



Practicum Evaluations Summer 2006 Executive Summary

Introduction

Sixty-four MPH students had a practice experience during the summer 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 a 92% response rate from students and an 82% response rate from community preceptors. Several indicators such as “incomplete product”, “recommendation of site with reservation” 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 per week on site. Forty-two percent of the students reported more than 16 hours. The following data highlight the major findings.

Students

- Management, Policy and Community Health accounted for 21% of the students, Epidemiology had 24% and Health Promotion had 27%
- Placements - University (29%), hospital/clinic (26%), government (16%), health departments (11%), and CBOs (9%)
- 94% reported the practicum as an effective learning experience - very effective (57%) and effective (37%)
- The final product for 51% of the students was a report
- The practicum was effective in giving ninety-eight percent of the students a better understanding of public health
- 92% 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 89% good or very good
- All preceptors received a favorable rating with 93% being good or very good
- 96% would highly recommend (52%) or recommend (44%) their preceptor
- 94% would highly recommend (47%) or recommend (47%) their faculty sponsor

Community Preceptor

- 83% of the final products were excellent (55%) or above average (28%)
- 92% reported that student's proficiency in using appropriate methods were very good (76%) and good (19%)
- All students performed adequately with 23% being good and 75% being very good
- 96% reported meeting with the student more than six times
- All final products were well received with 55% excellent
- 98% would accept another student