

**Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes 10-30-03**  
**1:00-3:00 p.m.**  
**COPH Room 2004**

Prepared by: Kimberly Fink (Deputy Director of the Sunshine ERC)

Present: N = 28

Dr. Hammad started the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

**Approval of September Meeting Minutes**

A motion to change the minutes from the last meeting was made by Dr. Mason. The motion was to update the information related to Public Health practice. Dr. Mason said he will substitute the paragraph. The motion was seconded by Dr. Reid. All agreed- minutes were approved with amendments.

Dr. Hammad has the new list of all faculty members who are eligible to vote. Currently there are 54 voting faculty.

**Discussion of Global Health Program (continued from last meeting)**

Last meeting the subject of the Global Health Program was discussed and it was agreed to continue the discussion at the next meeting. The Steering Committee met on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> and agreed on the points that will be discussed today. The major points that were proposed for discussion were: How will the Program Fit in the Current College Structure in EOH or as a separate division?

Faculty meeting in Epi, HPM and EOH all have had the same concern about developing a new division or keeping it in EOH.

A question was asked for a clarification of the MPH in Global Health. MPH Global Health degree program stands as a single discipline. It will be submitted to the Graduate Council meeting in November and there should not be a problem with it getting approved. It was stated that it has always been called Global Health. It will be an inter-departmental program. In creating a division of the Global Health program, the new program curriculum would be based on forming a combination between Global Health and Tropical Public Health and Communicable Diseases to be called Communicable Global Health. There are 2 relevant degrees to discuss- inter-departmental Global Health is one degree and EOH Infectious Disease is the other. It was suggested that there are 3 kinds of choices to make:

- Declare status quo
- Core faculty with cross-over interest (would like to call it a unit for now)
- Division within a department

Discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of the 3 choices above followed. Unit is a good term for discussion; however the program must be in an academic department or unit according to the USF Guidelines. What have other institutions done with this situation?

- 7 programs in private universities

- 7 possibly 8 Colleges of Public Health have a Global Health program, but all are at private institutions.

Where do we go from here? Considering the 3 options presented above. Dr. Graven indicated that the word division needs to be removed and that we need to find another word for an independent academic unit- a place where faculty will have for their primary assignment.

What are the ramifications of 2 & 3? Thought the purpose was to be inter-departmental. If it is in 1 department, how will it work and how will faculty be moved to a new unit? Some people will have joint appointments in the new unit. Subject of joint appointments is still under review by departmental chairs. The chairs feel that it is clearly resolvable and a faculty member can have joint appointments but will receive assignment from 1 department. Reasoning: some faculty will need their primary appointment within the new unit.

The whole concept of Global Health Division is something that the college can call it its own at USF. Other states do not have some diseases (example: malaria) and if done right we can say it is our own, since the majority of students want to live and work in another country and the mandate of COPH is to serve part of the Caribbean.

Dr. Mahan moved for a straw vote to eliminate option 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Francois. (Dr. Mason also seconded the motion at the same time). Discussion followed, raising the issue that student recruitment depends on what the faculty members are called. Students want to know who they will work with.

Dr. Naik's presentation has shown what would come about is probably option 3 although Option 2 attracts grants and therefore, needs time to evolve. Clarification was requested about possibilities of grants for multi-million dollars. A question was asked: What are they? First million is already done if we want it?. We can set up a satellite in India, but commitment at COPH and India will have a significant cost to recruit faculty.

It was suggested that leaving a unit inside a department is not an option. That is not what Global Health is about and that it should become an academic unit with joint faculty and also primary appointments to be decided by committee of this faculty. Students have put in a fair amount of energy to organize a global student organization with interest is mainly in infectious diseases. Therefore the proposal should be read and look at the pros and cons before voting. It was suggested that a name for the new program could be Academic Unit of Global Health (AUGH).

Should we vote Dr. Mahan's motion to eliminate option 1? and the question was raised that the unit is practically a department. Discussion followed about whether it is a department or not? Academic unit? Should it be made into a department or not?

Vote on motion on floor to decide whether or not to vote on the 3 options. A straw vote was carried out. All in favor, and motion carries. Vote count were as follows, for:

- Option 1- status quo: 6
- Option 2- division within department: 4
- Option 3- create new department: 16

It was suggested that the next steps are, 1) faculty advisors have not yet met with student groups, 2) issues need to be talked out with the chairs, 3) the subject to be discussed in

the EXCOM meeting, 4) Dean's office needs to meet with faculty who want to be part of this new department. Attention was brought out that new students are getting accepted into the new program in Global Health and the new department does not show a multi-interdisciplinary program.

Discussion followed indicating that the this process did not let the faculty members voice their opinions. It was indicated that the proposal submitted to the committee has been talked about with chairs. Some faculty members shared this concern: they did not know that the straw vote meant the end of the conversation. They would have thought differently about the vote. Also there was the concern that the straw vote moved too rapidly for a separate department and that the major ramifications will be in EOH. How does this impact EOH?

### **Status of Public Health Practice Program**

A committee of 15 faculty members was formed and have met 3 times. The committee reviewed and developed a list of outside advisors who are engaged in the public health practice. The list will be sent to Dr. Graven and he will issue an invitation. The next meeting will be held in a week and a half and they will review further the practice of public health in other schools and will track it down in the APHA meeting. It was announced that Dr McDermott will be working on a Public Health Association electronic journal that will involve the students and the faculty.

### **Dean's Report**

CEPH site visit: CEPH site visit was extraordinary. There were 2 previous problems which came up again, however, the outcome of the visit was very positive.

Regarding student recruitment, it was pointed out that campus in general is down and 78 applications were received for COPH. We will graduate 79 in December however we are still down from last year. The COPH needs to systematically work on recruiting. Each chair will develop strategies on how they will recruit students. Non-degree students do not show up on statistics- 141 non-degree students are enrolled. We could start supporting them and recruit them. What percent of non-degree students apply? Non-degree students also fall under the certificate programs.

The Dean suggested to have someone work on financial aid packages. We cannot fund students who are coming in from out of state. Is this an issue with USF? Why all of the declines within all departments? Is this a national or local phenomenon? Faculty members will discuss these issues in the Public Health Associates meeting.

Polices have been developed- teaching assistants: 1-10 hour TA for every 40 doctoral students. Department should be allowed to hire a TA if they feel they need one.

Decrease in students enrollment is a result to some extent of high out of state tuition prices. Out of state tuition just went up. Need to recruit in-state students.

APHA annual report says there is a trend in dropping enrollment. Suggestion to have undergraduate students to continue into graduate school.

The Monday letter is coming along and grants will be included when awarded. In the near future an ongoing calendar for faculty and students will be included in the letter. The feedback about the letter is good.

Dr. Daugherty's last day is Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 5 p.m.

**Reports of Standing Committees :** None

**Scheduling of Future Meetings this Year:** usually faculty assembly meetings are held every month; however in November, there are the APHA meeting and Thanksgiving. It was agreed to have the next meeting on January 30, 2004.

**New Business:** Graduate Reception will held on Saturday, December 13, 2003 at 10:30 a.m. This will be for the Summer and Fall of 2003 graduates. An announcement will be included in the Monday letter.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.