



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Mel & Enid Zuckerman
College of Public Health

Faculty Assembly Final Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2020

12:00-1:00 pm

Zoom: <https://uahs.zoom.us/j/655620604>

Primary Faculty and Lecturers Present: Janet Foote, *Chair*

Gail Barker, Leila Barraza, Benjamin Brady, Heidi Brown, Jeff Burgess, Stephanie Carroll, Heather Carter, Scott Carvajal, Zhao Chen, John Ehiri, Kacey Ernst, Leslie Farland, David Garcia, Joe Gerald, Lynn Gerald, Laura Gronewold, Iman Hakim, Robin Harris, Elizabeth Jacobs, Aminata Kilungo, Velia Leybas Nuño, Purnima Madhivanan, Mark Martz, Adaeze Oguegbu, Kelly Reynolds, Denise Roe, Cecilia Rosales, Amanda Sokan, Doug Taren, Cynthia Thomson, Terry Urbine, Marc Verhougstraete, Nicole Yuan

Primary Faculty Absent: Halima Alaofo, Paloma Beamer, Ed Bedrick, Melanie Bell, Dean Billheimer, Leslie Dennis, Dan Derksen, Kate Ellingson, Eduardo González Fagoaga, Jennifer Hatcher, Tricia Haynes, Paul Hsu, Chengcheng Hu, Yann Klimentidis, Lindsay Kohler, Mary Koss, Martha Monroy, Sheila Parker, Sydney Pettygrove, Kristen Pogreba-Brown, Rustin Reed, Boris Reiss, Xiaoxia Sun, Jin Zhou

Other MEZCOPH Personnel Present:

Christina Cutshaw, Danielle Embry, Alejandra Gabriel, Maia Ingram, Jean McClelland, Rufugio Sepulveda, Karen Tiggs, Chris Tisch

1. Review / Approval of March 27, 2020 Meeting minutes (*Janet Foote*)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The March 27, 2020 minutes were approved by all voting members present.

2. Update from Dean Hakim (MEZCOPH Furloughs) (*Dean Hakim*)

Dean Hakim reported the U of A is expecting a significant loss of tuition revenue in the fall. There are ongoing discussions regarding multiple cost saving measures, including furloughs. University staff and faculty fully funded by research dollars are not subject to the furlough. Employees with mixed funding, research and state dollars, will be prorated to the state-funded portion of their salary. Some of the more complicated funding scenarios are still being worked out.

Jing Liu and Dean Hakim have prepared a budget based on university projections and do not expect layoffs or to draw from individual accounts at this time. Instructional support, such as TAs, may be reduced.

3. Updates from Associate Deans

a. Academics (CEPH and/or additional updates) (*John Ehiri*)

Dr. Ehiri announced that we have received our CEPH report. There are seven partially met criteria. Dr. Ehiri is working with faculty to address CEPH's concerns and develop a response by the end of May.

The teaching situation in fall 2020 is still evolving. The university would like to resume face-to-face classes and has convened a committee to formulate a safe re-entry plan, which will include widespread antibody testing.

b. Research (research – new opportunities) (*Jeff Burgess*)

Dr. Burgess announced that Kate Ellingson and Epidemiology faculty developed the UA re-entry plan that has been approved by the Provost and UAHS. They are discussing implementation procedures now in coordination with state and local officials.

Scott Carvajal was just awarded an R01 grant to study resiliency factors and stress in southern Yuma County. Kelly Reynolds has been funded by BIO5 to begin research on COVID-19 transmission in sewage. Kristen Pogreba Brown and EPI faculty received funding to study long term health impacts of COVID-19.

There is a research working group organized by RII, meeting on Thursdays at 1:00pm. New research opportunities are updated weekly. If faculty are interested in getting involved, they may contact Kim Patten or Jessica Moon.

4. Student Affairs (Internship Presentations/Convocations) (*Chris Tisch*)

The MEZCOPH Convocation will be conducted online May 15th. OSSAA will be contacting departments for assistance in putting together celebratory videos to show throughout the ceremony.

The MPH internship presentations are online this year. There is an online evaluation form available.

5. Division/Department Reports & Introduction of New Faculty:

a. Community, Environment and Policy (*Kelly Reynolds*)

Joe Gerald is continuing to provide state and local agencies weekly models forecasting COVID-19 trends to help inform policy decisions. CEP has been invited to put together several webinars, informing small businesses of best practices for returning to work.

b. Epidemiology & Biostats (*Kacey Ernst*)

The EPI/BIOS department has been very active with research and response to the COVID crisis. They are offering remote summer internships for students as well as surveying/responding to student needs in their department.

6. Open Discussion – current concerns

Faculty have observed that students are feeling overwhelmed and it's important to let them know we understand and remain flexible. Students in the online program may need more flexibility during COVID, due to responsibilities outside of class, than the typical face-to-face student.

7. Date for next Faculty Assembly meeting

Faculty expressed an interest in having a May Faculty Assembly meeting. A poll will be sent out to determine the date.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm

Changes or corrections to the minutes should be submitted to:

Danielle Embry, *Coordinator, MEZCOPH Academic Curriculum and Faculty Affairs*