as a poster session. Dr. Wykoff was also a part of a panel of five presenters for the the Featured Address “Framing the Future: The Launch of Creative Educational Models in Public Health.”

Dr. Wykoff had previously chaired the ASPPH Expert Panel that developed the “Recommended Critical Component Elements of an Undergraduate Major in Public Health” that was released in August, 2012: [http://www.aspph.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CCE_2012-08-03-FINAL.pdf](http://www.aspph.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/CCE_2012-08-03-FINAL.pdf)

Dr. Wykoff said “I think that ETSU is well recognized for our long-standing leadership in providing undergraduate public health education. We have been committed to preparing our students to enter the workforce for sixty years, and I am honored that so many institutions look to ETSU for leadership in this area.”

“I was particularly honored to be able to talk about the comprehensive revision to the BSPH that has recently taken place.” Wykoff added. “I was pleased to see how many people approached Mike Stoots, who led the revision, and how many people talked with Aimee Rowe and Mikki Johnson-Maczka, who presented a poster at the Summit, outlining how the revision is increasing the amount of practical experience that our students receive.”