
Minutes

Present: Cates, Freeman, Fung, Retzlaff, Rosenkranz, Stevenson

Absent: Barrett, Choma, Dzewaltowski, Larson, McElroy, Scott, Procter

1. Dr. Cates called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.
2. The minutes from March 11, 2010. No quorum present, minutes will be approved via Axio survey.
3. Applications for MPH Graduate Faculty. No quorum present, applications will be voted on via Axio survey.
4. Dr. Fung updated us on FDSCI 713 (2 hrs) XXX KSU International Microbiology Workshop scheduled for June 11-18 open to students. It is an intensive course that runs from 8 am to 8 pm; 25-30 companies come and present their products; approximately over 4,000 participants have taken the course.
5. BS/MPH option. No snags so far; on Graduate Council agenda for 4-6-2010. It then goes to Faculty Senate Academic Affairs and to Faculty Senate for final approval.
6. Dr. Cates distributed the information he prepared for his meeting with Provost Mason on 3/30/2010 (below) and updated the group on the discussion. Dr. Mason is supportive of the MPH program and offered a safety net to the departments impacted by the growth in enrollment. She thought it was a good idea to ensure that all MPH students be given the opportunity to attend all core classes during their first year. She said she was willing to provide some support toward extra sections, preferably in more than one semester during the calendar year.

Because of the CEPH requirements for 3 "full-time" faculty PER emphasis area, she encouraged us to consider consolidating some of our areas of emphasis (probably to two).

She also questioned why we have 55 faculty, yet still have trouble finding enough advisors for our new students in a timely fashion. This possibility was discussed and the possibility of combining Infectious Diseases/Zoonoses with Food Safety/Biosecurity AND Public Health Nutrition with Public Health Physical Activity. One comment made was that we may be solving a problem that doesn't exist.

Also discussed was the idea of a new governance structure and better inclusion of student representation in our program's administration. Some possibilities could include a Senior Executive Council (with partnering Deans or their representatives), moving the program formally to an academic home (out from under the Grad School), and a MPH Student Council (with representation on the Coordinating Committee). Other thoughts are definitely welcome.

Dr. Cates has a meeting with the deans and department heads scheduled for May 3.

7. Competencies for each emphasis area and associated requirements were discussed in light of the possibility that some emphasis areas may be combined. It was agreed that they could wait until the decision was made on combining emphasis areas.
8. Excellence in Public Health was reviewed. All agreed it was a good reception. Suggestions made to make it better and maybe get more student involvement included: door prizes, invite community entities that deal with public health to attend and have displays if they desire, pattern it after Excellence in Food Science day which has student poster competition, field trip, industry speaker. Dr. Freeman told of an activity that linked students with externship partners that was patterned after speed dating, where the students and externship representative were paired up for 3-5 minutes each and then rotated.
9. Drs. Freeman and Rosenkranz will be leaving K-State after this semester. Dr. Rosenkranz is going to Australia and Dr. Freeman is going to the Northern Illinois University.
10. Dates and location of future meetings (below). Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month. Time will be 1:00 to 2:30 pm.
 - May 13 – 209 Union
 - June 10 – 112 Trotter Hall
 - July 8 – 209 Union
11. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.