ATTENTION ALL MPH STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF
THE COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH (CEPH)
RETURNS FOR A SITE VISIT IN MARCH 2006

In 1999, the Master of Science (M.S.) in Health: Public Health Program was in its 17th year of providing quality graduate education in the Department of Health at West Chester University. Today, the health professions have experienced tremendous changes and challenges. The Department of Health faculty recognized these challenges and believed that a change in its degree offerings would enable us to enhance and expand the curriculum to effectively address the changing health needs of our local, regional, and national communities. The faculty felt that a Master of Public Health (MPH) format would provide the best opportunity for direction towards particular areas of health to enable graduates to work in the ever changing world of public health. In 1999, the University approved the revised graduate public health curriculum. Currently, the revised curriculum (in a MPH format) allows for the development and application of knowledge from multiple disciplines for the promotion and protection of health in human populations, with due consideration to cultural perspectives.

By the end of the academic year 2001-02, the revised public health curriculum had been in place for three years. The Department of Health applied to CEPH for accreditation in Community Health/Preventive Medicine and, following a site visit in the spring of 2003, received pre-accreditation for a 2-year period through the fall of 2005.

The comments of the 2003 review team were taken to heart, and many positive changes in the MPH program have resulted from their recommendations. Other improvements that reflect the changes in the discipline, the changing needs of our students, the professional growth of our faculty and the full support of our institution have also been implemented since the last MPH self-study was completed.

The Department of Health is now seeking full accreditation of the MPH Program in Community Health/Preventive Medicine with the preliminary self study document submitted to CEPH in October, 2005 and a CEPH site visit scheduled for March 23, 24, 2006. MPH students, alumni, faculty, staff and community partners are invited to review the self study document and send comments about the MPH Program to:

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Council on Education for Public Health
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The self study document is available on the web at http://health-sciences.wcupa.edu. Ms. Mulvanity will need the comments in the CEPH office no later than February 17, 2006.