**MPH Report: September 2021**

**Staffing:** In the wake of Colin’s departure, the MPH Committee will make the following staffing changes, effective spring 2022: Ding will take over PH 520 and PH 620; Eagle will take over PH 578. We will work with the BSPH program to minimize gaps in undergraduate course until a new instructor and/or t/t faculty member can be hired.

**CEPH:** New guidelines were adopted and are in effect. Our upcoming self-study and site visit will be based on these guideline.

**ASLs:** Our ASL reports for the MPH and both certificates (health ed and epi) were accepted and approved without commentary or revisions.

Graduate Enrollments: Graduate enrollments are down across the University. I’ve attached the file sent by the Dean’s office. I was asked to explain the decline and indicate plans for increasing enrollments. Here was my response:

1. **Please provide information as to what you think is contributing to declining program enrollment.  If your program has experienced an increase or sustained level, please share what you think is contributing to that increase or sustained number.  You can address this item based on a change from the past year and also based on changes over the past 3 to 5 years.**

Factors contributing to decline in MPH enrollments:

1. MPH does not offer extended OPT, which affects international applications/enrollments
2. Reciprocal tuition agreements among state institutions were severed; this had a substantial effect on enrollments.
3. Lack of on-demand courses: The recent changes implemented by CHHS has resulted in some students (mostly military)  not being able to take classes this fall.

Factors impeding program growth:

1. Graduate assistantships: We cannot compete with other institutions that award assistantships early and that have tuition support.
2. Lack of inclusion and transparency around issues that affect program operations: Involve the people who do the work!
3. **Please provide some actions/strategies of what your program/unit is planning to do to increase enrollments for next year (or sustain enrollments that have been on an upward trend, as appropriate).**

I am beating the bushes to enroll MPH JUMP students to save our f2f program: This fall, our three new f2f students were JUMP students.   I and revised the minimum hour requirement this summer to make it easier to recruit, and have met with the Honor’s folks to discuss our program.  I am in the process of creating infographics that target specific pre-professional degrees and specific demographic populations.

I have been ready to recruit for our MD-MPH (PA-MPH, etc.) for well over a year. I cannot do so in good faith because we are not fully staffed and the one option we had for filling in gaps (on-demand classes) were taken away from us   I would like to flip the question and ask administration to provide some actions/strategies to support our efforts to grow our programs.