

K-State MPH Spring 2020 Summary

TO: K-State MPH Executive Council

Members: Dr. Ellyn Mulcahy, Director, Master of Public Health Program
Dr. Derek Mosier, Department Head, Diagnostic Medicine and Pathobiology
Dr. Craig Harms, Department Head, Kinesiology
Dr. Tanda Kidd, Department Head, Food, Nutrition, Dietetics and Health
Dr. Christopher Vahl, Department Head, Statistics
Dr. Mike Day, Department Head, Animal Sciences and Industry
Dr. Elizabeth Davis, Department Head, Clinical Sciences
Dr. Brian Spooner, Division Head, Biology
Ms. Julie Gibbs, MPH, Riley County Health Department

Last Executive Council meeting: November 19, 2019 (minutes attached for approval).

Semester Highlights:

- Full-cycle KBOR report due June 15, 2020 (submitted report attached).
- CEPH Interim Report due July 29, 2020 will be reviewed at CEPH September meeting (report attached).
- Public Health certificate is now online, students can enroll for Fall 2020.
- Focus on recruitment: Ad Hoc committee created to help with recruitment. One-page summary flyers created for each emphasis area for faculty to link to in their individual emails and on websites. MPH website continuously updated with information to use for recruitment. Videos created to recruit veterinarians for use at upcoming conferences and orientations for new students. Videos from MPH faculty created/featured on MPH website.
- MPH students helping local health departments with COVID-19 tracing and responses.

FAC Meetings:

- The MPH Faculty Advisory Committee has continued to meet via Zoom this spring. Below is a summary of the meetings and what is happening in the program.

Meeting Date	Main Purpose of Meeting
Monday, February 10	Annual Assessment Review: used to review all MPH survey data as required by CEPH, summary below.
Monday, March 16	Used to work on full-cycle KBOR report due June 15, and continue work on CEPH Interim Report due July 29. Note both reports are attached.
Monday, April 13	Used to finalize full-cycle KBOR report due June 15, and continue work on CEPH Interim Report due July 29.
Monday, May 11	Discussion on looking forward to fall semester, continued interaction with students to ensure they feel connected, explore other remote APE sites, and marketing for MPH degree.
Monday, June 8	Email meeting to approve minutes and other pending items.

Review and Discussion of Survey Data:

Ct	Survey	When Launched	Dates	Notes
1	Alumni Survey	Survey sent one year after graduation. Generally launched in spring/summer	2017, 2018	Qualtrics survey, used Qualtrics report feature
2	Assessment Survey	Assessment right after defense by committee	Oct 2018 to Current	Qualtrics survey, used Qualtrics report feature
3	Exit Interview Summary	In-person exit interviews conducted by program director (new in 2019)	May & Dec 2019	Summary prepared from notes

Spring 2020 Summary – Executive Council

4	Exit Survey with Comments	Survey sent right after graduation	2018, 2019	Qualtrics survey, used OEIE Dashboard report feature
5	MPH Entrance Survey	Survey sent in October each fall to new students	Sept 2019 to Current	Qualtrics survey, used OEIE Dashboard report feature
6	Preceptor Evaluation of APE	On website and filled out by preceptors	2017, 2018, 2019	Qualtrics survey, used OEIE Dashboard report feature
7	Student Evaluation of APE	On website and fill out by students after APE experience	Dec 2016 to Current	Qualtrics survey, used Qualtrics report feature

Going forward data from the previous year will be reviewed. If there is a need for longitudinal data, it will be extracted for comparison. Comments concerning each survey included:

Ct	Survey	Comments/Plans Moving Forward
1	Alumni Survey	Add a question and/or restructure questions concerning competencies. Add questions for DMP/IDZ graduates: If you were a dual student, do you currently have a job as a clinical veterinarian? How do you incorporate your MPH degree into your job as a veterinarian? If you were a dual student, do you feel the MPH degree was valuable to attain in addition to your DVM? Review how we work with students for resume/CV review. Could we offer a session with the Career Center?
2	Assessment Survey	There was a discussion concerning the “not met” category of competencies. Could a student still “pass” and be awarded an MPH? It was decided that some of the concerns could/should be dealt with in a variety of ways, including addressing the competency in the edits to the ILE. The student could also be asked to repeat the oral exam or a variety of other options allowed by the Graduate School. When discussing the usefulness of this survey it was noted this survey fulfills our Graduate School and KBOR requirements for assessment.
3	Exit Interview Summary	Dr. Mulcahy gave the group her impressions from the in-person interviews with graduate students. These included including more about race and ethnicity in lectures and assignments. Please update your lectures and include health information for minority and other underserved groups. How do we incorporate more diversity in our program, our courses, our student club meetings? We can work to incorporate these into our alumni panels or other panel meetings we have with our students.
4	Exit Survey with Comments	List competencies on assignments that assess the MPH competencies covered in classes to help students understand the connection. Work to improve and increase the listing and connections with competencies in lectures and assessments more clearly.
5	MPH Entrance Survey	Change question about where to find competencies to “How confident are you that you can find the MPH competencies ...”
6	Preceptor Evaluation of APE	Reinforced the skill agencies/employers expect students to have concerning statistics and epidemiology and that students need to be able to use SAS, R and/or other software used for analysis of data (epi-tracks).
7	Student Evaluation of APE	Student comments reflect they are having real-life experiences. With few exceptions, students have a positive experience at their APE site. Students’ comments also reinforced the requirement that the APE needs to be towards the end of their coursework.

