

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting

Final Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2024

2:00 – 3:00 pm, DRACH A326

Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/86255483666>

Committee Members Present: Mariah Albertie, Heidi Brown*, Lyn Durán*, Danielle Embry, Courtney Faryab, Ash Gagliano, Laura Gronewold, Paul Hsu*, Nicole Johnson, Aminata Kilungo* (chair), Bryna Koch*, Katie Lupo, Monica Muñoz, Vanessa Perez, Michael Tearne, Makele White, Nicole Yuan*

Committee Members Absent: Anaiz Acosta, Kim Barnes, Luis Benitez, Chris Cutshaw*, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Lady Elli*, Andrea Gaub, Oluchi Kanma-Okafor*, Velia Nuño*, Kristen Pogreba-Brown*, Amanda Sokan*, Terry Urbine*, Gabriela Valdez*, Abba Versace

Guests Present: Felina Cordova-Marks

* voting member

Meeting Recording: https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/PBtZf_GGuJ-iLaarmzxFi81aho0w-Tl0IEAJpG9WyCKcxILBVXIUjcZ2jdo-AP8E.0_YAbEwW5fxigWyj?startTime=1727902159000

- **Announcements:**

- Proposed syllabus statement acknowledging Native ceremonies/holidays (Felina Cordova-Marks)



Proposed Native
American Traditional ;

Dr. Cordova-Marks introduced a proposed syllabus statement drafted by the Indigenous Health Certificate faculty. There are currently 574 federally recognized tribes with a multitude of religious, cultural and traditional ceremonies. The intention of the statement is to make faculty aware of the diverse reasons indigenous students may need to be absent as well as letting indigenous students know they are supported in the college.

In some cases, the student may not be able to provide details about the ceremony to non-Indigenous faculty. Dr. Cordova-Marks is available as a liaison for faculty and students to discuss their request for an approved absence.

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

- Minutes Approval: September 4, 2024 meeting



2024_9_4 Education
Committee Meeting

A quorum was not present at the meeting. The September minutes will be moved to the November Consent Agenda.

- **Old Business:**

- Discussion Item: International Students Visa Compliance & Online Classes (*Aminata Kilungo*)



International
Student Services Re

Most international students can only take one 3-unit online class per semester to maintain compliance with their visa requirements. After reviewing the list of courses and discussing with faculty, Dr. Kilungo found that most international students are able to enroll in in-person classes and it is not a widespread problem. The committee agreed that, as long as students and faculty are aware of this policy, they can make informed decisions moving forward and the discussion was closed.

- **Other Business:**

- The committee discussed MPH admissions. Biostatistics faculty are interested in a streamlined admissions process and would like to be part of any implementation discussions.
Comments from the committee:
 - Departments and Program Directors are exploring ways to increase their MPH numbers. Anaiz Acosta is available to attend department meetings to collaborate on recruitment strategies.
 - Students have not indicated that there are barriers with the current admissions process. Fee waivers are available for qualifying students. The perception of a streamlined admission process may encourage more students to apply, however. It would be helpful to survey students before making any changes.
 - Implementing a parallel admissions process would create an administrative burden for staff.
 - This may be a more appropriate topic for the Strategic Enrollment Committee, rather than the Education Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: November 6, 2024, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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