

COPH Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2006
11:00am-1:00pm
Room 2018

- I.** The meeting minutes for the following Faculty Assembly Meetings were approved.
- June 24, 2005
 - August 30, 2005
 - September 20, 2005

II. Scheduling Core Courses

Dr. Alan Sear led a discussion on the scheduling of the MPH courses. A concern is that courses are not offered every semester. With regard to the core courses the content of the five core courses determine when they are offered. It was suggested that every core course be offered every semester.

Based on a two-year curriculum plan, the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics offers two courses every semester. This allows students to develop their course plan accordingly. In addition, faculty are able to balance their teaching assignments and research. The concern here is that students who fail their core exam have to wait until the next semester to retake the class(s) to prepare for the second round of sitting for the core exam. If students have to wait too long to retake the exam we could lose the market of students in professional practice.

It was suggested that each core class be offered a minimum of two times a year. If needed, a web-based section was suggested as a format to obtain additional faculty or instructors from the community or another university to teach the course. However, it is not an easy task to hire adjuncts.

Quality control issues and a conflict of scheduling can occur. The departments of Global Health and Epi / Bio need to meet to see if this type of scheduling is feasible. The issue is our growth – interdisciplinary programs must be more flexible for other colleges to participate. Classes could be offered on a Friday morning as this time is available to schedule classes.

A motion was set forth to table the discussion of offering Epi / Bio courses only 2 x per year. This motion did not pass.

A motion was set forth to offer all core courses 2 x per year. This motion was passed.

III. Code of Conduct

Dr. Noreen Poor reported that the College Wide Student Affairs Committee recently discussed and reviewed the Code of Conduct policy. The committee proposed to change the wording only for the College of Public Health and not the Graduate School. The reason is because students have entered the labs to do lab work in clothes that may produce a safety hazard during lab time. Students are wearing shorts and sandals under their lab coats and may spill a substance on their skin causing, for example, a burn.

