



PHO
Department of Public Health
East Carolina University
1709 West Sixth Street
Greenville, NC 27834-2803

Public Health Graduate Student Organization

Thursday, September 4, 2008
6:30, Allied Health Bldg. Rm 1345

- I. Call to Order (President Elizabeth Baker)
- II. Roll Call

Attendees: Elizabeth Baker, David Blackley, Matasha Brown, Summer Choudhury, Felicia Ezikpe, Kelvin Freeman, Neil Gilbird, James Gordon, Chris Green, Bennita Harper, Tandra Hilliard, Audrey Holland, Leisha Johnson, Marissa Kleffman, Dr. Suzanne Lea, Rachel Loflin-Maguire, Brian Loveland, Becky Merrick, Dr. Lloyd Novick, Ross Pendley, Eddie Reynolds, Pamela Sullivan, Virginia Sutton, Adam Kyle Wilson, Sara Woolard, Fred Wright

- III. Special Orders

- a. Dr. Lloyd Novick, Department Chair/Director of Masters of Public Health Program

- i. Dr. Novick began by welcoming everyone to the first PHO meeting. He was very excited to see so many attendees and encouraged everyone to continue to support PHO.
 - ii. He noted the rapid progress of the program, which is illustrated by the new Department of Public Health status and the addition of new faculty members; meeting attendee Dr. Lea being one of them.
 - iii. The MPH website is currently being revamped and the first stage of reconstruction is expected to be completed prior to Thanksgiving.
 - iv. The Department is currently analyzing the survey of new and returning students and will share findings from this analysis very soon. Dr. Novick asked if any students had not returned the survey and if so, he advised them to complete one as soon as possible.
 - v. Two student representatives on the Department's Executive Committee are Virginia Sutton and Sara Woolard. Students are encouraged to communicate with them and express any concerns or interests to them.
 - vi. Dr. Novick acknowledged Elizabeth's request that all faculty leave each PHO meeting at a certain time to allow for open discussion among students.
 - vii. Dr. Novick concluded by encouraging all faculty members to attend PHO meetings as a means of addressing student questions.

- b. Dr. Suzanne Lea, MPH faculty, NCPHA Membership Chair

- i. Dr. Lea welcomed the first-year students to the program and provided background information on NCPHA (North Carolina Public Health Association).
 - 1. NCPHA is a professional association of people practicing public health in NC.
 - 2. It is a statewide professional association and is an affiliate of APHA (American Public Health Association).
 - 3. APHA is a national organization that advocates at the federal level for policy issues affecting health in the US and around the world.

4. APHA was founded in the late 1800's and each state founded associations later; there were even some city ones.
- ii. NCPHA Annual Conference – New Bern, NC (September 24-26, 2008)
 1. A NCPHA membership form was distributed to all students.
 2. Dr. Lea noted that this conference presents a great opportunity for networking, job hunting, etc. and encouraged all students to join the organization and attend the conference.
 3. The website is www.ncpha.com and is currently being updated to allow online registration.
 4. Each section of NCPHA sponsors workshops about important activities (continuing education, etc.). She recently was chair of the Epidemiology section.
 5. Each student was also given a registration form for the NCPHA conference. The fee is half price for students (full conference - \$80, one day - \$57.50)
 - a. Elizabeth applied for funding through the Graduate & Professional Student Senate and has ensured that the PHO will further discount the discounted fees by half (early bird registration only). Receipts must be kept for reimbursement purposes.
 - iii. Student Caucus Involvement/Leadership
 1. The NCPHA Student Caucus consists of student members from all over the state. The Caucus was formed 2 years ago after the APHA Student Caucus. The group is relatively new and is seeking students interested in leadership roles. No experience is necessary to acquire a leadership position. Any student interested in joining the Student Caucus or being considered for a leadership role may contact her at leac@ecu.edu or 252-744-4036.
 - iv. NCPHA first convened in Asheville, NC in 1909; next year marks the 100th anniversary.

IV. Officer Reports

a. President, Elizabeth Baker

- i. Elizabeth thanked Dr. Lea for sharing such valuable information with PHO.
- ii. NCPHA
 1. NCPHA membership is only \$7.50 for students. All are encouraged to join. NCPHA membership and conference fees were collected at this meeting.
 2. Elizabeth planned to send in membership and conference registration forms for students that day, as the early bird registration ended the next day. She also informed everyone that the last day of the conference, Friday the 26th, will feature a large breakfast open to those registered for Friday and hosted by UNC.
 3. PHO will offer a hosting and carpool opportunity for students interested in attending the conference.
 4. Elizabeth is also working with faculty to ensure an excused absence on conference days for students participating.
- iii. Volunteer Center Registration
 1. PHO's goal is to schedule at least one volunteer activity per month. She encouraged everyone to complete the form even if they were unsure of their plans to volunteer. Completing the form guarantees insurance coverage in the amount of \$1 million for all volunteers. The insurance policy also covers car accidents in route to a volunteer site. The Volunteer Center will also document volunteer service for students who complete volunteer time sheets. This is especially useful for those interested in pursuing further education, as the

Volunteer Center will forward this documentation to secondary institutions on behalf of students.

- iv. Student Survey
 - 1. First year students were given a survey to assess interests, etc. All were encouraged to include as much information as possible so that PHO could make their experiences in the program as positive as possible.

