

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting
“Final Meeting Minutes”

August 4, 2021

2:00 – 3:00 pm

Drach-A326 and Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86894771259>

Program Directors / Voting Members Present: Ed Bedrick, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Kacey Ernst, Purnima Mahivanan, Chris Cutshaw, Joe Gerald, Aminata Kilungo, Amanda Soka, Terry Urbine, Nicole Yuan

Program Directors / Voting Members Absent: Magdiel Habila, Velia Leybas Nuño, Chris Tisch, Gabriela Valdez

Other Members Present: Mariah Alberty, Eva Batista-Wietecha, Jen Deschenes, Danielle Embry, Melanie Fleck, Elsa Loya, Tanya Nemec, Gisela Ochoa, Adaeze Oguegbu, Samantha Pierce, Michael Tearne

Meeting Recording: <https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/FMANdVMVWQtezo-S83GsSaUtb4FyWpUFkym2yfl4Ay62NzszjntYs3bw8hCR5yjW.HYHr8Dw2CFjmFR9H>

- **Announcements:**

- Admissions Update (*Eva Batista-Wietecha*)



Campus Admission
- 08.02.2021.pdf

Eva shared the most recent Admissions Report. Admissions are up from last year. SOPHAS is now closed to new applicants and current applicants have until August 10th to submit final materials. The next admissions cycle opens on August 18th.

Comments from the committee:

- There is a gap between the number of applications (563) and the number of students who have accepted their offer and registered (116). Some of the discrepancy can be accounted for by one person applying to multiple programs. Total accepted students is 128, so there are a few students who are still matriculating. While total applications are up, the yield is approximately the same as previous years.
- It was asked what differences there are between Epidemiology and Biostatistics curriculum. Epidemiology is focused on the causal determinants of disease and developing prevention strategies. Epidemiologists use biostatistics but they are not biostatisticians. Competencies and curriculum are available on the MEZCOPH website.
- Is there anything we can do as a college to improve the next admissions cycle? The number of deferrals was significantly up this year. We could evaluate the causes for this and develop a plan to address it moving forward.
- We have admitted 58 students to the online MPH and expect to enroll 60-65 new students in the fall. This is about the same as last year. The online program accepts students in spring, summer and fall. Spring 2022 admissions for the online MPH will open on August 18th and close November 1st.

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

- Minutes Approval: May 5, 2021 meeting



2021_5_5 Education
Committee Meeting

- New Course Proposals:

- PHPM 4xx/5xx Addiction and Substance Use Policy (*Joe Gerald*)



PHPM
4xx5xx_Addiction an

- HPS 3xx Introduction to Program Evaluation in Global Health (*Purnima Madhivanan*)



HPS 3xx Intro to
Program Eval Global



Discussion_Rubric_
HPS 3XX_Intro to Prc

- HPS 537 Evidence-Based Methods in Maternal & Child Health (*Purnima Madhivanan*)



HPS 537
Evidence-Based Me

- HPS 4xx/5xx Tobacco Cessation and Coaching (*Velia Leybas Nuño*)



HPS 4xx5xx Tobacco
Cessation and Coac

The Consent Agenda motion to approve was seconded.

The motion was approved by a vote of: 7-0

- **Old Business:**

- Taskstream Program Assessment: Data Collection in D2L (*Jen Deschenes*)

Jen has entered all direct measures into Taskstream. All programs now have direct and indirect assessments. For the next cycle, Jen has communicated with OIA and will report that we are still collecting data on the direct measures. We expect to receive low scores until we have data to report.

D2L is piloting a project which can automatically collect and report on course assessment data. Jen, John and Danielle have been discussing this with D2L and would like the college to participate in the pilot this fall. The assessment data would be collected directly from D2L and used for Taskstream reporting, with minimal effort from the faculty. We would measure the CEPH foundational competencies for the MPH and BS programs by collecting this data via D2L for our core MPH courses and one undergraduate course.

Jen and Danielle will access the course D2L sites to set up the assessment links.

