Creating the Gillings MPH Core

Our vision . . .

We’re one of the top-ranked SPHs. We should **lead change** in developing the Gillings MPH core (high quality, student-centered, innovative).

Together, we have the **experience, knowledge, leadership and commitment** to create the next generation Gillings MPH Core.

Together, we can determine how. **Process, structure and content** are ours to decide.
Skills and content defined in the proposed criteria are derived from several sources, including:

- *Framing the Future MPH Panel Report*
- *DrPH Panel Report*
- *Competencies defined by Council on Linkages between Academia and Public Health Practice*
- *Initial feedback from public health job task analysis, currently in draft format, from the National Board of Public Health Examiners*
We will create a curriculum that:

- Maintains our high standard of excellence;
- Is tailored to Gillings School;
- Provides essential 21st century content and skills; and
- Reflects input from all key stakeholders.
Gillings MPH Core Planning Committee

Members

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Creating the Gillings MPH Core

Beginning our Engaged Planning Process…

- Panel discussion with deans from Boston, Harvard and University of South Florida
- Completed all Departmental visits
- Conducted Town Hall meetings
- Held student Town Hall meeting and focus group discussion
Establish principles to guide process; adopt some processes used by other Schools.

Optimize fit of core content to MPH & related degree programs (“the devil is in the details!”).

Maintain rigor; don’t water down content.
Town Hall Meetings/
Department Visits
Key Themes, February–April 2015

- Create our own map of competencies.
- Engage with departments every step of the way.
- Evaluate from multiple angles.
- Maximize flexibility.
Departments urged us to...

- Phase in new curriculum.
- Consider how BSPH, MSPH & DrPH articulate with MPH.
- Remember that core courses are relevant for other degree programs, too (PhD, others).
- Consider differences between residential/distance programs; how certificates and dual degrees fit.
Student Focus Groups…

Taking all core courses in Year One would be a plus. Would give students:

- Same set of core concepts;
- Shared vocabulary and skills;
- Good preparation for summer placements.
Student Focus Groups…

- More opportunities to **apply and integrate course content** would be a plus.

- A **big project integrating core course areas** would be great; but keep weekly homework in BIOS and EPID!

- How about a **real world “Gillings project”** in the community? Would be a great experience and a great recruitment tool!
Student Focus Groups…

- **Standardize core course content** to reduce variability across different sections.
- **Put a strong emphasis on excellent teaching and pedagogy.**
Gillings MPH Core Planning Committee: Our Planning Roadmap

Meeting 1
(May: 3-4 hrs):
Sort Competencies
- Map CEPH MPH foundational skills and content to ASPPH
- Critical Content of the “Core”
- Activity: Sort competencies
- Check against guiding principles

Meeting 2
(June: 4 hrs):
Create “Buckets” and Initial Prototypes
- Take sorted competencies and group into “buckets” of content.
- Add model/structure and create initial prototypes
- Check against guiding principles

Meeting 3
(July: 3-4 hrs):
Stakeholder Feedback
- Discuss initial prototypes with MPH directors
- Incorporate MPH director feedback; refine prototypes
- Begin survey/interview development process

Meeting 4
(Aug-Sept: 3-4 hrs):
Design /Revise Prototypes
- Deploy surveys/interviews
- Use data from surveys/interviews to revise prototypes
- Check against guiding principles
- *Present recommended prototype for approval*

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Continuing Our Engaged Planning Process
...what you can count on from us....

- Ongoing opportunities for providing feedback and sharing your thoughts, opinions, insights...
  - Departmental representation and engagement in the planning process
  - Communication – updates on the website, newsletter, other channels
  - Iterative planning process that solicits input....
    ✓ At each phase of the planning process
    ✓ From faculty, staff, alumni and students
    ✓ Just-in-time input from key constituents

- We will adhere to our core vision, values and guiding principles using the consensus development process.
Continuing Our Engaged Planning Process

...next steps....

- Planning Committee follows the roadmap as described
- Fall, 2015: we produce a prototype MPH core and submit for approval process
- Once MPH core is approved....
  - Hand off to the “Design and Implementation” Committee
  - Simultaneously hand off to the Evaluation Committee with a goal of continuous quality improvement
Discussion
Save the Date: Next Town Hall Meetings

- Friday, September 4, 10:00am, 2301 McGG
- Wednesday, October 7, 3:00pm, 2308 McGG