



GILLINGS GLOBAL GATEWAY

North Carolina Roots. Worldwide Reach.

Global School Task Force, SPH2020 **Executive Summary: Towards a Global Gateway** **October 1, 2012**

In February 2012, the **Global School Task Force** was convened to explore what it means for our school to demonstrate global leadership and to develop a plan to be a leading *global* school of public health. This task force consisted of six internal SPH members and six external members.

After an extensive environmental scan, combined with consideration of the School and the University's strengths in global health, task force members developed a model, the "Gillings Global Gateway," to organize and promote the School's global activities. No other school of public health uses this kind of integrated one-stop shop mode. As envisioned, the gateway will be the *brand* under which we will communicate all our global activities and expertise. It will also be an easily navigable *online portal* that will be the single access point to our School's global offerings. Finally, it will be a *value added organization* that actively creates enhanced interdisciplinary collaborations between our departments, other schools, practitioners and students to promote and accelerate our leadership in solving complex global health problems, including those that affect us in North Carolina.

The Gillings Global Gateway consists of four components – *partnerships*, *research in action*, *learning* and *networks*, which will be integrated and supported by a cross-functional team led jointly by an executive director, who will be a non-faculty senior manager, and a senior faculty member at the associate dean level.

- ✦ The *Partnership* component will be responsible for creating, growing and sustaining elite global partnerships for the School.
- ✦ *Research in action* will bring together experts in our School's research and the practice community and serve as a laboratory for developing and testing interdisciplinary solutions to difficult global health problems.
- ✦ The *learning component* will be a single point of access for all global-facing learning programs.
- ✦ The *networks* component will create, maintain and facilitate online networks which will connect the School to local and global *ambassadors* who will serve as the links between the School and the global community.

The Gateway will necessitate hiring of one or two key professional staff members. Revenue generation will be an important activity for the Gateway. The *research in action* lab, which will offer seminars, workshops and conferences, could be a source of revenue to the School. At a time when traditional government research funding is shrinking, the Gateway may also enhance the breadth and reach of the School's funding sources through its capability to create transdisciplinary partnerships. This would be an indirect source of revenue for faculty and students.