

MEZCOPH Education Committee Meeting

Final Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2025

2:00 – 3:00 pm, DRACH A326

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

Committee Members Present: Anaiz Acosta, Kim Barnes, Heidi Brown*, Chris Cutshaw*, Lyn Durán, John Ehiri (ex-officio), Danielle Embry, Courtney Faryab, Ash Gagliano, David Garcia*, Andrea Gaub, Laura Gronewold, Paul Hsu* (chair), Nicole Johnson, Oluchi Kanma-Okafor*, Aminata Kilungo*, Bryna Koch*, Katie Lupo, Monica Muñoz, Vanessa Perez, Kristen Pogreba Brown*, Amanda Soka*, Michael Tearne, Terry Urbine*, Gabriela Valdez*, Makele White

Committee Members Absent: Lady Dorothy Elli*, Luis Benetiz, Abba Versace

* voting member

Meeting Recording: [https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/jocqFLti-vBrzMkmtGuW-nhYCeK4cR58MuWCC3SubPN2V-gv5enD91YeYSoQ50YY.O20yEtVLu83qAj3 ?startTime=1738788731000](https://arizona.zoom.us/rec/share/jocqFLti-vBrzMkmtGuW-nhYCeK4cR58MuWCC3SubPN2V-gv5enD91YeYSoQ50YY.O20yEtVLu83qAj3?startTime=1738788731000)

- **Consent Agenda:** *(All voting members)*
 - Minutes Approval: January 8, 2025 meeting



2025_01_08
Education Committee

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

- **Old Business:**
 - Discussion Item: MPH Direct Admissions Update *(Chris Cutshaw)*



Direct Admissions
COPH Concentration

Chris shared an update to the MPH Direct Admissions process. The letter of recommendation and statement of purpose have been removed to simplify the process. Chris asked departments to consider selecting clear, objective criteria that are easy to review.

Comments from the committee:

- Some programs may still prefer to include a statement of purpose and/or letter of recommendation for their admissions criteria. These can be included in GradApp and

required for specific concentrations, although the goal with direct admissions is to differentiate it from holistic admissions and keep the review process as simple as possible.

- The direct admissions process will be marketed as an opportunity for UA students only. Chris will work with Luis to determine how many students are projected to apply.*
- It is up to each program whether they want to participate or not. OSA needs the direct admissions criteria by the end of February.* The process will be operationalized for fall 2026.

- Discussion Item: AI use in the classroom (Paul Hsu, All Committee Members)

Paul invited discussion.

Comments from the committee:

- HPS has discussed it and would like to invite someone to present at faculty assembly since it concerns all faculty.
- PHPPTR has invited Mohan Tanniru to develop an AI policy/strategy for their department, primarily focused on education and teaching. Terry will share the outcome at the next meeting.*
- It is important that our college/departmental policies align with UA policy. The committee will review current AI syllabus statements before the next meeting.*
- Each instructor should have the flexibility to decide what amount of AI use is acceptable in their class. Without reliable detection software, it is difficult to hold students accountable for misuse. The additional labor burden for faculty to develop policies and processes for managing AI use should also be taken into consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date: March 5, 2025, 2:00 – 3:00 pm

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

*** Action Items:**

- Chris and Luis will review historical data to determine how many students are projected to apply through the MPH direct admission process for fall 2026 and report back to the committee. (Chris Cutshaw, Luis Benitez)
- MPH Programs participating in the direct admissions process will submit their criteria to OSA by the end of February. If an MPH program chooses not to participate, they will let Dr. Ehiri know. (All Program Directors, OSA, John Ehiri)
- Terry Urbine will meet with PHPPTR faculty to develop a departmental AI policy and report the outcome of these discussions to the committee in March. (Terry Urbine)
- Danielle will share the syllabus template with current UA AI policies for Program Directors to review. (Danielle Embry, All Program Directors)