

Submitted by: Keith E. Whitfield, Provost

DISCONTINUANCE OF GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors discontinue the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice effective Fall 2017.

Background

The *Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice* (GC-PHP), originally approved in 2004, in conjunction with the approval of the Master of Public Health in Public Health Practice degree. The certificate was developed from an existing *Graduate Certificate in Community Health Services, Research, and Evaluation*, which was offered in affiliation with the MS Community Health Services in the Department of Community Medicine. Course requirements in the current GC-PHP reflected enhanced expectations for core courses in public health.

Given the recent approval of the Bridge Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice, we now request the discontinuance of the older GC-PHP. Students who enroll in the new Bridge GC-PHP and who decide to pursue the MPH degree will now be allowed to transfer five core public health courses (14 credits) in fulfillment of their graduate degree. The older GC-PHP allowed only three courses (8 credits) to be applied to MPH degree requirements.

Program Description

The department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences in the School of Medicine has provided the administrative home for the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Practice (GC-PHP). The GC-PHP required 15 credits of coursework, four required classes (FPH 7010, 7240, 7015, 7420, total 11 credits) and 1-2 elective courses (4 credits). The certificate was typically completed in two, full-time semesters, or not longer than three years.

Accommodations for Current Students

Current GC-PHP students in good academic standing may request a change of status to enroll in the new BGC-PHP.

Approvals

The discontinuance of this certificate program has been approved by the MPH Curriculum Committee in the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences, and the following administrators: Director, Master of Public Health Program, Chair of the Department of Family Medicine and Public Health Sciences; and the Associate Dean of Graduate Scholars, School of Medicine, the Graduate Council, Dean of the Graduate School, and the Provost.