



Practicum Evaluations Spring 2006 Executive Summary

Introduction

Fifty-four MPH students had a practice experience during the spring 2006 semester. Using survey monkey all students and community preceptors received an evaluation form near the end of the semester. After many reminders, we achieved an 89% response rate from students and a 67% response rate from community preceptors. Several indicators such as “incomplete product” (3), “recommendation of site with reservation” (4) were reviewed for quality control purposes. An analysis of these responses did not indicate a need for correction. A review of the association between hours on site and credits earned indicated that 80% of the students had a three credit practicum with the majority of these reporting 12 – 15 hours on site. Almost half (46%) of the students reported more than 16 hours. Five of these students received one credit. Several preceptors reported more hours than the student. The following data highlight the major findings.

Students

- Management, Policy and Community Health accounted for 35% of the students, Epidemiology had 33% and Health Promotion had 22%
- University (53%) and hospital/clinic (36%) accounted for 89% of the placements
- 96% reported the practicum as an effective learning experience - very good (63%) and good (24%)
- The final product for 50% of the students was a report
- The practicum was effective (98%) in giving students a better understanding of public health
- 90% of the students had contact with their community preceptor more than 6 times, usually face-to-face
- All preceptors were available to answer questions and provide support with 78% very good
- All preceptors received a favorable rating with 90% being very good
- 96% would highly recommend (63%) or recommend (33%) their preceptor
- 100% would highly recommend (71%) or recommend (29%) their faculty sponsor

Community Preceptor

- 83% of the final products were excellent (40%) or above average (43%)
- 92% reported that student's proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (66%) and good (26%)
- All students performed adequately with 11% being good and 83% being very good
- 97% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- 94% reported that the weekly time commitment was appropriate
- 97% would accept another student