

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting
“Final Meeting Minutes”

October 7, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom: <https://uahs.zoom.us/j/215120653>

Program Directors / Voting Members Present: Scott Carvajal, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Joe Gerald, Magdiel Habila, Aminata Kilungo, Velia Leybas Nuño, Amanda Sokan, Chris Tisch

Program Directors / Voting Members Absent: Ed Bedrick, Gabriela Coronel, Chris Cutshaw, Kacey Ernst, Terry Urbine, Kimberly York

Other Members Present: Eva Wietecha, Danielle Embry, Melanie Fleck, Anais Garcia, Elsa Loya, Gisela Ochoa, Adaeze Oguegbu, Samantha Pierce, Kristen Pogreba Brown, Michael Tearne

• **Announcements:**

- Introductions: Amanda Sokan, PHP Program Director (John Ehiri)
Dr. Ehiri welcomed Dr. Amanda Sokan to the committee. Dr. Sokan is the new Program Director for PHP and HSA in the Public Health Practice and Translational Research department.
- Spring 2021 Schedule – Registration begins November 2nd (Danielle Embry)
Danielle announced that the spring 2021 schedule went live for students on October 1st and registration will begin on November 2nd. She asked Program Directors to review the schedule and send any changes as soon as possible. * The university is making it more difficult to update the schedule, particularly teaching modalities, after students begin enrolling in classes.
- MEZCOPH Curriculum Guide Updates – 2021/2022 Academic Year (Danielle Embry)
OAA will begin work on the new Curriculum Guide this month. Danielle will be contacting all the Program Directors to request updates/changes. * The guide will be finalized in January and published to the website by February 1, 2021.
- New Course & Program Updates (Danielle Embry)
The proposed graduate certificate in One Health has been fully approved by the University and can enroll students beginning spring 2021. The certificate will be available to Main Campus, AZ Online, and Global online students.

Dr. Sokan's Tier 1 Gen Ed course, PHP 150C Aging Everyone is Doing It!, was approved by the UA General Education Committee. It is in the campus-wide 10-day review period through October 12th. If no concerns are raised during the review period, the course will be added to the catalog by the end of October.

The BA in Wellness and Health Promotion Practice, and undergraduate minors in Wellness & HP Practice and Aging and Population Health, have been approved by Curricular Affairs. They will now move on to Undergraduate Council and CAAC for review. If approved by these committees, the BA must also be reviewed/approved by ABOR.

- **Consent Agenda:** (*All voting members*)

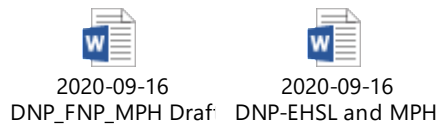
- Minutes Approval: September 2, 2020 meeting



A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda.
The motion was approved by a vote of: 6-0

- **New Business:**

- New Dual Degree Program DNP/MPH (*Samantha Pierce, John Ehiri, Chris Tisch*)



John, Chris and Samantha have been working with representatives from the College of Nursing to develop a fully online dual DNP/MPH degree. Two specialty areas in Nursing, Executive Health Systems Leadership and Family Nurse Practitioner, were identified to align with our current MPH concentrations in Health Services Administration and Health Behavior Health Promotion. Students are expected to complete the program in 3 years + 1 semester. If approved, students would admit into the program beginning fall 2021.

Comments from the committee:

- Students will still be expected to complete all requirements for MPH (i.e., core courses, 42 units etc.) Because of the time to completion, enrollment is expected to be small.
- Recruitment efforts will begin with current DNP students in the spring. The Family Nurse Practitioner specialty has a large cohort.
- There are ongoing discussions on how students will apply. Students may need to submit three applications, one to the Graduate College, one to Nursing and one to MEZCOPH through Sophos.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed DNP/MPH program.
The motion was approved by a vote of: 7-0

- CEPH Changes to Academic Programs (*John Ehiri*)

John shared all the CEPH-approved program revisions with Program Directors and Department Chairs in Box. EPI/BIOS did not have many revisions, but other programs had significant changes. Faculty are encouraged to review the documentation in Box and contact Dr. Ehiri with any questions. *

There were no changes made to the PhD programs in response to CEPH's concerns. Instead, we were able to demonstrate that our current PhD students can curate an individualized curriculum that is distinct from the master's program. Students may choose elective coursework from within Public Health, as well as outside our college, in consultation with their advisor. Our response was approved with commentary that we should continue to develop more 600-level public health courses.

John asked Program Directors to review their programs on the website and make necessary updates to align with these changes. *

- Taskstream – Program Assessment and Reporting (John Ehiri)

Many programs across campus are having difficulty reporting assessment data in Taskstream. The UA is undergoing accreditation in April 2021 and this assessment data is necessary for HLC accreditation.

John asked the Program Directors if they are able to enter data in Taskstream or if they need additional support to complete the reporting process.

Comments from the committee:

- According to assessment reporting procedures from last year, Program Directors are responsible for entering MS and PhD program data and the MPH is handled at the college-level.
- There is limited training on Taskstream and some concern that we are accurately reporting information the UA needs.
- It is important Program Directors share assessment process/data with faculty in the program to ensure competencies are developed collaboratively.
- The general understanding among Program Directors is that there are no concentration-specific competencies at the MPH level in Taskstream. John will investigate the MPH competencies being assessed and report back at our November meeting. *

- **Other Business and Reminders:** (All Committee Members)

- Open Discussion – How is it going this semester? (ie. instructional challenges, student issues, etc.) (John Ehiri)

A D2L course site for fall 2020 instructional updates has been set up and is being utilized by faculty to check for new information. The university is moving into Stage 2 re-entry. There was one course in MEZCOPH identified for Stage 2 but the instructor has decided to continue teaching Live Online.

If faculty have a student in distress, they are encouraged to let John Ehiri and Chris Tisch know (with the student's permission) so they can help connect the student with available resources. Micro-affirmations are effective in helping students feel supported. Faculty are encouraged to be as flexible as possible without compromising fairness or quality in the classroom.

Comments from the committee:

- John and Chris can assist with students in mental health or financial crisis. The instructor has authority to decide course flexibility questions related to late assignments, etc.
- It would be helpful to provide some training to faculty on when and how to appropriately refer students for help.
- The Dean of Students Office and CAPS is available to help students with mental health concerns.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: November 4, 2020 - 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom

***Action Items:**

- (carried over from September meeting) Laura Gronewold will inquire about GE pilot program data with the General Education Refresh Committee. She will report back findings at a future meeting. (Laura Gronewold)
- Program Directors review spring 2021 schedule and send Danielle any updates/changes by October 30th. (Danielle Embry, All Program Directors)
- Danielle will contact Program Directors to request updates to their Curriculum Guide program pages in October, with a deadline of receiving all updates/changes by December 18th. (Danielle Embry, All Program Directors)
- Program Directors review documents in [“Revisions for CEPH Accreditation” box folder](#) and ensure that their program pages on the website are updated to reflect changes made. Contact Dr. Ehiri with questions. (John Ehiri, All Program Directors)

- Dr. Ehiri will investigate the MPH competencies/assessment in Taskstream and report back at the November Education Committee. (*John Ehiri*)