

PROPOSAL TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

TITLE OF THE PROPOSAL: Revision of the joint Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and Master's of Public Health (MPH) program.

SPONSOR: University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) School of Public Health and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Veterinary Medicine

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Changes in the UIC Master's of Public Health degree require modifications of the joint DVM/MPH degrees. Revisions include the following:

Students in the program must complete a minimum of 42 semester hours of credit for the Master's of Public Health degree (increased from 39-41 sh). Two hours of the increase is met by increasing the credit in two required courses by 1 sh each. Biostatistics I (BSTT 400) has been increased from 3 sh to 4 sh and Epid Computing (EPID 406) has been increased from 2 sh to 3 sh. Electives as necessary are required to complete the 42 sh requirement for the degree.

In addition, PATH 591-Design & Anal. Biomed Experiments is equivalent to BSTT 401-Biostats I offered by UIC, and PATH 516-Epid of Infect. Diseases is equivalent to EPID 410- Epid of Infect. Diseases offered by UIC.

Credit for the following UIUC courses may be counted toward meeting requirements in the DVM program and electives in the MPH program: PATH 641-Food Hygiene and Public Health (2sh), VB 620 – Toxicology (2sh), and PATH 637 – Virology (3sh). Not more than 25% of total credit hours may be shared between the programs.

JUSTIFICATION:

Requirements of the School of Public Health's accrediting body, the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) were modified to require a minimum 42 semester hours of credit for all Master's of Public Health programs. The changes to the joint degree program are intended to comply with the new requirement.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- Additional staff and dollars needed – No impact.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, etc.) – No impact.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other departments and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments – No impact.
- d. Impact on the University Library (A letter of acknowledgement from the University Librarian must be included for all new program proposals.) – No impact.
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. – No impact.

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: N/A**CLEARANCES:**

Unit: Epidemiology-Biostatistics Faculty Approval: April 16, 2007
College: SPH Committee on Educational Programs Approval: April 16, 2007
 SPH Executive Committee Approval: April 16, 2007
 CVM Approval: August 21, 2006

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

The College of Veterinary Medicine at UIUC and the School of Public Health at UIC offer a program designed to award both Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Master's of Public Health degrees upon successful completion.

The joint DVM/MPH degree program is a five-year program of study. Students in the program must satisfy the required four years of the professional veterinary medicine program of study. In addition, students in this program must satisfy the required 42 semester hours of the Master's of Public Health Professional Enhancement Program (PEP). As part of the coursework, students are required to complete a Capstone Project usually associated with a pre-approved field experience. The Capstone and field experiences are exciting opportunities for MPH students to participate in professional public health activities while developing their own meaningful project.

Veterinary medical students in the combined DVM/MPH degree program will acquire population based epidemiologic and statistical training as well as instruction in community and environmental health. Additional courses in the core disciplines of public health will only strengthen the students' veterinary medical training and their understanding of the principles and applications of population health concepts.

Admission requirements: Students accepted into the professional DVM curriculum may apply to the joint DVM/MPH program during their first year in the DVM program. DVM students must have earned a baccalaureate degree to qualify for admission to the joint degree program. Applications for the joint program are considered early in the spring semester so students are encouraged to consult with the Office of Academic and Student Affairs during Fall semester. As of 2005, application have been due by February 1st. DVM students must be in good academic standing in the DVM program and must meet the requirements for the MPH program at the UIC School of Public Health.

DVM students are allowed to take the introductory public health course, CHSC 400, and if admitted to the program, have it count toward the MPH requirements. Students are also allowed to take additional courses on-line during the application process in spring semester so that they do not lose a semester.

Progress though the program: The joint degree is designed as a five-year program of study. Veterinary medical students will ordinarily complete years 1 through 3 of their veterinary medical training at UIUC while taking some public health courses online and/or completing pre-approved courses within the graduate programs of Veterinary Pathology and Veterinary Biosciences deemed equivalent to required SPH courses. DVM students will spend a minimum of two semesters following their third year of veterinary training in residence at UIC SPH. Students will be encouraged to spend a summer in Chicago while completing their field experience and capstone project in a public health related setting. Students will then return to UIUC to complete their fourth year clinical rotations.

Alternatively, students in the joint DVM/MPH program may elect to spend the year in Chicago after the fourth year of the DVM curriculum.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2008