Introduction
Seventy-five MPH students completed practicum during the Summer 2008 semester. Using SurveyMonkey™ procedures students and community preceptors evaluated the practicum experience. Response rates for students and community preceptors were 95% and 96% respectively. The following data highlight the major findings.

Primary Campus

![Primary Campus Graph]

Division

![Division Graph]
Students
- University (26%) and hospital/clinic (26%) accounted for 52% of the locations
- Most all student considered the practicum students reported the practicum an effective learning experience with 70% reporting that is was very good and 18% reporting that is was good
- The final product for 77% of the students was a report or presentation
- The practicum was effective (98%) in giving students a better understanding of public health
- 89% of the students had a three credit practicum with the majority of these students reporting 12 – 15 hours per week on site
- 88% of students reported spending more than 12 hours per week on practice related activities
- 89% of the students had contact with their community preceptor more than 6 times, most communication was face-to-face
- All preceptors were available to answer questions and provide support with 80% very good
- Almost all preceptors received a favorable rating with 81% being very good
- 99% of students reported that they would recommend their community preceptor with 58% reporting that they would highly recommend and 37% reporting that they would recommend their preceptor
- All student reported that they would recommend their faculty sponsor with (51%) reporting that they would highly recommend and (39%) reporting that they would recommend

Community Preceptors
- 82% of the final products were excellent (58%) or above average (24%)
- 96% reported that student’s proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (71%) and good (25%)
- Community preceptors were very pleased with students abilities to fulfill the duties of the practicum with 96% rating student performance at good (17%) or very good (79%)
- 93% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- 96% reported that the weekly time commitment was appropriate

Student Comments
- Very intelligent, great champion of public health, and dedicated to her role as preceptor. Tried to expose me to as much as possible. Also just a very nice person in general.
- Very qualified for her position as Oral Health Bureau Chief and as a Community Preceptor.
- Open door policy and can be reached easily by pager or by phone if not present in office. She has over 20+ yrs working within the VA system.
- She provided excellent organization and leadership of the program, and did it with the kindness and care of a mom. The practicum experience would not have been the same without her.
- He's well experienced in his field and guided and arranged things that I needed for my internship.
- Very willing to help me learn.
- Overall, I think our working arrangement was effective.
- Excellent academic and kind to share his large experience.

Community Preceptor Comments
- He was absolutely fantastic and I will definitely consider another student because of him.
- This was a high learning experience for all involved.
- It was a pleasure working with him and I wish her the very best!
- This is very important service not only for the student, but for us as an organization.
- She was excellent. She is going to stay with us to complete her Master’s Thesis. We enjoyed having her, and she was a valuable member of the team.
- Thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this project.
- She has been a pleasure to work with and our organization looks forward to the potential of working with her again in the future.
- He and the other MD/MPH students who participated in this rotation were among the most outstanding students we have hosted at STEER.
- We appreciate the help we've received from the students.
- Excellent overall student.
- Many thanks for the contribution. We hope to encounter the opportunity again.
- She was among the most outstanding students I have had the pleasure of hosting at the STEER-Harlingen program.
- Overall, I was extremely impressed with him and would be willing to accept other students with his level of desire and ability.
- Very good student in a difficult non-traditional practicum.

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