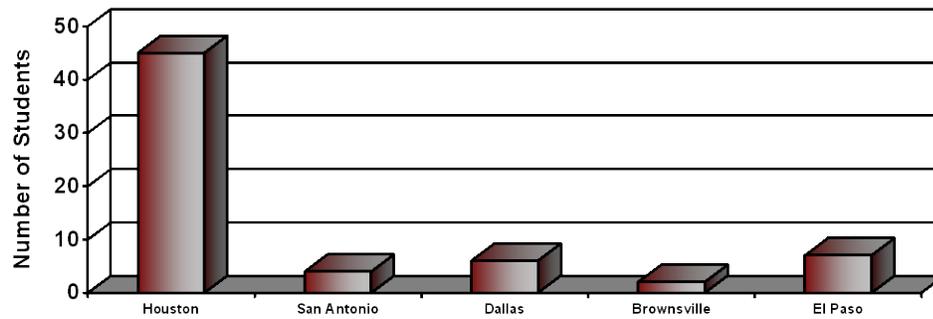


University of Texas School of Public Health Practicum Evaluations Summary – Fall 2006

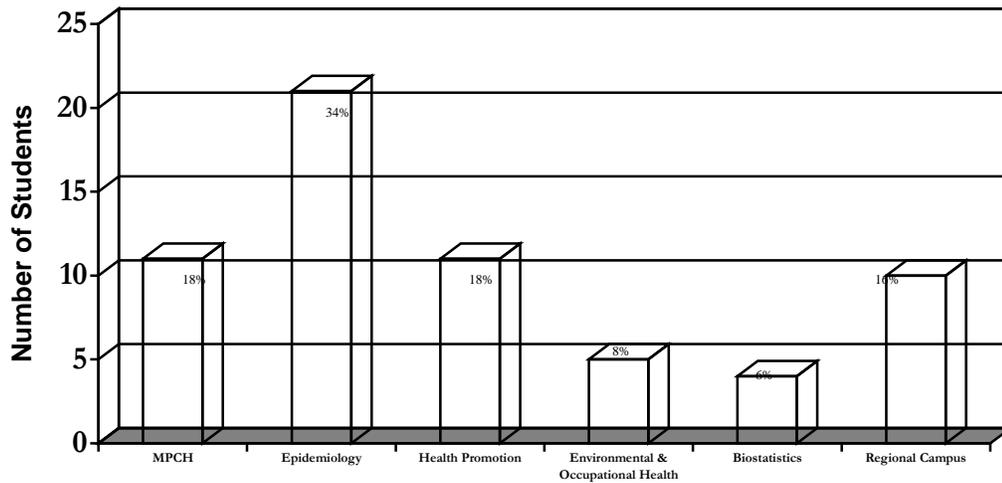
Introduction

Sixty-two MPH students had a practice experience during the fall 2006 semester. Using survey monkey all students and community preceptors received an evaluation form near the end of the semester. After several reminders, we achieved a 92% response rate from students and a 67% response rate from community preceptors. The following data highlight the major findings.

Primary Campus



Division



Students

- University (52%) and hospital/clinic (34%) accounted for 86% of the placements
- All students reported the practicum as an effective learning experience with 58% reporting that it was very good and 25% reporting that it was good
- The final product for 84% of the students was a report or presentation
- The practicum was effective (98%) in giving students a better understanding of public health
- 66% of the students had a three credit practicum with the majority of these students reporting 12 – 15 hours per week on site
- 44% of students reported spending more than 16 hours per week on practice related activities
- 89% of the students had contact with their community preceptor more than 6 times, which were usually face-to-face
- All preceptors were available to answer questions and provide support with 70% very good
- All preceptors received a favorable rating with 72% being very good
- All students reported that they would recommend their community preceptor with 52% reporting that they would highly recommend and 36% reporting that they would recommend their preceptor
- 92% would highly recommend (44%) or recommend (48%) their faculty sponsor

Community Preceptors

- 86% of the final products were excellent (43%) or above average (43%)
- 95% reported that student's proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (68%) and good (27%)
- Community preceptors were very pleased with students' abilities to fulfill the duties of the practicum with 93% rating student performance at good (25%) or very good (68%)
- 93% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- 86% reported that the weekly time commitment was appropriate

Student Comments

- My community preceptor was an amazing facilitator for my learning experience.
- My practicum site offered a wonderful learning environment and offers many opportunities for a great practicum experience.
- The community is a good atmosphere to learn.
- My faculty sponsor and community preceptor were excellent mentors and I feel that any student would be benefited by completing a practicum under their instruction.
- The practicum experience provided a very relaxed learning atmosphere. The community preceptor was very understanding and flexible and this helped the learning process.
- I love the environment and people with whom I am worked.

- The community site had a lot of different public health activities going on, and many of the departments are taking innovative approaches to addressing issues.
- Very educational and enjoyable experience.
- It was great spending time in an urban underserved community.
- It was an excellent site with many learning opportunities. I would highly recommend.

Community Preceptor Comments

- I'd love to have another intern from your school.
- The student was reliable, resourceful, professional, flexible, works well with others, determined.
- I was impressed by the student's commitment and willingness to learn.
- The student showed extreme resourcefulness in solving difficult laboratory safety issues related to public health preparedness.
- Your student was responsible, resourceful, dedicated, intelligent, enthusiastic, hard-working, and attentive to details.
- She listens carefully and is able to work independently to accomplish given assignments.
- Her research and writing skills are excellent.
- Quick learner, flexible, able to problem solve, excellent teacher
- Intelligence and adaptability are excellent; Cooperative and sensitive to work & life balance.
- My student had the ability to look at a project and analytically work through the process from the initial concept to completion.
- Hard working, clear thinking, goal-oriented student.
- Produced high quality work in a short time, always beats deadlines, thinks ahead and asks questions without hesitation.
- Quick thinker and a practical problem solver.
- The student is always eager and willing to learn.
- She has really fit in with our team and the different communities we've been working with.

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.