I. Title: Health Promotion, Obesity Prevention, and Human Development

II. Abstract:
Health promotion and obesity prevention is a growing field of study that is multi-disciplinary and integrates the fields of psychology, biology, human physiology, and medicine. The United States is leading the way in this epidemic health crisis, with two-thirds of adults and nearly one-third of children classified as obese, and with those living in poverty and ethnic minorities over-represented among obese populations (IOM report, 2012). Statewide, 27% of Oregonians are obese and these rates are comparable to the national average (CDC, 2010). This epidemic has led to a number of federal initiatives, including a “Let’s Move” campaign led by Michelle Obama, aimed at examining the etiology of obesity as well as prevention programs that target children, adolescents, and adults. Federal funding over the past few years is increasing in the area of health promotion and obesity prevention, yet at the University of Oregon, we have very few faculty who are able to take advantage of such funding opportunities, despite our long-standing strengths in prevention, education, human physiology, and biology. A cluster hire in health promotion and obesity prevention that builds on these cross-disciplinary strengths at the UO would create synergy among these programs, enhance collaborations with colleagues across campus, increase federal grant support and research funding, and build on current areas of excellence. Our top ranked graduate and research programs of study at the UO in prevention science, education, human physiology, and biology have partnered together to prepare this proposal.

III. Proposing Faculty
Cluster Coordinator: Beth Stormshak, Ph.D.; Director, Prevention Science Institute, Professor, Counseling Psychology and Human Services (CPHS)
Faculty: Leslie Leve, Ph.D.; Associate Director, Prevention Science Institute, Professor, CPHS Laura Lee McIntyre; Professor, School Psychology, Special Education and Clinical Services
Christopher Minson, Ph.D.; Professor and Chair, Department of Human Physiology
William Cresko, Ph.D; Professor, Biology and Director of the Institute of Ecology and Evolution, Department of Biology
Benedict McWhirter, Ph.D., Professor and Head, Counseling Psychology and Human Services.

IV. College/Units Involved
Dean(s):
Lead Dean: Mia Tuan, Ph.D. COE; Andrew Marcus, Ph.D., CAS

Department(s):
Lead: College of Education/Counseling Psychology and Human Services (CPHS) College of Education/School Psychology, Special Education and Clinical Services
College of Arts and Sciences/Department of Human Physiology
College of Arts and Sciences/Department of Biology
Prevention Science Institute

V. Number and Level of each New Position Proposed:
5 positions total: 2 Assistant Professor tenure-track faculty (Biology and CPHS), 3 Associate Professor tenure-track faculty (School psychology, Human Physiology, and CPHS).

Working with Cluster of Excellence proposers and participating deans, central administration will refine specific hiring plans based on available facilities, funding and institutional support structures.