



## UW MPH Steering Committee Report

### Overview

The MPH Steering Committee was formed to ensure that the Re-envisioned MPH program was ready to be implemented with its first cohort in autumn 2020. The group continued the work previously completed in Phases 1 and 2 of Re-envisioning the MPH. Past reports can be found here: <https://sph.washington.edu/students/graduate-programs/mph-program/curriculum>

### Timeline

The MPH Steering Committee's charge was drafted and completed in September 2019. Implementation took place from October 2019 - September 2020.

### Objectives

- Prepare faculty instructors for student-centered teaching
- Determine the target size for each MPH cohort
- Ensure appropriate adjustments are made to the non-core components of each MPH program
- Define the administrative systems and changes needed for successful implementation of the School's MPH
- Address barriers to success faced by different departments or programs

### Summary of Accomplishments

- Common Core faculty were trained on student-centered instructional strategies. Instructor training took place in AY 2019-2020.
- Hired a MPH Core Program Manager in February 2020.
- Admissions numbers were coordinated across the school to reach the target of 150 newly enrolled students in 2020. To date, we have 159 incoming MPH students for AY 2020-2021.
- The Capstone Work Group, a subcommittee of the Steering Committee, drafted school wide MPH Capstone guidelines to be used for the incoming cohort and the CEPH self-study. Complementary school wide MPH Thesis guidelines were also drafted.
- Created a plan to track CEPH competencies for MPH capstone and thesis. The process will be similar to how the practicum tracks CEPH competencies. The development of the tracking database will begin in Autumn 2020 and be complete by Spring of 2021.
- SOPHAS was selected as the new approach for the MPH admissions process. This process will be more administratively efficient and user-friendly for applicants. The SOPHAS application system will be used for all incoming MPH students for the 2022-2023 academic year.
- Developed an evaluation plan for the new common core courses, approved by the Steering Committee and the Curriculum and Education Policy Committee (CEPC).
- Coordinated with the Online MPH program to begin offering the Common Core courses beginning AY 2021-2022.
- Coordinated and met regularly with staff from MPH programs on MPH degree changes to ensure perspectives from across the School and practice community are considered



in meeting student educational needs.

### **Items In-progress**

- Continue to ensure that appropriate adjustments are made to the non-core components of each MPH program.
- Continue discussions with departments on how to reduce the number of separate MPH degrees.
  - Health Services is re-visiting some tracks and concentrations to see if any can be options under one degree that students choose after admissions (area of emphasis vs. degree track)
  - Epidemiology will not continue its MCH program because it was not renewed for funding. There are discussions underway about the Global Health track but no decisions have been made.
  - Global Health is reducing to 2 transcriptable tracks.
  - Environmental and Occupational Health is in discussion about consolidating their One Health and Environmental and Occupational Health degrees.
- Coordinate with the SPH Strategic Plan Committee on providing recommendations to enhance student recruitment, advising, career development, and alumni relations as well as exploring areas of possible collaboration among departments, programs and other schools in the delivery of curricular and/or service needs.
- Operationalize the MPH Thesis and Capstone guidelines, including the CEPH competency tracking tool in the Office of the Dean for student capstone and thesis projects.
- Operationalize the Common Core Evaluation Plan in AY 2020-2021 and share results with appropriate stakeholders.
- Continue to coordinate with the OMPH program for their launch of the Common Core in AY 2021-2022. Begin discussions with COPHP.

### **Recommendations for Future Steering Committee Work**

- Train the Common Core instructors on anti-racist instructional strategies.
- Participate in the development of SOPHAS for applications. Evaluate and monitor SOPHAS after launch in AY 2022-2023.
- Provide quarterly updates about the evaluation of the MPH Core to Steering Committee representatives and CEPC.
- Create a Common Core annual report that features students' work, curriculum changes, and what happened over the year.
- Feature the Common Core at a Town Hall or present at the all school faculty meeting in October.
- Discuss the addition of a Data Science Graduate Certificate

### **Next Steps**

1. Draft a new MPH Steering Committee charge effective October 2020 - September 2021
2. Recruit new student members currently enrolled in the MPH Common Core curriculum

