Academic Affairs Update

Anna Maria Siega-Riz, PhD, RD
May 1, 2014
Topics to be discussed

- New Core Public Health Competencies for the MPH program
- Faculty Awards
The MPH degree should be clearly distinguished from the BSPH and the DrPH.

The MPH should be designed as an advanced degree focused on specialist education that is directly responsive to the needs of students and their prospective employers.

Public health is inherently interdisciplinary and interprofessional and, thus, MPH graduates must be prepared to function in increasingly interdisciplinary and interprofessional roles and settings.
Design Features of a 21st Century MPH Degree

- Rigorous, structured, and carefully sequenced curriculum that may require prerequisite learning.

- Include in-depth education in concentration areas that are responsive to the interests of students, the strengths of the institution, and the needs of employers.

- 42 credit hours
Design Features of a 21st Century MPH Degree

- The common element of all MPH degrees should be a well-designed core that covers critical and interdisciplinary content in foundational areas of public health.
  - comprise no more than a third of the content or credit.
  - can be delivered as a series of integrated learning experiences rather than as a set of distinct courses in the traditional core disciplines.
Core Public Health Competencies

- Have been reduced to 12 (two examples):
  - Concepts, methods, and tools of public health data collection, analysis and interpretation, and the evidence-based reasoning and informatics approaches that are essential to public health practice
  - Identification and pursuit of opportunities for promoting health and preventing disease across the life span and for enhancing public health preparedness
Strategy for Implementation

Online Global MPH will serve as the pilot of an integrated core public health curriculum

- Team is designing the overall structure of the Global MPH with advice from
  - Chairs and Dean Rimer
  - Online Task Force (representatives from each dept.)
  - Center for Faculty Excellence

- Coordinator for Curriculum and Pedagogy
  - Work with faculty who are selected to teach the modules to develop the online materials

- ITS staff
Timeline for the online Global MPH

2014-2015
conceptual planning by team and then creation of core modules by instructors and coordinator for curriculum and pedagogy (C & P)

Summer 2015
small cohort integrated modules with stand alone EPI and BIOS

Fall 2016
larger cohort with a fully integrated core to be offered Spring 2017
Residential MPH

2015-2016
• Creation of a residential task force
• Work with the online task force and coordinator for C&P to create comparable material

2016-2017
• Tweak course material from the lessons learned from the online implementation of the fully integrated modular course

2017-2018
• Offer integrated core as a pilot to incoming students
• Tweak course content based on feedback from students and instructors

2018-2019
• Integrated core modules fully implemented into the MPH degree programs

CEPH reaccreditation
Glass Half Full

- Integrated core will lay the foundation for public health core knowledge and skills that allow students to dive into their concentration coursework.
- More interdisciplinary, responsive to a recurrent demand of Gillings students
- Faculty will be teaching modular components (effort intensive but shorter period of time).
- Meet the demands of the 21st Century workforce
- Keeps us in a position of competitive advantage
Change is hard!
But together we can accomplish it!
Faculty Awards

John E. Larsh Jr. Award for Mentorship
Steve Wing, PhD, associate professor, EPID

Edward G. McGavran Award for Excellence in Teaching
Lewis Margolis, MD, MPH, associate professor, MCH
Doctoral Hooding Ceremony

Saturday, May 10
9:30 a.m.
Dean Smith Center

Speaker: Carolina alumnus, Dr. Timothy Beatley, the Teresa Heinz Professor of Sustainable Communities in the Department of Urban and Environmental Planning within the University of Virginia’s School of Architecture
Bus provided to take faculty from Hooding Ceremony to SPH Commencement
2014 SPH Commencement

Saturday, May 10, 1:00 p.m.
Carmichael Arena

SPEAKER: Dr. Nicole Bates, Senior Program Officer of Global Health Policy and Advocacy at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
SPEAKER: Dr. Atul Gawande, a celebrated surgeon, best-selling author, professor of HPM at the Harvard School of Public Health and of surgery at Harvard Medical School