

## MS Programs Committee

2/26/26

11am-12pm

Attendees: Birgit Claus Henn, Mary Murphy-Phillips, Ann Marie Larese, Andrew Stokes, Caitlin Brand, Isabel Brennan, Chunyu Liu, Terrance Logan, Nikki Longe, Kathy Lunetta, Marie Daniel

1. Admissions updates and check in
  - a. Current admit numbers:
    - i. 75 total admits.
    - ii. Admit totals by degree program:
      1. MSAB: 35
      2. MS in Public Health Data Science: 12
      3. MS in Epidemiology: 21
  - b. Low number of applications that are in progress or waiting verification.
  - c. Discussion of the importance of yield for current applicants.
    - i. Yield percentage for MS programs last year: 19%.
    - ii. The Admissions office has set strategies with the Dean surrounding engagement with accepted students.
    - iii. Most MS students attended virtual accepted student's day.
  - d. Domestic students are facing barriers with federal loans due to the updated list of eligible professional programs.
  - e. International students have seen a large decrease in application numbers.
    - i. Domestic application numbers are filling the gap from decrease.
    - ii. International students are advised to prepare for 5% increase in tuition when submitting financial documentation for the visa process.
2. Updates on program modification forms
  - a. Program modification proposals have been submitted to the University and are pending approval.
3. CEPH updates
  - a. Comments from CEPH on the preliminary report will be received in early March.
  - b. Lisa Sullivan and Amanda Velez will join the March MS Programs meeting to help prepare for the CEPH mock site visit on 4/22 and 4/23.
4. Registrar updates
  - a. Bulletin update process has been initiated with Program Directors and APAs.
    - i. Minor updates to program and course description language may be submitted via this process.
    - ii. Deadline to submit updates: 3/6
  - b. Summer 2026 registration opened on 2/19.
  - c. Fall registration opens on Thursday, 3/19 at 7:15am.
    - i. Fall registration shopping carts will be made available to students next week.
  - d. Discussion of tuition remission concerns.

- i. Summer course is online and the tuition remission policy does not cover online coursework.
  - ii. Students are responsible for ensuring they understand the conditions of tuition remission outlined by [BU HR](#).
- 5. Graduate Student Life updates
  - a. Please remind students to register for [SPH Commencement](#) and advisors to order their regalia for hooding.
    - i. Students must order regalia for themselves.
    - ii. Faculty regalia order deadline is March 2nd.
      - 1. If any issues arise please email [Mary Murphy-Phillips](#) for assistance with the order.