- b. Vice President, Eddie Reynolds
 - i. Eddie is looking at the Ronald McDonald house for volunteering opportunities. Thursdays are currently booked at the Ronald McDonald House. He will provide further information after researching other opportunities there.

- c. Treasurer, Ross Pendley
 - i. There are extra t-shirts and sweatshirts available for sale. The long-sleeve shirts are \$10 and the sweatshirts are \$20.
 - ii. PHO dues are \$10 per semester. Students may pay for the fall only or \$20 for the year. Cash or checks may be submitted to Ross. Please make checks payable to **PHO**.

- d. Parliamentarian, Marissa Kleffman
 - i. Due to the potential inclement weather that weekend, the tailgate scheduled for the September 6th game was cancelled. Tailgating is rescheduled for Homecoming.
 - ii. To replace the September event, students have been contacted about an alternative social. PHO students are meeting at Chilis on Thursday, September 11th, at 8:00 for dinner. RSVPs are being sent to Elizabeth.

- e. Secretary, Tandra Hilliard
 - i. Students signed up for the following opportunities:
 - 1. Big/Little-PHO Mentoring Program

REQUESTING MENTOR	CONCENTRATION	WILLING TO MENTOR	CONCENTRATION
James Gordon	A&M	Sara Woolard	A&M
Kyle Wilson	A&M	Kelvin Freeman	HE&P
Brian Loveland	A&M	Marissa Kleffman	A&M
Bennita Harper	A&M	Summer Choudhury	A&M
Felicia Ezikpe	A&M	Rachel Maguire	HE&P
Fred Wright	HE&P	Pamela Sullivan	A&M
David Blackley	A&M	Tandra Hilliard	A&M
Leisha Johnson	HE&P	Elizabeth Baker	HE&P
Matasha Brown	HE&P	Eddie Reynolds	A&M
Chris Green	A&M		
Becky Merrick	undecided		
	7 A&M; 3 HE&P; 1 U		6 A&M; 3 HE&P

2. Committees

There are three committees: social, volunteer & fundraising. Intramural sports fall under the Social Committee. Kelvin Freeman has openings on his flag football team.

COMMITTEES		
SOCIAL	VOLUNTEER	FUNDRAISING
Kelvin Freeman	Summer Choudhury	Rachel Maguire
James Gordon	James Gordon	Fred Wright
Kyle Wilson	Brian Loveland	
Brian Loveland	David Blackley	
Pamela Sullivan	Fred Wright	
Bennita Harper	Leisha Johnson	
Felicia Ezikpe	Chris Green	
Fred Wright	Becky Merrick	
Matasha Brown		

3. NCPHA Carpooling/Host

NCPHA			
WILLING TO HOST	NEED A HOST	NEED A RIDE	WILLING TO DRIVE
Marissa Kleffman	None	Marissa Kleffman	Sara Woolard (Thursday only)
Rachel Maguire		Kelvin Freeman	Marissa Kleffman
		Summer Choudhury	Kelvin Freeman
		Brian Loveland	Summer Choudhury
		Rachel Maguire	Rachel Maguire
		Eddie Reynolds	Eddie Reynolds

4. October 18th ECU game-PICASO

PICASO
Marissa Kleffman
Kelvin Freeman
Summer Choudhury
James Gordon
Brian Loveland
Pamela Sullivan
Bennita Harper
Felicia Ezikpe
Leisha Johnson
Becky Merrick
Tandrea Hilliard
Elizabeth Baker
Eddie Reynolds

OPEN STUDENT DISCUSSION-NO FACULTY

Elizabeth began the open student discussion by encouraging all students to bring up any issues of importance to them. This time is not, for obvious reasons, recorded in official minutes. First-year students were asked to put social interests on the back of the survey.

V. Special Reports

a. Sara Woolard, EAHEC

- i. Phi Kappa Phi's Annual Forum, "Health Care: Public or Private Good?"
 1. October 7th, 2008, 8:30-12:15
 2. Brody Auditorium
 3. Registration is free for ECU students.

Sara discussed a forthcoming opportunity sponsored by EAHEC. This annual forum will consist of professionals from various organizations, such as Bob Greczyn (CEO of BCBSNC), and will highlight healthcare and insurance issues. It is free to all ECU students and will take place in the Brody Auditorium on October 7th. The time is 8:30-12:15.

VI. Old Business (none)

VII. New Business (none)

VIII. Announcements

Elizabeth announced the following information:

- a. Dr. Jilcott is organizing a special interest group in global health. If interested, email her with your specific interest (HIV, nutrition, water quality, etc.), times you are available, and places you'd like to meet (coffee shop, classroom, library, etc.).
- b. Internship information sessions will be held October 16th and November 20th at 4:00 pm in the Hardy Building conference room. For more information, contact Rachel Ward. You need to attend one of these sessions if you plan to start your internship in the Spring.
- c. A Kid's Triathlon will be held on October 12th (Fall Break). Volunteers are needed. Although PHO will not be participating as a group, individuals interested can contact Dr. Chris Mansfield for more information. Also visit http://www.runnc.com/Race_Schedule.htm#Splash%20&%20Dash.
- d. Those attending APHA (San Diego) need to sign release forms before leaving the meeting.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by President, Elizabeth Baker.

Prepared by Secretary, Tandra Hilliard