

Minutes – MPH Coordinating Meeting  
April 25, 2008

**Meeting Began:** 10:00 am

**Members Present:** Dr. Betsy Barrett, Dr. David Dzewaltowski, Dr. Lisa Freeman, Dr. Dan Fung, Dr. Mark Haub, Dr. Carol Ann Holcomb, Dr. Bob Larson, Dr. Mary McElroy, Dr. Deanna Retzlaff

**Special Guests:** Dr. Curtis Kastner, Dr. Denis Medeiros, Dr. Sandy Procter

**KU Faculty:** Dr. Doug Bradhorn, Dr. Won Choi, Mary Anne Woirhaye, Dr. Ed Ellerbeck, Melissa Anderson

**Announcements:**

- Graduate Certificate was on the April agenda for the Faculty Affairs Committee and if passed, will go before the Faculty Senate in May.
  - No current issues noted
  - A 1-page application form will be posted on the website following approval
- Transition
  - The program will be moving to Vet Med with Dr. Bob Larson serving as the Interim Director
  - The Provost is funding the Program Assistant position
  - The search committee has finished the position description for the permanent director position and has forwarded it on to Affirmative Action
    - The search will start immediately

**Discussion with KU-MPH Faculty**

- Current KU program – Dr. Choi/Dr. Ellerbeck
  - Currently have about 112 students (2/3 in Kansas City, 1/3 in Wichita)
  - Many of the courses offered through the Wichita campus are on-line
  - Program is located within the Department of Preventive Medicine on the Kansas City campus and the Department of Preventive Medicine on the Wichita campus
  - A Biostatistics Department has been newly formed on the Kansas City campus
  - PhD in Health Policy and Management is also offered on the Kansas City campus
- Difference between a Doctor of Public Health degree verse Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health
  - Dr. PH degree was created after World War II to create an upper level PH degree without the need to complete a dissertation

- Most schools have retired the degree because the need in state health departments is now for individuals with research experience
- KSU-KU curriculum exchange
  - KU is currently working with UMKC to allow students to take courses on the other campus for in-state tuition rates
    - Students enroll as non-degree seeking, complete course, and transfer course back to home school
  - Great Plains IDEA probably the most effective way to share courses between the two universities
    - Home school must list the course in their course catalogue, prevents the need to transfer courses
  - KU currently participates in Public Health Grand Rounds – allows interaction with health departments and university is considering it as a requirement
  - KU looking to develop concentrations in epidemiology, biostatistics, social behavioral and health, health policy and management, and environmental health
- Accreditation
  - Internal bias against multi-campus programs
  - Executive director is available to review programs in initial stages of development
  - Looking for concentration oriented programs rather than a generalist program
    - CEPH still requires traditional areas be addressed
    - Labeling of areas is important
  - Need creative distance education approaches
  - Program needs to be independent of other degree programs
  - Consistency is key when applying and showing program development
  - KU and KSU programs will not hurt one another, CEPH looks for programs meeting the need of the state
  - Undergraduate degree programs are not favored and can decrease accreditation chances
    - Most UG degrees have been eliminated due to lack of available jobs
  - Will look for faculty with MPH or PhD in public health degrees
    - Need at least three per concentration area