

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting
“Final Meeting Minutes”
November 4, 2015

Members Present: Michael Halpern, MD, *PhD, MPH, Chair*
Jessica Acuna, Kim Barnes (via video conf. - Phx.), Scott Carvajal, Kathleen Crist,
Chris Cutshaw, Beth Jacobs, Devon Moule, Tanya Nemec, Kelly Reynolds, Cecilia Rosales,
Stephanie Springer, Doug Taren, Michael Tearne, Chris Tisch (via Skype), Abba Versace, and
Judy Williamson.

Voting Members Absent: Denise Roe

1. **Consent Agenda Approval:** There was not a voting member quorum at the start of the meeting; therefore the consent agenda items were not approved.

It was noted that student representatives are needed for the Education Committee.

2. **Old Business:**

- a. **UA Online MPH :** (Doug Taren)

Doug gave an update regarding the new online MPH program:

- The first co-hort of forty students has completed and passed the first online MPH program course, EPID 573A (Instructor: Sydney Pettygrove). These students are now enrolled for their second online MPH course, CPH 574, for fall 2015. In addition, we are recruiting for the next cohort for spring 2016, and hope to have 20 - 30 students for the next cohort. We need to start thinking about who will be the section instructors and course directors, who will be assigned to each course.
- b. **Organization of the Student Progress Committee – Identify Chair** (Doug Taren)
Doug initiated discussion regarding the organization of a College student progress committee.

Comments from committee members:

- Should the student progress committee be at the department level or the College level?

- Conduct issues should first be addressed at the departmental level and then if needed, at the College-level. The College-level committee would only need to meet if there was an issue that could not be handled at the departmental level (draft a clear process).
- Separate issues: Academic progress vs. professional conduct and behavior issues.
- Chris Tisch commented that she would be happy to get the committee “rolling” if department representatives (College- level committee members) were identified.

A motion was made and seconded that this professional conduct issue would be brought before the Dean’s Council in order to identify department representatives/ volunteers to serve on a College-level student progress committee, in order to address student conduct issues and to determine the charge of the College-level committee. The motion was approved by a vote of: 5-0.

3. **New Business:**

a. **Education Committee – Reorganization of Duties (Doug Taren)**

Doug presented a document and gave an overview of the description of the roles and responsibilities of the Education Committee, which he compiled from reviewing the minutes from the August 2015 meeting; input from the vote the committee had on what should be done by the departments; the education committee and the academic affairs office; and also from input received from Iman Hakim, Dean (see attachment below):

- Add the following to charge document under roles and activities #5: It reviews new classes and new degree proposals “for overlap, conflicts and synergy”, and approves them before going forward to the University.



Charge of the
Curriculum (Education)

After committee review, a motion was made and seconded to approve the charge of the Curriculum (Education) Committee document, with the change noted above. The motion was approved by a vote of: 4-1 abstention.

b. **RCM Distribution:**

Doug reported that the College is still awaiting approval from Gail Burd, regarding moving forward with remapping CPH courses to departments and course prefix changes (changes and implementation most likely will be effective Fall 2017).

- c. Course Modification – CPH 696V, Public Health Seminar – Instructor: Janet Foote
Kim Barnes gave an overview regarding Janet Foote’s request to increase the units from 1 -2 for CPH 696V. Please see Janet Foote’s justification below and revised course syllabus:



CPH 696V Public
Health Practice Semin



Fall2016SyllabusPHP
696V.pdf

After committee review and discussion, **a motion was made and seconded to approve the course modification request to increase the units from 1 -2 for CPH 696V, effective fall 2016. The motion was approved by a vote of: 5-0.**

Doug Taren commented and asked the program directors to go back to their departments and discuss “rethinking” what constitutes a lecture course vs. a seminar course. We seem to be asking students to do a lot more in our seminar courses.

- d. Academic Degree program – 2016-2017 catalog curriculum updates / program edits:

- MPH/PHP & HSA (Kim Barnes for Cecilia Rosales)
Kim Barnes gave an overview regarding the MPH / PHP & HSA degree program catalog edits (please see attachments below):



PHP_MPH Catalog
Updates_Edits.pdf



HSA_MPH Catalog
Updates_Edits.pdf

After committee review and discussion, **a motion was made and seconded to approve the MPH/PHP & HSA degree program catalog edits. The motion was approved by a vote of: 5-0.**

- BS with a major in Public Health (Stephanie Springer)
Stephanie Springer gave an overview regarding the BS with a major in Public Health degree program catalog edits (please see attachment below):



BSPH_undergraduat
e degree program_SS

In addition, Stephanie will delete the core faculty listed and resend updated document (per recommendation of committee members, as core faculty teaching undergraduate courses can fluctuate from year to year). After committee review and discussion, **a motion was made and seconded to approve the BS with a major in Public Health degree program catalog edits. The motion was approved by a vote of: 5-0.**

- HPS Department / FCH & HBHP Degree Program Catalog Edits
Chris Cutshaw and Scott Carvajal gave an overview regarding the HPS degree program catalog edits (please see attachment below):



HPS Edits_Academic
Catalog 2015-2016_F

After committee review and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the HPS degree program catalog edits. The motion was approved by a vote of: 5-0.

