Cover Letter to Application for Associate of Applied Science Degree Program

**Public Health Education and Promotion Specialist**

Dear Curriculum Committee, thank you for taking the time from your meeting to consider approval of this new program at Lane!

Here are some of the benefits of this program for students and our community if we choose to approve and support this program.

**Highlights**:

* This is an interdisciplinary program that has been created entirely from existing courses that are currently being taught at Lane Community College.

* A low cost program that will benefit community employers and workforce by creating a new level of job placement (middle living wage) in the area of Health education and promotion that currently does not exist and is needed. This will both private Health care related companies and not for profit organizations to hire wage earners within this field at a moderate cost which currently is not an option. Average wage
* Community support (enthusiastic/supportive advisory committee) is high for a prevention/promotion focused AAS Health Promotion degree (first of its kind in Oregon) and several local co-op sites have already been established if this program is approved.

* Positive collaboration and support from closely related programs in both Human Services and Health Professions were established in creating this program.
* Being ahead of the curve in an increasing job Market (23% BOLI). The Affordable Care Act’s expansion of Public Health, Health Education and Promotion is already expanding to control costs within our Health Care system and has already become a priority for service delivery within our private health care and human service industries.
* Lane Community College will become a Leader in the development of an Associate of Applied Science Degree program in Public Health Education and Promotion in Oregon and the United States.