

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting

Final Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2024

2:00 – 3:00 pm, DRACH-A326 and Zoom: <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/89445601407>

Committee Members Present: Anaiz Acosta, Mariah Albertie, Kim Barnes, Luis Benitez, Heidi Brown*, Lyn Durán*, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Lady Avila Elli*, Danielle Embry, Courtney Faryab, Ash Gagliano, Andrea Gaub, Laura Gronewold, Paul Hsu*, Nicole Johnson, Oluchi Kanma-Okafor*, Aminata Kilungo* (chair), Bryna Koch*, Velia Leybas Nuño*, Katie Lupo, Monica Muñoz, Vanessa Perez, Amanda Sokan*, Michael Tearne, Terry Urbine*, Gabriela Valdez*, Makele White

Committee Members Absent: Chris Cutshaw*, Abba Versace, Nicole Yuan*

Guests Present: Iman Hakim

* voting member

Meeting Recording: <https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/sb7NJQDamW1X22d9t-0gGMIPD0trIFCoJSaG9k85MEmiqfjuzLzWVGnScZfKcLZ.wFyGMtpWZ3NWGEvn?startTime=1723063655000>

• **Announcements:**

- **Curricular Affairs Deadlines** (*Danielle Embry*)



Curricular Affairs
Deadlines.pdf

Danielle shared new/modified course and program deadlines. In addition to majors, ABOR Executive Chair will review new minor and substantial change proposals and may escalate to full board review and approval. Deadlines for these proposals have been moved up in response.

- **Admissions Update** (*Courtney Faryab, Andrea Gaub, Vanessa Perez*)



Admissions Update
08.07.24.pdf



App Funnel
Comparison PIT F2024



online MPH
admissions.pdf

Courtney, Andrea and Vanessa shared current admissions numbers for fall 2024. Main campus graduate admissions are about the same as last year, while undergraduate and online MPH numbers are up.

- **Data/Assessment Update** (*Luis Benitez*)

PhD assessments have been sent to Program Directors via email. Luis will be sending the list of students who were supposed to take their assessments to ensure they are all accounted for. Comments from the committee:

- Some Program Directors have not received the requests yet. Luis will follow up.

- It was clarified that the requests Luis sent out are for the current assessment cycle due September 30th.
- Poster Forum (*Lyn Durán*)
The Poster Forum will be held on Admitted Students Day in April 2025. They are recruiting a faculty member to serve on the advisory committee. Lyn asked PDs to share the opportunity with their faculty and will send a follow-up email to help get the word out.
- **Consent Agenda:** (*All voting members*)
- Minutes Approval: June 5, 2024 meeting



2024_6_5 Education
Committee Meeting

The Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of 6 – 3 abstain.

- **Old Business:**
 - Guaranteed admission to MPH Update (*Gabriela Valdez*)
Chris and Gaby met with the College of Nursing, who already offer direct admission into one of their programs. They are requesting data to identify where our students are coming from and hope to present a proposal to Education Committee in September.
Comments from the committee:
 - How does this admissions process differ from what we are currently doing? It will streamline the admissions process for qualified students and create a pipeline for UA undergraduates into the MPH.
 - The term ‘guaranteed’ is open to misinterpretation. Students must meet certain conditions in order to be accepted by UA and the college. ‘Direct’ admission is a better term for this process.
 - This option will make the MPH program more attractive to our undergraduate students.
 - This is not the same as an accelerated masters program.
- **New Business:**
 - Discussion Item: Undergraduate Courses (*Andrea Gaub*)



PH Elective
Suggested Updates.

Andrea presented a list of 300/400 level undergraduate electives. In order to create more enrollment opportunities for students, she proposed that these courses be incorporated into BS emphasis areas and offered suggestions for which areas might be appropriate.

Comments from the committee:

- Andrea clarified that students may choose courses from any emphasis area as electives. The only enrollment requirement on an emphasis area class will be course prerequisites and junior/senior standing.

- Program Directors agreed with the course recommendations provided by Andrea and asked for a copy of the list. *
- Discussion Item: Graduate Courses (*John Ehiri*)
 John proposed that each department conduct a review of their Spring 2025 graduate courses and determine where there are duplications and inefficiencies. Solutions may include offering a course every other year or changing the curriculum to remove redundancies.
 Comments from the committee:
 - The focus should be on electives first to avoid impacting study plans and course sequencing. Aligning new courses with current academic programs will also be helpful.
 John will pull enrollment data and identify low enrolled electives share it with Program Directors in an upcoming meeting. *
- Discussion Item: Hybrid Course Sections for Online Classes (*Aminata Kilungo*)
 International students may count one 3-unit fully online course toward full time enrollment each semester. The other 6 units must be in person or hybrid modality. This policy is causing problems for international students due to our limited in-person offerings each semester.
 Comments from the committee:
 - The Live Online modality will not count toward in-person enrollment. Students may take more than 3 units of fully online coursework as long as they are enrolled in a minimum of 6 units in-person or hybrid.
 - SACM students and students on J-1 and F-1 visas have different requirements.
 - There may be ways to structure curriculum and semester plans to maximize in-person opportunities.
 - Some undergraduate international students had to change their emphasis area in order to take in-person classes. Main campus students have expressed frustration at the lack of in-person courses.
 - It would be useful to go through each program and evaluate in-person vs. online offerings every semester.
 - Live Online classes could be taught as hybrid, scheduling them in a room where international students may attend class in-person.
 The committee agreed to continue the discussion at our next Education Committee in September.

Meeting adjourned at 3:01.

Action Items:

- Andrea will share list of BS electives with recommendations for which emphasis areas they will apply to with the Program Directors. (*Andrea Gaub*)
- John and Danielle will pull historical enrollment data and identify low-enrolled classes to share with Program Directors in September or October. (*John Ehiri, Danielle Embry*)

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: September 4, 2024, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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