

Education Committee

February 20th, 2025

9:30am-10:30am

Attendees: Lisa Sullivan, Candice Belanoff, Gina Peloso, Amanda Velez, Megan Healey, Chris Louis, Sophie Godley, Nikki Longe, Jessica Leibler, Lora Sabin, Andrew Stokes, Alli Fischman, Isabel Brennan

1. Check in
 - a. Discussion about job security of alums.
 - i. Recent grads from PhD programs have lost their jobs including NIH postdoc positions, especially from EH Department.
 - ii. CPO is flooded with alumni reaching out about job search needs.
 - iii. A joint statement from faculty and CPO will be issued with messaging that reassures alumni that public health matters and BUSPH is there to support them.
2. Phase 2 course proposal: Public Health Pedagogy and Curriculum Development (attached)
 - i. Training course for doctoral students building into existing and new CHS proposal.
 - ii. Committee feedback confirmed that this course includes an appropriate degree of workload for doctoral students
 - iii. Suggestions:
 1. Syllabus creation should be sooner so they have the material to refer to for a longer period of time, as creating a syllabus is a deliverable.
 2. Include how teaching fits into careers in different trajectories during Week 6.
 - a. Include a panel of teaching professionals to speak about tracks.
 3. If students in the same cohort are interested in similar topics, this will create opportunities for collaboration.
3. Discussion: A&P Process

- b. Discussion of flaws of current process.
 - i. Lisa Sullivan noticed teaching is not a main focus of most 6 page statements.
 - 1. There is a need to elevate the importance of teaching in personal statements.
 - c. Lisa Sullivan is going to bring the issue to the governing council.
 - i. Suggested revisions to Faculty Handbook on Evaluation Criteria and Activities in Education
 - 1. List of things that can be included in A&P packet.
 - d. Feedback:
 - i. Inclusive teaching should be added to teaching philosophy.
 - ii. Guide of things to include in personal statement.
 - iii. Concern about unmodified or research faculty
 - 1. People on unmodified track should be engaging in teaching.
 - iv. Add mentoring junior faculty.
 - v. Issues:
 - 1. It's important to encourage faculty to put their best foot forward because external perspectives are different.
 - 2. Harder for external reviewers to appreciate teaching accomplishments.
 - 3. Suggestion to have an external reviewer focused on teaching.
 - 4. Suggestion to include this set of materials outside of the 6 page statement.
 - e. Lisa Sullivan will put a page together about the issues discussed.
4. Discussion: implementation of minimum grades in core classes.
- a. Suggestion to require a higher minimum PH717 grade for students wanting to go into Epidemiology or Biostatistics.
 - i. Will not be implementing higher minimum grades but can:
 - 1. Guide students not naturally skilled in quant find other paths that best suit their interests.
 - 2. Reassure students that any certificate in the MPH will open many doors.