Dean’s Task Force Minutes
November 26, 2018

Attendance: Mari-Lynn Drainoni, Josee Dupuis, Patricia Fabian, Chris Gill, Jennifer Rider, Lisa Sullivan, Leslie Tellalian, Amanda Velez, Catharine Wang

1. Feedback on GC Data Document
   a. Goal is to offer new and different programs that are flexible (online offerings)
   b. Make programs doable in one year but not limiting them to such

2. MS in Public Health Research program name
   a. Task Force proposed calling this something different due to its close similarity to the MPH
   b. Will brainstorm calling the program as MS in ______ with a concentration ________
      i. MS in Population Health Research (placeholder)

3. Parameters that we cannot change
   a. Any Master’s degree has to have a culminating discovery-based project like a paper or directed research (CEPH requirement)
   b. MS degrees are typically a minimum of 32 credits (some are 34) -> this is CEPH/BU approved

4. Current thoughts
   a. Each program will have some required experience (internship for professional types or research-based for those more interested in the PhD track)
      i. Same requirements, just a different flavor
      ii. Students are producing something regardless
      iii. 0 credits
   b. Program will be around 32 credits
   c. Informal tracks that involve advising depending on the student’s goal (professional, continuing education, etc.)
   d. Bulk of the program
      i. Foundational training that’s similar (epidemiology, biostatistics, informatics, qualitative) -> potentially be online
      ii. Offer various concentrations
      iii. Each module should have competencies attached to it
   e. Idea: Modular Master’s
      i. Summer to summer
      ii. First semester = standard foundational classes
      iii. Second semester = modular portion where students spin off into their directions (pick 2-3 clusters)
      iv. Linking two semesters = research seminar or grant/medical writing seminar, mentorship with paired research mentor
   f. Flexibility for students: MOOC
      i. Record live lectures and students can take the course from anywhere, complete work within a week’s time
      ii. Need to facilitate groups and discussions within the class to keep the level of engagement

5. For next time
   a. Task Force will think about 8 credit clusters with competencies attached within departments to bring to the next meeting