## APPENDIX

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### Members

#### MPH Steering Committee

- MPH Core Director (chair): India Ornelas
- Vice Dean for Education (co-chair): Carey Farquhar
- MPH Core staff member: Olivia van Brunt
- One Faculty representative from each department and each interdisciplinary program (IDP) with a MPH
  - Biostatistics: Jim Hughes
  - Env. And Occ. Health Sciences: Scott Meschke
  - Epidemiology: Mandy Fretts
  - Global Health: Steve Gloyd
  - Health Services: Clarence Spigner
  - Nutrition: Anne Lund
- 1-2 MPH Program Managers (staff)
  - Epidemiology: John Paulson
  - Global Health: Julie Brunett
  - Health Services: Suzanne Yates
- 1-2 students from MPH program
  - Env. And Occ. Health Sciences: Alex Kossik
  - Epidemiology: Leif Layman
  - Global Health: Diem Nguyen

#### Ex-officio members (as needed)

- Associate Dean for Public Health Practice: Janet Baseman
- Assistant Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Victoria Gardner
- Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration: Uli Haller
- Director of Student and Academic Services: Juanita Ricks
- Chair of Curriculum and Education Policy Committee: Mike Rosenfeld
- Manager Strategic Initiatives: Kimberly Hay

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### Meeting dates

- October 29, 2019
  - December 9, 2019
  - January 28, 2020
  - February 25, 2020
  - April 13, 2020
  - May 14, 2020
  - June 15, 2020
  - August 11, 2020
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**Charge List and Current Status**

<b>Charge</b>	<b>Status</b>
1. Train faculty teaching in the new Common Core on student-centered instructional strategies.	<i>complete</i>
2. Coordinate admissions numbers to reach a target goal of 150 newly enrolled students in autumn 2020 across all departments and programs.	<i>complete</i>
3. Ensure that appropriate adjustments are made to the non-core components of each MPH program.	<i>in-progress</i>
4. Design a new approach for the MPH admissions process that is efficient from an administrative standpoint and user-friendly for applicants.	<i>in-progress</i>
5. Provide guidance on how to reduce the number of separate MPH degrees by combining similar programs within and across departments, or incorporating into the School MPH and creating transcriptable options.	<i>in-progress</i>
6. Provide specific recommendations for how we can enhance student recruitment, advising, career development, and alumni relations by improving student services in central administrative areas, including some services that are currently addressed at the department level.	<i>in-progress</i>
7. Lay out specific changes that need to be made to the Applied Practice Experience (APE) and the Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) to bring us into better alignment with the new CEPH criteria and our institutional values.	<i>in-progress</i>
8. Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan together with the Curriculum and Education Policy Committee (CEPC) for the new common core courses, for our MPH programs overall, and for any administrative changes or other changes (e.g., to student services) that we are making to the MPH.	<i>in-progress</i>
9. Provide specific recommendations for what modifications need to be made to the curricula for the fee based MPH degrees to align them with the new MPH core and develop a timeline for implementation of those changes.	<i>in-progress</i>
10. Work with departments and programs on MPH degree changes and ensure perspectives from across the School and practice community are considered in meeting student educational needs. This could include, for example, quarterly meetings with all MPH program directors and regular updates to MPH teaching faculty, staff, students and community practice partners.	<i>in-progress</i>
11. Explore areas of possible collaboration among departments, programs and other schools in the delivery of curricular and/or service needs.	<i>in-progress</i>
12. Work with appropriate internal bodies to create new policies and procedures necessary to administer any of the above noted items.	<i>in-progress</i>

<b>13.</b> Annually review the results of monitoring and evaluation activities, including MPH programmatic, core, and administrative assessments, and use these results to inform the recommendations that the committee makes going forward.	<i>not started</i>
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### Charge to MPH Steering Committee (September 26, 2019)

In the next phase of the UW School of Public Health (SPH) Master of Public Health (MPH) degree re envisioning process, a newly formed MPH Steering Committee will be expected to continue work initiated by the Phase 1 and Phase 2 MPH Re-envisioning Steering Committees and the MPH Re-envisioning Administrative Working Group. The Phase 1 MPH Re-envisioning Steering Committee identified core competencies, knowledge and skills for all MPH students and created a framework for implementing the full re envisioned School MPH degree. In Phase 2, the MPH Re-envisioning Steering Committee drafted syllabi for six Core courses to meet the Council on Education in Public Health (CEPH) requirements for accreditation and prepare all incoming MPH students for successful careers in public health practice or public health research. During this period, the MPH Administrative Working Group identified a path for creating a School MPH degree with different tracks and made recommendations for more centralized admissions and student services, and for appointment of a MPH Core Director and staff person.

