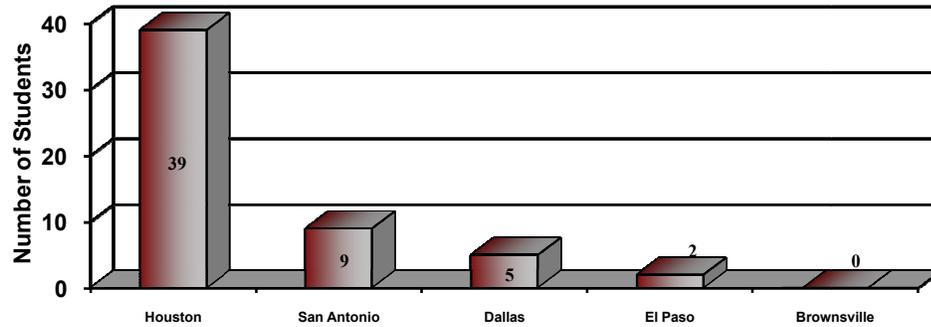


## University of Texas School of Public Health Practicum Evaluation Executive Summary – Summer 2007

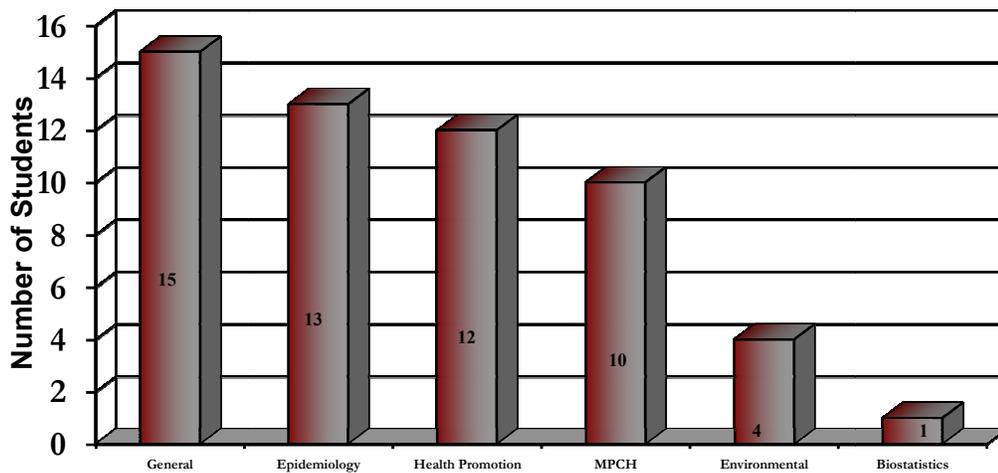
### Introduction

Fifty six MPH students completed practicum during the summer 2007 semester. Using SurveyMonkey™ procedures students and community preceptors evaluated the practicum experience. Response rates for students and community preceptors were 98% and 80% respectively. The following data highlight the major findings.

### Primary Campus



### Division



### Students

- University (40%) and hospital/clinic (22%) accounted for 62% of the locations
- 92% of the students reported the practicum as an effective learning experience with 55% reporting that it was very good and 36% reporting that it was good.
- The final product for 75% of the students was a report or presentation
- The practicum was effective (93%) in giving students a better understanding of public health
- 86% of the students had a three credit practicum with the majority of these students reporting more than 16 hours per week on site
- 86% 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 96% above average
- All preceptors received a favorable rating with 75% being very good
- All students reported that they would recommend their community preceptor with 53% reporting that they would highly recommend and 38% reporting that they would recommend their preceptor
- 98% of student reported that they would recommend their faculty sponsor with 49% reporting that they would highly recommend and 42% reporting that they would recommend

### Community Preceptors

- 85% of the final products were excellent (56%) or above average (29%)
- All preceptors reported that student's proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (82%) and good (16%)
- Community preceptors were very pleased with students abilities to fulfill the duties of the practicum with 96% rating student performance at good (16%) or very good (80%)
- 98% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- 96% reported that the weekly time commitment was appropriate

### Student Comments

- Great experience, fantastic opportunity and exposure!
- I have nothing but praise for (my preceptor). He understood how public health work and he is an alumnus of UTHSC SPH.
- I would recommend (my community preceptor) to anyone interested in a global health experience and Turkish hospitality. The marks on this form do not go high enough to describe his role as community preceptor.
- I learned a lot from my community preceptor.
- My community preceptor gave me good suggestions as to where I could begin my search. It was somewhat difficult to know where to begin since this is the first intern they have had.
- My community preceptor is very knowledgeable and committed to the learning experiences of the students under her tutelage. She was always full

of good ideas for research and very helpful in guiding the direction of the project.

- Excellent! My community preceptor gives useful feedback and is willing to listen to suggestions for improvement.
- My faculty sponsor was very understanding of my career goals and aspirations and helpful in advising on the use of the practicum to achieve and enhance those goals.
- My faculty sponsor was always available upon request, very helpful and supportive.
- My faculty sponsor was very approachable and always willing to answer any questions I had about my practicum.
- My faculty sponsor was very helpful in formulating my learning contract.
- My faculty sponsor helped me find this practicum opportunity and I highly appreciate all his efforts. He was always available via email, phone or in office whenever I needed to contact him. He gave me this excellent opportunity to have a wonderful learning experience.
- My faculty sponsor was very supportive of my work during the summer and willing to offer suggestions for future research.

#### **Community Preceptor Comments**

- Punctual, pleasant demeanor, followed through on each and every assignment.
- Passion for public health. Detail oriented. Very good writing skills. Very good communication skills.
- Very responsible and reliable. Was able to complete work assignments within the agreed time line. Asks probing questions. Good written communication skills. Accepts and uses constructive feedback about his work.
- Excels in her ability to work within the context of a foreign culture. Her command of the Haitian Creole language and her ability to relate to study participants, especially regarding sensitive subject matter, is outstanding.
- Very hands on and asked a significant amount of good questions.
- Willingness to explore new avenues of growth
- Extremely conscientious and highly skilled. She was very easy to work with and took charge when given just basic instructions/directions. She is very much a "go getter."
- Proactive, great strength, ability to work well under pressure.
- High motivation and understanding of the nature and peculiarity of the task.
- Very self-motivated, exhibited good problem solving skills and time management, and used his excellent quantitative skills in this project.
- Proactive, took initiative, assertive, dependable.
- Very diligent in completing projects, asking questions when needed and overcoming obstacles. She communicates very well. She has high standards for her work.
- Very conscientious, met deadlines, was pleasant work with, showed real interest and motivation.

- Very organized and thorough in her preparation. Worked very well with the community. Good analytical skills and research skills.

**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.