In addition to the above, discussion/suggestions not to a specific survey are below:

- Peer tutoring for core classes. (This is in the proposal for development funds for online program)
- Strongly encourage use of Career Center. Students that use their services tend to do a better interviewing and getting their first job, and advancing throughout their careers.

Spring 2020 Summary – Executive Council

- Identify classes that could be used to strengthen a student's statistical ability including SAS and R. This would enhance their employability and performance during APE. Reference was made to *The Little SAS Book*, and SAS website lists training opportunities, some of which are free in their e-learning courses.
- MPH Seminar with professionals and/or alumni from the field was discussed.
- List of suggestions for Comprehensive Public Health Group with speakers, activities, etc.
- The MPH office sends out job opportunities when they are received. There was a brief discussion if this should be on a more regular basis. No consensus was reached.
- Dr. McElroy will share details of New Faculty Forum that involves faculty from under-represented groups.

Student Numbers for Spring and Summer 2020 Update:

Emphasis Area	Continuing Spring 2020	Admitted Spring 2020	May & August Graduates 2020*	Admitted (Summer & Fall)	Total
Certificate Only	7	3	1	1	10
Food Safety	3	1	1	1	4
Infectious Diseases	41	2	7	9**	45
Public Health Nutrition	10		2	2 + (1***)	11
Public Health Physical Activity	8		2	1	7
Total	70	6	13	14	77

*Number includes Sp 2020 graduates and Su 2020 graduates that have defended or have a defense date.

**Includes 2 International students that may or may not be able to enter the country and start the program.

***Certificate student continuing on to complete MPH degree, PHN emphasis not in admit count.

Spring and Summer 2020 Graduation Update:

#	MPH Student	Area	Defense Schedule
1	Souza, Kolia	Cert	Certificate student (continuing on to complete MPH degree in PHN)
2	Tomasek, Rebecca	IDZ	March 4 @ 3:00 PM Trotter Hall Rm 112 – Poultry Disease Prevention and One Health Education
3	Bardouche, Kasi	PHPA	April 6 @ 2:30 PM via Zoom – Worksite Wellness Improving Physical Activity and Nutrition to Combat Obesity
4	Manges, Tim	IDZ	April 9 @ 9:30 AM via Zoom – Results of the 2017 Kansas Public Health Workforce Assessment
5	VanGilder, Rachel	PHN	April 10 @ 2:00 PM via Zoom – Improving Access to Good Nutrition in Riley County, Kansas
6	Winslow, Daniel	PHPA	April 13 @ 2:00 AM via Zoom – Childhood Active Transportation Determinants and their Effect on Adult Active Transportation (CADET)
7	Blattner, Brittany	IDZ	April 15 @ 10:30 AM via Zoom – Opioid Overdose Crisis Prevention in Riley County, Kansas
8	Achakzai, Ariana	PHN	April 15 @ 2:30 to 4:30 PM via Zoom – Nutrition Outreach Efforts through the Manhattan/Riley County Food and Farm Council
9	Welshans, Nicole	FSB	May 7 @ Noon via Zoom – Increasing Awareness of the Dangers of Vaping for Students at Rossville Junior/Senior High School
10	Brock, Kayla	IDZ	May 18 @ 9:00 AM Tentative via Zoom – Health Education in Riley County, Kansas
11	Foley, Kaitlin	IDZ	July 16 @ 9:30 AM via Zoom – Experiences with Emergency Management for Public Health at Fort Lewis, WA
12	Ragan, Jacquelyn	IDZ	August via Zoom – Experiences at the Salina County Public Health Department in community public health activities in rabies education
13	McIver, Katharine	IDZ	August – Defended, completing report to graduate

Spring 2020 Summary – Executive Council

FYIs/Reminders/Items:

- GRE requirement for applications is temporarily suspended until test sites are up and running. Student must email and ask for a waiver.
- The Riley County Health Department has received its 5 year initial accreditation from the Public Health Accreditation Board.
- Student posters to communicate on COVID-19 topics are posted on the website.
- MPH virtual graduation and a presentation of students' APE products on the website.
- KPHA annual meeting in Manhattan rescheduled to November 2020.

Program Challenges Related to COVID-19:

Challenge	Comments
All student travel cancelled for Spring/ Summer.	Impacted APE projects, especially those that were going to travel nationally and internationally. The director reached out to local and state agencies and created a list of projects students could work on remotely; allowing students to work on projects in this way should not impact their timeline to complete the program. MPH office worked with students individually to plan for an alternative summer, including possible different plans for projects and for coursework. Dr. Kastner offered a section of DMP 815 (required for IDZ) to allow students to take a required course during the summer semester.
National Public Health Week (NPHW).	Moved to online NPHW activities, highlighted faculty, students and partners each day, on MPH website and social media, to align with NPHW daily topics.
Venue for students to create products and posters as required by CEPH accreditation.	Annual NPHW poster presentation was cancelled. An alternative COVID-19 poster competition was posted to MPH website and social media. These posters may be used as APE products for their MPH degree.
Recognizing graduating students.	Virtual graduation was posted to website. MPH program mailed banners of congratulations to students' home addresses. This was well received by students and family members.
Recruiting students.	MPH program continues to meet with prospective students via Zoom. New online format of Public Health certificate is now advertised online.
Support for students.	MPH program regularly emails each student for a check -in and to see how they are doing. We continue to share resources of support for students that are available online.
Practice Experience Sites for MPH 840	Continued impact through Fall 2020 and beyond for students to be on-site for applied practice experience.