

**Graduate School of Public Health
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee
Meeting Minutes | December 1, 2016**

Present: Gerry Barron, Quinten Brown, Yue Chen, Mary Derkach, Ying Ding, Patricia Document, Jim Fabisiak, Nancy Glynn, Sarah Minion, John Shaffer

Absent: Cindy Bryce, Julia Driessen, Yara Elbeshbishi, Eleanor Feingold, David Finegold, Emmy Hackshaw, Robin Leaf

Guest: Martha Terry, Robin Grubs, Mark Friedman

The meeting was called to order at 2:02pm by Dr. Patricia Document, Chair.

**Course Modification – BCHS 2575 | Seminar in Women’s Health and Children’s Health,
Martha Terry**

Dr. Martha Terry was the first guest to EPCC. She presented a course title modification to BCHS 2575. This is an old course taught by Dr. Terry, and is a key component of the Maternal Health Certificate. Dr. Terry, along with her colleagues in BCHS, are creating a Women’s and Children’s Health Certificate (something that will be on the EPCC radar in the future). The change in title is needed to better reflect the future certificate’s content. There will also be a change to the course description, which will also appear in the course catalog.

Action – EPCC would like Dr. Terry make minor edits to the official course description

Action – Quinten Brown will send Dr. Terry an approval letter

**New Course – HUGEN XXXX | Ethical Issues in Clinical and Public Health Genetics, Robin
Grubs**

Dr. Robin Grubs was the next guest to EPCC. She presented a new HUGEN course to the committee. The idea for this new ethics course began as informal meetings between Dr. Grubs, Dr. Lisa Parker (unable to attend the meeting), and students. HUGENH students had a desire for more discussions focusing on the topic of ethics. After holding these informal meetings for years, Drs. Grubs and Parker decided that there was a need for a formal course.

Action – The committee was impressed with the syllabus that was presented, and approved the course with no request for modifications.

Action – Quinten Brown will send Drs. Grubs and Parker an approval letter

BCHS MPH-MSW Policy, Mark Friedman

Dr. Mark Friedman was the last guest to EPCC. He presented a proposed policy change that would impact the joint BCHS MPH/Social Work MSW degree.

Dr. Friedman highlighted to the committee that the GRE was not a standard requirement in the Social Work community. With that being said, he felt that the GRE requirement for admission into the MPH portion of the joint degree was discouraging potential applicant from applying. Dr. Friedman argued that the GRE was an unnecessary barrier. The GRE can be waived for students who have completed an advanced degree in the United States.

Dr. Friedman proposed that students who have completed two semesters of graduate work, an undergraduate statistics course, and have a GPA of 3.25 could be waived from taking the GRE.

Action – The committee voted to reject this proposal, on the grounds that:

- 3.25 GPA is a low bar to set,
- Two semesters of graduate work does not equal the completion of an advanced degree,
- The committee was not prepared to make a school-level change to the GRE policy, and
- The departments already have the capacity to decide upon required GRE scores for admission.

Action – Quinten Brown will send Dr. Friedman a letter explaining the committee's decision

Associate Dean for Education Updates, Eleanor Feingold

- There have been mixed reviews for the Professional Writing Course, in its current state. Couple that with the lack of a universally accepted time to hold the course in the spring, the school will wait to hold the course again until the fall 2017. The school will use this semester's OMET responses to tweak the course.

Approve November Meeting Minutes, All

- Date for next meeting incorrect

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm by Dr. Documet.

Our next meeting will be January 5, 2017 | From 1-30-3:30 pm in room 4128 Parran Hall.