- e. Uniformity of unit number for sub plans under one degree (Doug Taren)
Doug reported on an issue regarding the uniformity of the number for sub plans under one degree. The UA Graduate College requires all concentrations / subplans of one degree program (in this case, the MPH) to require the same total number of units. Requiring the same total number of units ensures adherence to the Graduate College policy that all concentrations/subplans of one degree program must share a minimum 40% of required curriculum. In the case of the 42 unit MPH degree, the total number of required courses that comprise the shared core of the degree must total 16.8. The 15 units of shared required core courses and three minimum required units of internship would satisfy the 40% rule. The total number of curricular units required to earn the degree cannot vary. Doug stated that the new online MPH program requires a total of 42 units, so this will not have to change. However, other concentrations will need to cut down on their required credits. We need to determine how to approach and implement the 42 unit uniformity requirement, which needs to be in place by fall 2017, in order to comply with the Graduate College policy. Currently, CEPH states that to be accredited, an MPH degree must contain 42 units of curriculum. Department program directors will need to discuss these changes with their program faculty and initiate proposals for consistent MPH credit requirements. In addition, the uniformity of unit number for the subplans under the DrPH program (FCH & PHPM) will also need to be consistent, to ensure adherence to Graduate College policy. Doug would like wait to make these curriculum changes, until we have the new CEPH criteria, which will be out in May 2016.

In addition, Doug initiated discussion regarding students who enter the DrPH program without a prior MPH degree and are required to complete the five core MPH courses offered through our College. Doug raised the questions of whether the core MPH concentration course (prerequisite) could be waived, since the DrPH student would be getting this core concentration information from the higher doctoral level concentration course? The committee consensus was that the instructor and doctoral advisor would need to be consulted, in order to waive the lower level prerequisite requirement.

- f. Dual Degree Program for ND/MPH (naturopathic medical degree and master's degree in public health (*Michael Halpern*))
Michael Halpern initiated discussion regarding the recent announcement of the offering of a dual degree program for a naturopathic medical degree (ND) with the Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine (SCNM) and a master's degree in

public health (MPH) with the UA/College of Public Health. Michael stated that this dual degree should have been brought before the Education Committee for review and approval. Doug Taren stated he would like to comment on two issues: 1) the process and 2) philosophical issues. Doug Taren reported that Iman Hakim, Dean signed a MOU request with the Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine (SCNM); this school is outside the UA. Request was then made to the UA Graduate College, as the Graduate College lists these types of relationships are categorized as a dual degree graduate program within the UA. ND students must apply to either the PHP or HSA MPH programs at the UA. We decide if ND students are meeting the admission requirements for our MPH degree program. Students must take all required units for the MPH degree program. Secondly, Doug Taren reported that the SCNM requires all students to have the measles vaccine. In addition, a policy statement is currently being drafted for voting and approval by members of the Association of Naturopathic Doctors, which would state their support for CDC guidelines regarding vaccinations.

Questions concerning the relationship were:

- Is this collaboration undermining major public Health efforts? What is the effect on our College's reputation?
- Our College gets to influence people positively on Public Health, and show individuals in naturopathic medicine how to have more science in their field.
- Is this collaboration undermining major public Health efforts? What is the effect on our College's reputation?
- The collaboration opens up a wider inclusion of naturopathic medicine in the broader public health community. The ND students are seeking more formal public health training. The essential principles of naturopathic medicine are similar to those of public health; health promotion, prevention and patient education.
- We informed CEPH regarding the new UA ND/MPH dual degree program; there was no "push back". We are training people in public health. The MOU is for a 2 year agreement; renewable every two years.

g. MPH Integrative Curriculum – Future Business (Doug Taren)

Doug initiated discussion regarding having an integrated course in place of core courses (which is moving forward at Harvard, Hopkins and Columbia). Doug reviewed the syllabi of our core courses, and laid them out in an excel file (please see attachment below). Doug believes we can integrate the core course material in a better way. It may not be our core course, but the development of an integrated course could address these issues as part of a capstone integrated course. This would be a major curriculum change, which could help measure how well students integrate materials, and may be a better method than the internship reports. A subgroup of the

instructors who teach the (5) core courses could be formed regarding the development of an integrated capstone or core course.



The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next Education (Curriculum) Committee Meeting is **TBA**.

Changes or corrections to the minutes should be submitted to:
Kathleen Crist, Coordinator, Academic Curriculum and Faculty Affairs

*** Action Items:**

- Carry forward tabled items and other issues for discussion to the next Education (Curriculum) Committee Meeting agenda (*Kathleen Crist*) – Next meeting – TBA
- Update 2016/2017 academic catalog and program information per approved department and educational curriculum committee changes (*Kathleen Crist*)
- Route approved course modification for CPH 696V through UA curriculum for catalog update approval (*Kathleen Crist*)
- Identify department representatives / volunteers to serve on a College-level student progress committee (*Deans Council / Chris Tisch*)
- Identification and formation of a subgroup of instructors who teach the (5) core courses regarding the development of an integrated capstone or core course (*College Program Directors and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*)