

MPH Program Highlights – 2012

MPH Graduates: We had 21 graduates in Fiscal Year 2012, by far the highest one-year total of graduates in our program's history. We exceeded the 3 year target set by the Provost's office in 2009 (i.e., a 3 year total of 39 graduates versus the Provost's target of 33). You can see from one of the charts that our graduates have gone on to a very diverse mixture of further education or jobs in local, state, federal, university, non-profit, and for-profit organizations. Our total number of graduates is now 65, and 17 of those have both DVM and MPH degrees.

MPH Students: We had 39 new students start in Academic Year 2012, bringing the yearly average for the past 3 years to 39. As a comparison, we averaged less than 10 new students per year for the first 6 years of this program. For AY 2012, we had more students (93) enrolled in fall semester courses than in any previous year, and there are now 95 students who have made some progress, in the past 12 months, on their graduate certificate or degree. The total number of MPH program students' credit hours was 1308 for this academic year, significantly higher than any other year.

MPH Faculty: We are fortunate to have a total of 55 MPH faculty, 12 of whom are considered "primary faculty" by guidelines from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH). Our graduate faculty members are currently from 5 colleges / 11 different departments at Kansas State University.

Kansas Board of Regents Program Review: We completed the recurring Kansas Board of Regents review of our program, exceeding all their requirements, and the university's recommendation was to continue the program.

CEPH Accreditation: We have made multiple adjustments to our program, in an attempt to meet accreditation criteria. These include a newly approved curriculum for each of the areas of emphasis, aligned with required competencies; a new governance structure, to include all participating deans and department heads; the provost's commitment of additional annual funds to the academic home, for administration of the program in coming years; commitments from the participating colleges and departments regarding curricular, faculty, and other support; increased field experience sites; and enhanced programmatic and student learning assessment through collaboration with the Office of Educational Innovation and Evaluation. The CEPH staff recently reiterated continuing concerns regarding our governance and financial models, specifically as they impact curricular control, and we will continue to work with faculty and senior administrators toward possible solutions.

Student Travel Awards: In the past year, MPH students received \$15,980.00 in travel awards--\$7980 from the MPH Foundation Accounts, through donations to the College of Veterinary Medicine Development Office, and \$8000 from the College of Veterinary Medicine Dean's Office. Travel awards for MPH students have totaled \$26,480.00 — \$12,480 from the MPH Foundation Accounts and \$14,000 from the College of Veterinary Medicine—since we started making them available in Summer 2010.