

Graduate School Of Public Health
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee
Agenda for May 19, 2016

1:30-2:45 p.m.
110 Parran Hall

A. New Business:

1. WritePlacer Discussion, Eleanor Feingold
2. Math Prep/Bootcamp Discussion, Eleanor Feingold
3. Writing Courses, Eleanor Feingold
4. Approval of April Meeting Minutes, Nancy Glynn (Alternate EPCC Chair)

Next meeting: June 16, 2016 | 1:30-3:30pm, Parran 110

Graduate School of Public Health
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee
Meeting Minutes | April 21, 2016

Present: Quinten Brown, Yue Chen, Jane Clougherty, Hristina Denic, Mary Derkach, Ying Ding, Patricia Documet, Julia Driessen, Eleanor Feingold, David Finegold, Nancy Glynn, Robin Leaf, John Shaffer

Absent: Cindy Bryce and Melanie Callahan

Guest: Robert Krafty

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Dr. Patricia Documet, Chair.

Course Termination: Public Health Overview MPH core course (PUBHLT 2014), Dr. Eleanor Feingold for Dr. Martha Terry (Chair, MPH Committee | formal EPCC sub-committee)

The decision to terminate the PUBHLT 2014 Public Health Overview is the culmination of many discussions within both EPCC and the MPH Committee. PUBHLT 2014's goal was to introduce new students to a wide-range of Public Health topics. This core course was intended to be taken in the first year of a student's academic plan. Unfortunately, this course was being taken by some students later in their studies, and the materials covered in PUBHLT 2014 had been covered in other courses they (the students) had already taken.

The process to eliminate this course began in the MPH Committee. A draft proposal was created in which other core courses were designated as "landing spots" for topics covered in PUBHLT 2014. This draft proposal is the first step regarding distributing topics to other courses, but conversations still remain so that all topics are distributed properly.

EPCC unanimously voted to eliminate PUBHLT 2014.

Action – EPCC would like to see the next iteration of the proposal, specifically related to topic distribution to other courses. The termination will be a part of a change to the MPH core curriculum and be brought to the May Council meeting for a vote. Once the termination is formalized Dr. Feingold will work with the various parties to have the formal paperwork completed, changes to the school's academic handbook, and have the course officially cancelled for the fall of 2016.

BIOST Core Course Revisions Proposal, Rob Krafty (BIOST faculty)

Dr. Rob Krafty presented the next steps with regard to the changes in BIOST core courses.

- BIOST 2041, Introduction to Statistical Methods I, and 2042, Introduction to Statistical Methods II, will no longer both be required as part of one option for the core BIOST course sequence.
- Some materials/topics will be removed from BIOST 2042, and moved to BIOST 2041. BIOST 2041 will now be the option for a math-heavy core course. This will also give students more options regarding the ability to add an elective to their studies.
- BIOST 2042 will no longer be a core course.
- BIOST 2011, Principles of Statistical Reasoning, will be tailored to students who need to understand procedures/methods related to biostatistics. BIOST 2011 will also be offered in the spring, moving from the fall. This will allow students who are taking BIOST 2011 to prepare for the course.

The syllabi for BIOST 2011 and BIOST 2042 are a work in progress, but the restructuring of the BIOST courses is well underway. Program Directors are on board with the proposed changes, and have been consulted throughout the process.

EPCC unanimously voted to approve the proposed changes to the BIOST classes.

Action – EPCC has requested that the syllabi for BIOST 2011 and BIOST 2042 come back to the committee for review, once they have been finalized. This change to the BIOST core curriculum will be brought to the May Council meeting, along with the PUBHLT 2014 course termination, for vote at the school-level.

Drafting Procedures for Various Types of Student Appeals, Patricia Documet

A policy was created a couple of years ago with regard to how student appeals of dismissal for exam failure are handled. This document was distributed to the committee, and members were asked to review the document, as well as brainstorm ways to update the document to deal with all other avenues of student appeals to dismissals. The school-level probation and dismissal policy will be revised this summer by Eleanor and Mary.

Schedule Fall Meetings, Patricia Documet

Action – EPCC will be moving their fall meetings to the 1st Thursday of the month, at the same time. This was done in order for the EPCC meeting to take place before the Pitt Public Health Council meetings. The meeting dates and location will be sent to the committee before or at the next meeting.

Current Issues in Health Law (HPM 2005) Course Follow-Up

Mary Derkach reached out to the Registrar's office for clarification related to Elizabeth Van Nostrand's proposed new course. Mary is awaiting final word from the Registrar, but it appears that the proposed course will be split into two separate, one-credit courses. This course is unlikely to be cross-listed with the Law School due to historical complexities with course scheduling by the Law School that can no longer be made for new courses outside of the Law School.

The March meeting **minutes were** approved, with one minor edit:

- Where the next scheduled meeting is announced, the month of March should be changed to April.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32pm by Dr. Documet.

The next meeting is Thursday, May 19, 2016, 1:30-2:45 p.m. (due to the 3:00 p.m. school-wide all faculty meeting with the Dean and Dr. Levine) in room 110 Parran Hall. Dr. Nancy Glynn will serve as the interim chair, as Dr. Documet is unable to chair this meeting.