

From: [Paul Halverson](#)
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Attachments:



SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

Dear Colleagues,

As I complete my first month as your Dean, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our time together so far and share my hopes for the future of our SPH community. Over the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of meeting many of you – students, faculty, and staff – and I have been deeply impressed by your dedication, passion, and commitment to health equity and social justice. Immersing myself in the vibrant culture of our school has been an inspiring and enlightening experience, and I've greatly appreciated the warm welcome you have given me.

Earlier this month I shared [my vision](#) for centering **S.I.P: Students, Impact, and Partnerships** in our work. Key to manifesting this vision is ensuring that our Vanport Building is a hub of community, connection, and joy for students, staff, faculty, and community partners. In the coming weeks, you will be invited to participate in a task force to re-envision our workplace, helping to create an environment in Vanport where we can all thrive, together. These efforts will not be a look back to pre-pandemic operations but instead will focus on cultivating a workplace that values in-person interactions and the flexibility and accessibility that remote work provides. Working together, we can continue building an SPH environment in Vanport that centers social justice, fosters a strong sense of community, enhances our scholarly collaboration, and supports our collective well-being and success.

I understand that some of you may have concerns and want to assure you that as we move towards more in-office collaboration I will work closely with the Dean's Leadership Team and the task force to understand and incorporate your voices and viewpoints. As we embark on this journey, I hope that each of you will contribute to this effort so that the SPH environment we create reflects each valuable member of our community.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to the exciting journey ahead.

Best regards,
Paul

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