

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting
“Final Meeting Minutes”

May 4, 2022

2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86894771259>

Program Directors / Voting Members Present: Ed Bedrick, Chris Cutshaw, Andre Dickerson, Joe Gerald, Aminata Kilungo, Velia Leybas Nuño, Amanda Sokan, Terry Urbine, Gabriela Valdez, Nicole Yuan

Program Directors / Voting Members Absent: John Ehiri (ex-officio), Kacey Ernst, Magdiel Habila

Other Members Present: Mariah Alberty, Kim Barnes, Gisela Cardenas, Jen Deschenes, Danielle Embry, Melanie Fleck, Laura Gronewold, Elsa Loya, Christy Lynch, Ryan Maldonado, Tanya Nemec, Samantha Pierce, Michael Tearne

Guests: Benjamin Brady, Doug Campos-Outcalt, Christine Girard

Meeting Recording: <https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/JNYzAkqEpQlcd9RZGsqHOMAs45sL76vj-BtUxZ72jVZwi7gko0IJRtS3yJHCpAc.n5JQ9QiG4shg8NHf?startTime=1651697833000>

- **Announcements:**

- Introductions –OSSAA, Admissions & Recruitment Team (*Andre Dickerson*)

Andre announced that the admissions team has been restructured based on current needs of the college. He introduced new members of the OSSAA team: Ryan Maldonado, Graduate Admissions Professional I, and Christy Lynch, OSSAA Administrative Support Assistant III. Gisela Cardenas has changed roles from OSSAA Administrative Assistant to Recruitment Professional I.

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

- Minutes Approval: April 6, 2022 meeting



2022_4_6 Education
Committee Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda.
The motion was approved by a vote of: 10-0

- **Old Business:**

- Discussion Item: Student Experience in CPH 580 (*Doug Campos-Outcalt, Christine Girard*)
Doug and Christine recapped problems they are seeing in 580. Students think it is too much work for one unit and they have difficulty evaluating research literature. They would like to determine how students are acquiring these skills in the MPH.
Comments from the committee:
 - Doug and Christine were asked to clarify if it is a specific public health topic that is missing in the curriculum or if it is a general skill. It is a generalized skill in analyzing research, discerning quality literature, and critical evaluation of the literature.

- It would be helpful if Doug and Christine could provide feedback on specific assignments in other MPH classes to address this need.
- There may be a disconnect between what we are assuming students are learning earlier in the MPH program and what they are actually exposed to. Biostatistics students do not learn enough about study design in the program.
- Students struggle with critical evaluation of research in several other MEZCOPH classes as well. Perhaps the student survey can illuminate if insufficient time is a major reason that students struggle. It may be more an issue of time than of capacity. It is important to remember that some literature is biased and doesn't include practice-based evidence.
- In HPS 577 and 531, students are required to meet with Jean McClelland to learn how to do a literature review. They are regularly quizzed on the readings which has increased their comprehension and analysis of the literature.
- This discussion will be useful to document in Taskstream to demonstrate steps taken toward program improvement.
- Are there differences in student performance by MPH concentration? This is difficult to determine because assignments are team based.
- Students may not apply as much effort to the assignments due to the course being 1 unit or it may be that 580 is completed during a particularly busy time in the program, when students are taking advanced concentration courses and completing their internship.
- Coordinating with other students to complete the team project is logistically challenging.
- Student's perspective on the course structure and assignments will be important to include in the final recommendations.
- A carefully designed student survey may be useful data to collect as part of this effort. Tying survey questions and student input to a sense of belonging in the course and our college may provide insights.

A motion was made and seconded to create an ad hoc committee that includes Doug Campos-Outcalt and/or Christine Girard, faculty, and students to review concerns in the 580 course and provide progress updates and final recommendations to the Education Committee by the end of the fall 2022 semester. The motion was approved by a vote of: 9-1 abstention

The committee asked that the ad-hoc committee be assembled and supported by the Office of Academic Affairs. Ed will send an email to John Ehiri, outlining the discussion and next steps. *

• New Business:

- Action Item: Proposed Undergraduate Certificate in Addiction and Substance Use (Ben Brady, Joe Gerald)



a. UCERT Addiction and Substance Use_

Ben Brady gave an overview of the proposed certificate. It is an extension of the previously approved minor in Addiction and Substance Use and will be offered fully online.

Comments from the committee:

- It was asked if there is a targeted group of students who we would market the certificate to and if there are fees associated with enrollment. Addiction and substance use has broad appeal within the health sciences and this certificate will address the topic with a public health lens. It is targeted toward undergraduate students how would like to develop expertise in this area and potentially work in this field after graduation. No one could speak definitively to fees associated with the certificate.

- The required introductory 200-level course is being proposed as a Gen Ed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Undergraduate Certificate in Addiction and Substance Use.

The motion was approved by a vote of: 10-0

- **Future Business:**

The two remaining agenda items will be carried over to the June meeting. Kim Barnes will send her discussion out to the committee via email.

- Discussion Item: Internship Conference Modality/Semesters (Kim Barnes)
- Discussion Item: Potential Changes to MD/MPH Tucson Curriculum/Programs (Joe Gerald)

Meeting adjourned at 3:03 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: June 1, 2022 , 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom

- ***Action Items:**

- Ed Bedrick will contact John Ehiri to outline issues in the 580 capstone course as discussed by the Education Committee and request support in the creation of an ad-hoc committee to review and make recommendations for program improvement.

Changes or corrections to the minutes may be submitted to: *Danielle Embry, Coordinator, Academic Curriculum and Faculty Affairs*