

**MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting
“Final Meeting Minutes”**

September 7, 2022

2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86255483666>

Program Directors / Voting Members Present: Leila Barraza, Ed Bedrick, Chris Cutshaw, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Kacey Ernst, Aminata Kilungo, Velia Leybas Nuño, Amanda Soka, Chris Tisch, Terry Urbine, Gabriela Valdez, Nicole Yuan

Other Members Present: Mariah Albertie, Kim Barnes, Gisela Cardenas, Jen Deschenes, Danielle Embry, Melanie Fleck, Laura Gronewold, Iman Hakim, Nicole Johnson, Christy Lynch, Ryan Maldonado, Tanya Nemec, Samantha Pierce, Kristen Pogreba-Brown, Michael Tearne

Meeting Recording:

<https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/Cwuot8aLqllIykcQh3QqnLLbDBgQnD2FTkY4WTjQ2YWlF59kARp4npVrl1DAV5Yh.zPbZKFrpKYJtQnM?startTime=1662584207000>

- **Announcements:**

- Welcome Back (*Dean Hakim*)

Dean Hakim welcomed everyone back for another academic year and thanked the committee for their contributions to the college-wide strategic plan.

Comments from the committee:

- It was asked, in terms of strategic planning and enrollment management, how much effort the college should put toward re-designing our current Gen Ed offerings to match the new Gen Ed Refresh curriculum. The college has already successfully transitioned most of our current Gen Ed courses to the new curriculum. The next phase will be to submit new courses for consideration in the Gen Ed curriculum, likely in spring 2023. We expect to maintain current enrollments in our existing Gen Eds and continue to grow as we develop new Gen Ed courses.

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

- Minutes Approval: August 3, 2022 meeting



2022_8_3 Education
Committee Meeting

- New Course Proposals:

- EHS 2xx - Deadly Hype: Finding Truth in the Age of (Mis)Information (*Aminata Kilungo*)



EHS 2xx Deadly
Hype Finding Truth

This course will be submitted as a Gen Ed when the call for new courses occurs.

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 - Competencies (Committee Update)
The committee met and decided to expand their focus to include a broader range of MPH competencies and assessment outcomes as they relate to 580. Jen will provide more detail in the Taskstream Update.

- **New Business:**

- Action Item: Policy Proposal – Double use of units in MEZCOPH graduate certificates (Michael Tearne)



b. Policy proposal
for Ed Comm Sept 21

Michael provided an overview and rationale for the proposed policy. The college has made changes to our graduate certificates to make them more attractive for students. The intention of these changes is to encourage certificate students to transition into a degree program, not for current degree-seeking students to add another credential. The proposed policy would allow current degree-seeking students to share no more than 6 units between their program and a graduate certificate.

Comments from the committee:

- It was asked if students who complete the graduate certificate in Public Health would have to take additional units if they were accepted into the MPH program. No, students who begin as a certificate student may apply all units taken in the certificate toward the MPH if applicable. The proposed policy only pertains to students going in the opposite direction, who start in the MPH and would like to complete a certificate as well.
- The policy, as written, would pertain to all degree-seeking graduate students at the UA. It may discourage PhD students in another department from pursuing a MEZCOPH certificate if their home department allows double use of units across programs, but we do not.
- It would be helpful to summarize the policy into one sentence and limit it to our current MPH students only.
- Degree-seeking students who would like to complete a certificate may share 6 units with their current degree program and would need to take 6-9 additional units to ensure the certificate was a meaningful compliment to their education.
- It does not make sense to extend the policy to our PhD students as they may be interested in certificates that we do not currently offer minors in. If doctoral students must complete a minor anyway, they may not see a benefit in pursuing a certificate.