Reports from all three groups are available at: <https://sph.washington.edu/students/graduate-programs/mph-program/curriculum>

The new MPH Steering Committee that will take over the work started by these committees and will be charged as follows:

The MPH Steering Committee will ensure that the Re-envisioned MPH program is ready to "go-live" with its first cohort in autumn 2020 and has a successful launch. This includes preparing faculty instructors for student-centered teaching, determining the target size for each MPH cohort, and ensuring that appropriate adjustments are made to the non-core components of each MPH program to reflect the changes in the core. It will also be responsible for defining the administrative systems and changes needed for successful implementation of the School's MPH and addressing barriers to success faced by different departments or programs.

Specifically, this new committee will do the following:

1. Train faculty teaching in the new Common Core on student-centered instructional strategies.
2. Coordinate admissions numbers to reach a target goal of 150 newly enrolled students in autumn 2020 across all departments and programs.



3. Ensure that appropriate adjustments are made to the non-core components of each MPH program.
4. Design a new approach for the MPH admissions process that is efficient from an administrative standpoint and user-friendly for applicants.
5. Provide guidance on how to reduce the number of separate MPH degrees by combining similar programs within and across departments, or incorporating into the School MPH and creating transcriptable options.
6. Provide specific recommendations for how we can enhance student recruitment, advising, career development, and alumni relations by improving student services in central administrative areas, including some services that are currently addressed at the department level.
7. Lay out specific changes that need to be made to the Applied Practice Experience (APE) and the Integrative Learning Experience (LE) to bring us into better alignment with the new CEPH criteria and our institutional values.
8. Develop and implement a monitoring and evaluation plan together with the Curriculum and Education Policy Committee (CEPC) for the new common core courses, for our MPH programs overall, and for any administrative changes or other changes (e.g., to student services) that we are making to the MPH.
9. Provide specific recommendations for what modifications need to be made to the curricula for the fee based MPH degrees to align them with the new MPH core and develop a timeline for implementation of those changes.
10. Work with departments and programs on MPH degree changes and ensure perspectives from across the School and practice community are considered in meeting student educational needs. This could include, for example, quarterly meetings with all MPH program directors and regular updates to MPH teaching faculty, staff, students and community practice partners.
11. Explore areas of possible collaboration among departments, programs and other schools in the delivery of curricular and/or service needs.
12. Work with appropriate internal bodies to create new policies and procedures necessary to administer any of the above noted items.
13. Annually review the results of monitoring and evaluation activities, including MPH programmatic, core, and administrative assessments, and use these results to inform the recommendations that the committee makes going forward.



The Steering Committee should develop a timeline for the charge items within the first month and provide regular updates on the status of their work to the executive sponsors (Dean, Chairs, Faculty Council, CEPC). In addition, a written report will be due in March 2020 and September 2020. The Steering Committee charge will be reviewed after one year and annually.

The composition of the new committee will be:

- MPH Steering Committee
  - MPH Core Director (chair)
  - Vice Dean for Education (co-chair)
  - MPH Core staff member
  - \*One Faculty representative from each department and each interdisciplinary program (IDP) with a MPH
  - \*\*1-2 MPH Program Managers (staff)
  - 1-2 students from MPH program
- Ex-officio members (as needed)
  - Associate Dean for Public Health Practice
  - Assistant Dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
  - Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration
  - Director of Student and Academic Services
  - Chair of Curriculum and Education Policy Committee

\*Designated by Department Chair or IDP Director in Nutritional Sciences or Public Health Genetics

\*\*Selected by MPH Core Director based on recommendations from Chairs