

**Graduate School of Public Health
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee
February 4, 2021 | 1:30-3:30pm**

Present: Andriy Bandos, Cindy Bryce, Jessica Burke, Michael Clark, Michael Dolinger, Thistle Elias, Jim Fabisiak, Eleanor Feingold, David Finegold, Tiffany Gary-Webb, Nancy Glynn, Robin Leaf, Josh Mattila, Susanna Qiao, Giovanna Rappocciolo, Kimberly Rehak, John Shaffer, Elizabeth Van Nostrand, and Yi-Chuan Yu.

The meeting was called to order at 1:33pm by Dr. John Shaffer, chair.

New Program: PA/MPH Joint Program with IDM, Mackie Friedman and Linda Frank [vote required]

Drs. Mackie Friedman and Linda Frank presented an application for a new Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies and Master in Public Health joint degree program in the Department of Infectious Disease and Microbiology joint degree program.

Committee members discussed the potential for other MPH concentrations for the degree program, the positive impact of the MPH students to interact with PA students, and when students enrolled in this program will enroll in the Public Health Foundations course. Additionally, committee members raised concerns over meeting the CEPH requirements of the MPH practicum requirement and asked for those procedures to be ironed out with the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

ACTION: The committee voted to approve that this new program to move forward to the next round of review. This is provided that Drs. Mackey and Frank work with their counterparts at the School of Health and Rehabilitation Services to ensure that the MPH practicum and its supervision and deliverables will meet CEPH's criteria and provide a letter to EPCC from the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences acknowledging this.

Additionally, the committee asked that the proposal be resubmitted with the following actions:

- delete the duplicate admissions requirement and clarify the part about psychology
- discuss the positive influence on the learning environment in the section on impact
- double-check the projected enrollment for year four
- clarify point #2 in the Impact on other University programs section
- explicitly state whether or not the dual degree will lead to decrease in the size of the MS and/or MPH single-degree programs in the Impact on other University programs section

(Updated proposal received as of 2/23/2021.)

Introduction to new committee member, John Shaffer

Michael Clark is a first-year PhD student in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences and joined the committee as the back-up representative at the doctoral level.

ACTION: No action needed.

Update on BSPH program, Eleanor Feingold

Dr. Eleanor Feingold updated the committee that the new BSPH initiative was underway with an inevitable School name change in the process.

ACTION: No action needed.

OMET Commendation Letters for Courses and Potential New Teaching Award, John Shaffer

Dr. John Shaffer raised discussion around two potential initiatives that were raised by Dr. Martha Terry and meant to recognize good teaching across the school in addition to the annual Craig Award.

The first potential initiative was to operationalize a process to send commendation letters to instructors who received teaching effectiveness scores on their OMETs at or above a certain threshold, provided that the response rates were also at a certain percentage. This recognition might be especially useful for junior faculty in their portfolios.

The other initiative was a potential new teaching award. Committee members discussed whether the scope of the Craig Award could be extended to include mentoring as well as instruction. Susanna Qiao, the doctoral-level representative, suggested distinguishing awards between instructors who teach small and large classes.

However, since both the Craig Award nominations and the OMET letters would be student-driven, there was some concern that these signs of good teaching could become popularity contests or benefit those with students who take the initiative.

ACTION: The committee will revisit this discussion after getting input from Dean Lichtveld.

EPCC Operations, John Shaffer

Dr. John Shaffer updated the committee that the updated bylaws for the EPCC committee were sent on for approval.

Additionally, the process for sending out academic issue letters to students has been improving. Dr. Cindy Bryce asked if there could be distinctions between sending out these letters to first semester students.

Finally, potential committee changes on behalf of the addition of the BSPH programs were briefly discussed in addition to the possibility and/or need for a subcommittee similar to the MPH committee.

ACTION: No actions necessary.

Approval of January 2021 Meeting Minutes, All [vote required]

The committee voted to approve the January 2021 minutes.

Reminder: Fall new course submission deadline, John Shaffer

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28pm.

Upcoming EPCC Meetings & Deadlines

- March 4, 1:30-3:30pm, Zoom | Fall 2021 new course submission deadline
- April 1, 1:30-3:30pm, Zoom