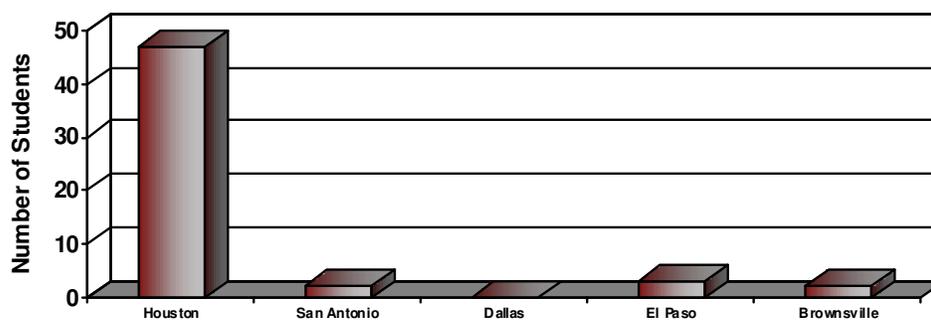


## University of Texas School of Public Health Practicum Evaluation Executive Summary – Fall 2007

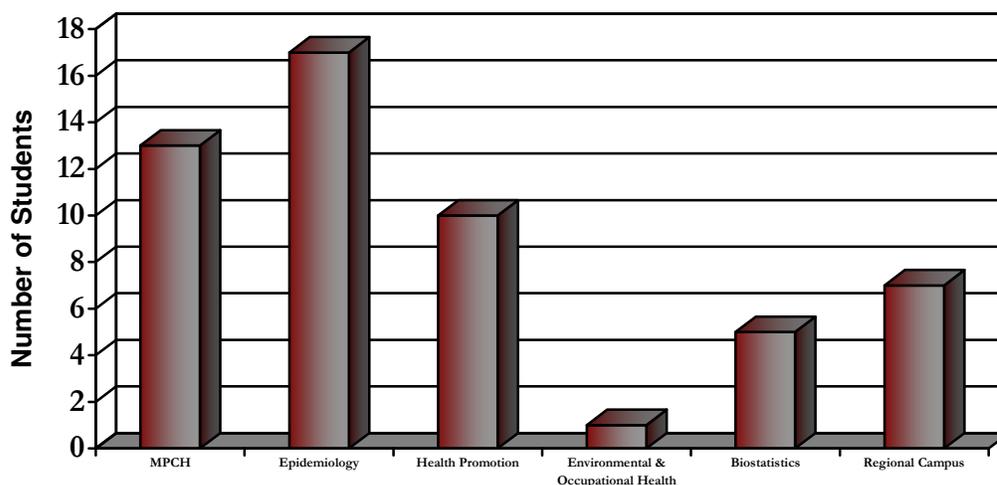
### Introduction

Fifty-four MPH students completed practicum during the Fall 2007 semester. Using SurveyMonkey™ procedures students and community preceptors evaluated the practicum experience. Response rates for students and community preceptors were 98% and 83% respectively. The following data highlight the major findings.

### Primary Campus



### Division



### **Students**

- University (40%) and hospital/clinic (40%) accounted for 80% of the locations
- Most students considered the practicum an effective learning experience with 65% reporting that it was very good and 19% reporting that it was good
- The final product for 64% of the students was a report or presentation
- The practicum was effective (92%) in giving students a better understanding of public health
- 70% of the students registered for practicum at three credit hours
- 70% of students reported spending more than 12 hours per week on practice related activities
- 85% of the students had contact with their community preceptor more than 6 times, most communication was face-to-face
- All students reported that their community preceptors were available to answer questions and provide support
- All preceptors received a favorable rating with 71% being very good
- All students reported that they would recommend their community preceptor with 44% reporting that they would highly recommend and 44% reporting that they would recommend their preceptor
- 98% of student reported that they would recommend their faculty sponsor with 50% reporting that they would highly recommend and 38% reporting that they would recommend

### **Community Preceptors**

- 82% of the final products were excellent (41%) or above average (41%)
- All community preceptors reported that student's proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (85%) or good (15%)
- Community preceptors were very pleased with students abilities to fulfill the duties of the practicum rating student performance at good (15%) or very good (80%)
- 91% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- 97% reported that the weekly time commitment was appropriate

### **Student Comments**

- My faculty sponsor is always willing to help students
- I had an excellent community preceptor, she was always willing to listen to my ideas
- My faculty sponsor was extremely helpful and understanding
- My community preceptor was very patient and gave valuable feedback
- Both my community preceptor and faculty sponsor were very helpful
- I felt blessed to have my community preceptor, he was very supportive and encouraging
- My community preceptor was very responsive to my requests and always available to help me

- My faculty sponsor has a very clear understanding of my long term career goals
- My community preceptors gave very useful feedback at every stage of my project
- I found my community preceptor to be supportive and highly qualified
- Not only did I achieve my practicum objectives, but also I had opportunities to network with lots of researchers within my area of interest.
- My community preceptor is an excellent role model, I wish I had more time to learn from him

### **Community Preceptor Comments**

- Excellent communicator with strong computational skills
- A very independent thinker
- Quick learner, very cooperative and good problem solver
- Smart, thoughtful and a pleasure to work with
- Perceptive and good at diagnosing potential problems with research protocols and procedures
- Works well with others
- Hard working and likeable
- Very independent. Stays on task and takes ownership of projects
- Very thorough, articulate and capable
- Very strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to communicate well and understand the overall picture
- Strong work ethic
- Smart, organized, motivated, pleasant, professional and a tremendous value to our organization
- Great people skills, very organized and dependable
- Tenacious
- Strong grasp of clinical topics, drive and initiative
- Very organized, thoughtful and thorough in her work

### **Acknowledgements**

On behalf of the University of Texas School of Public Health, the Office of Public Health Practice extends our warmest gratitude to the organizations and community preceptors who graciously allowed our students to gain practice experience. Without your continued support and feedback, we would not be able to offer this invaluable experience to our students.