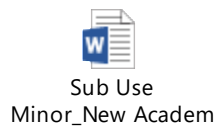
Comments from the committee:

- Which courses would be affected next semester? All core MPH - EPID 573A, BIOS 576A, PHPM 574, EHS 575, and HPS 577 - and one undergraduate course that assesses multiple competencies. If this is an effective method to collect data, the project will be expanded to include concentration courses in future semesters.
- What is the timeline to set this up? D2L is still working on the functionality. Once ready, Jen and Danielle will be reaching out to faculty during the fall semester to access D2L and set up the assessment links. If faculty copy their D2L course site to the spring, the linkages will be maintained.
- It is ideal if there is a common assignment across all sections of a specific class, but variability in assignments that measure the same competency can be worked out.

Jen reminded Program Directors with PhD, DrPH, and MS programs who are using data from dissertations and comprehensive exams, to collect and send the data to Jen by the Taskstream cycle deadline. *

• New Business:

- Proposed Undergraduate Minor in Substance Use (Joe Gerald)



Joe Gerald gave a short overview of the proposed minor, developed by Dr. Ben Brady in CEP, who has a background in substance abuse treatment and prevention.

Comments from the committee:

- The minor has a 200-level course requirement, PHPM 2xx Introduction to Addiction and Substance Use, which has not been developed. Typically, all required core courses should be developed and approved prior to approving a new program.
- It is helpful if at least one course in the minor applies toward undergraduate General Education requirements. PHPM 2xx may be a good candidate for a new Gen Ed course.
- It was asked if the minor addresses evidence-based treatment plans. Joe will ask Ben about this. *
- What is the timeline for approving the minor? Optimistically, it could be launched in spring 2022, but more realistically launched in fall 2022. We have the option to choose which semester we prefer when submitting the proposal to UA.
- Will this minor be available on the AZ Online Campus? AZ Online campus is selective in the undergraduate minors they launch each semester. The program would start on Main Campus and eventually be offered online once approved by AZ Online and enough of the electives are available for online delivery.
- The double-dipping policy as written in the proposal would allow students to share up to 12 units from the minor and a Public Health major. Our other undergraduate minors only allow 6 units to be double used. Recommend that the proposal be changed to align with other minors in the college.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Undergraduate Minor in Substance Use for fall 2022 launch, pending development and approval of the required 200-level PHPM course.

The motion was approved by a vote of: 7-0

- Internship Conference Format (Kim Barnes)

Since spring 2020, MEZCOPH has held the Internship Conference in a virtual asynchronous format. Students would send a link to a Zoom or VoiceThread recording which was posted to our website for two weeks. A feedback form was linked to each presentation and feedback was shared with the students

following the presentation cycle. The committee was asked for input on the preferred format for fall 2021 and future Internship Conferences.

Comments from the committee:

- The virtual format is significantly easier to organize and administer. In the past, students used to assist with organizing the conference, but responsibility has shifted primarily to Kim Barnes and Tanya Nemec.
- A virtual format presents an opportunity to integrate online and face-to-face students. Currently, online and in-person students have separate events.
- Some faculty still prefer in-person presentations. Students benefit from the experience of presenting in-person, but online is more inclusive.
- Students are supportive of the virtual format.
- In fall 2021, the UA is allowing in-person internships again.
- It may be helpful to reach out to students to ask for assistance in improving/optimizing the virtual event. Perhaps a synchronous, online opening/closing session or a short interactive session with each presenter could be incorporated.

Given the uncertainties around Covid-19 this academic year, the committee agreed to keep the Internship Conference virtual for the 2021/2022 academic year and revisit the discussion in summer 2022.

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

- New Health Sciences Design Course (*Danielle Embry*)



HSD Devices
Syllabus Spring 2021

Danielle shared a syllabus for HSD 4xx_5xx Device Design in the Health Sciences: Developing Tools for Healthcare Solutions using Design Thinking. The Health Sciences Design program is a UAHS initiative with the goal of developing interdisciplinary courses/programs that focus on an experiential, design-based approach for solving problems within the health care system. Associated faculty are housed across multiple departments and colleges. The College of Public Health partners with them as an administrative unit.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: September 1, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Drach-A326 or Zoom

***Action Items:**

- Program Directors with PhD, DrPH, and MS programs who are using data from dissertations and comprehensive exams, will collect and send data to Jen by the Taskstream cycle deadline. (*Program Directors with MS and Doctoral Programs, Jen Deschenes*)
- Joe Gerald will follow up with Ben Brady to provide answers to questions about the proposed minor in Substance Use. (*Joe Gerald*)