

Master's Committee Meeting Minutes

September 5, 2023

Attendees: Caitlin Brand, Marie Daniel, Sophie Godley, Megan Healey, Julia Lanham, Chunyu Liu, Terrance Logan, Nikki Longe, Wilvin Lopez, Chris Louis, Mary Murphy-Phillips, Olivia Owens, Kashia Point Du Jour, Rea Shqepa, Lisa Sullivan (Chair), Yorghos Tripodis, Amanda Velez, Laura White

1. Orientation de-brief

- a. Orientation programming was received well by students who were able to attend
- b. Low attendance for program specific events will be evaluated for their effectiveness to plan for following year

2. Yield strategies

- a. Application for the following academic year opened on August 17th
- b. There is room for improving yield for all academic programs
 - i. What can be done differently to increase yield?
- c. What reasons are people rejecting admissions?
 - i. Admissions sends surveys to students rejecting their offers to find out why
 - ii. Tuition is one of the highest, improved access to scholarships would help subset the increase - <https://www.bu.edu/sph/admissions/tuition-and-funding/#:~:text=Guaranteed%20Access%20Grant,Campus%20MS%3A%20%2420%2C000%20Access%20Grant>
 - iii. Student have expressed concerns with accessing affordable housing options with the rental prices steadily increasing in Boston
- d. Set up Q & A sessions with program directors to engage with students who are offered admissions
- e. Information on race and ethnicity will not be shared with admissions committees to make sure admission decisions are being reviewed holistically

3. [Mirror-to-self review](#)

- a. [Master of Science](#) Educational Offerings and Pedagogy
- b. [MPH](#) Educational Offerings and Pedagogy
- c. Committee will look into recommendations from the MPH and Master of Science programs to make sure they align with our educational vision and offerings
- d. Sessions have been set up for faculty to contribute
 - i. Note from Dean Galea - <https://www.bu.edu/sph/announcement/educational-offerings-and-pedagogy-our-next-5-years/?announcement-category=faculty>

4. Other Business?

- a. The Career Prep course has been updated to have sessions stretch through the 14 weeks of the semester

- i. Course will prepare students for their Practicum search and improve their knowledge to access the appropriate employment opportunities
- b. PH700 Updates
 - i. The language and material for PH700 will be evaluated as some of the current information is outdated
 - ii. Instructors will be going through content with faculty on Education Committee to update information
 - iii. JEDI fellow and students will go through the updated content to make sure it's the most appropriate and equitable for the following sessions
- c. The Online MPH program is expecting to have 185 first year students starting this semester