Michael will revise the policy language to limit it to our MPH students only and the final version will be circulated for an email vote after the meeting. *

- Discussion Item: Brief Online Program Update (Chris Cutshaw)



MPH Historical
Admission Dashboa



MEZCOPH MPH
Online Ed Cmte Pres

Chris gave a brief overview of current admissions data in the online MPH. We are seeing a significant decrease in overall applications to our program. Applied Epi is a growing proportion of all applications and HSA has steadily declined. There are variances in yield as well. Chris presented some strategies to help the college maintain and grow enrollment in these programs and invited discussion.

Comments from the committee:

- It would be helpful to see yield data broken up by state, out of state, and international applicants. International students have more barriers post COVID-19. The issue of funding is critical.
 - Training grants and funding would attract more students. If we receive them, we should heavily advertise these opportunities.
 - CEPH accredited programs cannot offer a “generalist” MPH degree. The Clinical Leadership program fulfills this for our college.
 - The low number of students who come to UA after being accepted is concerning. The Dean’s Office and OSSAA are discussing new admissions processes that may improve our yield moving forward. These will be presented to Education Committee at a later meeting.
 - It was asked how our admissions numbers compare to similar programs nationwide. The Graduate College is tracking this. UA is down in general but, comparatively, our online MPH is especially low. SOPHAS also tracks trends with other schools. Ryan Maldonado can share this information when it becomes available.
- Discussion Item: New Academic Program forms (*Michael Tearne, John Ehiri*)



c. CPH Exploratory
Form_Final.docx



c. Creating a New
Academic Program C

Michael presented two documents that were developed by the Academic Programs Subcommittee of the Strategic Enrollment Committee. The forms will facilitate a structured process for creating new academic programs in the college and provide a mechanism for all stakeholders to provide feedback, with the goal of ensuring new programs are aligned with departmental and college-wide strategic plans.

**A motion was made and seconded to approve the Academic Program forms.
The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0.**

- Discussion Item: Taskstream Assessment Update (*Jen Deschenes*)
Jen will present this update at the October meeting. We are collecting more data on direct assessments through D2L this semester.
- Discussion Item: Student Representation on the Education Committee (*John Ehiri*)
Carried over to the October meeting. John asked committee members to think about student representation on the Education Committee as it relates to our online, Main and Phoenix campus programs.

- **Future Business:**

- Kacey Ernst proposed having a discussion about the pros/cons of developing new programs vs. focusing on recruitment and advertising our current programs. There is some concern that our new programs are taking away students from existing programs rather than bringing new students into the college.
- **Other Business and Reminders:**
 - Fall Convocation will be on Saturday, September 17th at 7:00pm at Centennial Hall.
 - Chris Tisch will serve as Interim Assistant Dean of Student Services while the college conducts a search for a new Assistant Dean of Student Services.

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: October 5, 2022 , 2:00 – 3:00 pm, Zoom

***Action Items:**

- Michael Tearne will revise the proposed policy on double use of units for graduate certificates and send it to Danielle for a committee vote via Qualtrics (*Michael Tearne, Danielle Embry, All voting members*)
- (from June meeting): The ad hoc committee to review CPH 580 will evaluate how students are learning key competencies in the MPH program and make recommendations to improve student outcomes by the end of the fall 2022 semester. As needed, they will provide updates and solicit feedback from the Education Committee during upcoming Education Committee meetings. (*John Ehiri, Christine Girard, Chris Cutshaw, Ed Bedrick, Jen Deschenes, Nicole Yuan*)

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

Addendum to September 7, 2022 Minutes

- Policy Proposal – Double use of units in MEZCOPH graduate certificates

Michael Tearne modified the proposed policy for graduate certificates based on the committee discussion and provided the following synopsis:

“MPH students who add a graduate certificate program to their record may use no more than 6 credits of course work toward the two, as reflected on their official plans of study.”



Policy proposal for
Ed Comm Sept 2022.

The revised proposal was passed by a vote of 9-0.

Q1 - Proposed policy: MPH students who add a graduate certificate program to their record may use no more than 6 credits of course work toward the two, as reflected on their official plans of study. Please cast your vote for the policy proposal:

