

**HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER**

Office of Academic Affairs  
School of Public Health



**MEMORANDUM**

September 29, 2015

**TO:** Mark Zoran, PhD  
Chair, Graduate Council

*Approved by G.C.  
11-5-15*

**FROM:** Jay Maddock, PhD  
Dean, School of Public Health

**RE:** Closure of Austin Off-Campus Distance Education MPH Programs

The School of Public Health is initiating closure of two Austin-site distance education Master of Public Health programs. Attached you will find the following documents as agenda items for the Graduate Council:

- Teach-out plan for discontinuation of the Austin-site MPH in Environmental Health;
- Teach-out plan for discontinuation of the Austin-site MPH in Health Policy and Management.

Please note that this action only closes the Austin off-campus site offerings, and does not eliminate the MPH degrees. Both the MPH in Environmental Health (CIP 51.2202.00) and the MPH in Health Policy and Management (51.2211.00) will continue to be offered at the main campus in College Station and will remain on the school's program inventory with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

	Signature	Date
Department Head, Environmental & Occupational Health Mark Bendon, PhD	<i>[Signature]</i>	10/2/15
Department Head, Health Policy & Management Mike Morrissey, PhD	<i>[Signature]</i>	10/1/15
SPH Curriculum Committee Chair Ranjana Mehta, PhD	<i>[Signature]</i>	09/15/15
SPH Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Antonio Rene, PhD, MPH	<i>[Signature]</i>	10/1/15

**Attachments**

**Cc:** Vernon Tesh, PhD  
Antonio A. Rene, PhD, MPH  
Amanda Allen  
Lois Rockwell

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## **Teach-out Plan**

**Master of Public Health (MPH) degree in Environmental Health  
Off-campus Distance Education Program in Austin, Texas  
School of Public Health  
Texas A&M University**

Adapted from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges  
Substantive Change for Accredited Institutions of the Commission of Colleges.

**1. Date of program closure.**

After August 2013, the school was no longer admitting students for the Environmental Health MPH program in Austin. The last student is expected to graduate in May 2017. The program is projected to close August 2017.

**2. An explanation of how affected parties (students, faculty, staff) will be informed of the impending closure.**

The Austin MPH was designed as a lock-step cohort curriculum with the understanding that the decision to offer successive cohorts would be reevaluated as needed. In Fall 2014, it was determined that no more educational programs would be offered at the Austin site, and that the cohort started in Fall 2013 would be the last. Department faculty and staff were informed at that time.

**3. An explanation of how students will be helped to complete their programs of study with minimal disruption or additional expense.**

According to the degree plan developed for students in the final cohort, all but one will graduate in the spring of 2016. The Austin site will remain opened until the final student completes the degree May 2017.

**4. Signed copies of teach-out agreements with other institutions, if any.**

Not Applicable

**5. How faculty and staff will be redeployed or helped to find new employment**

Since the School of Public Health faculty and staff involved in the Austin site are at the main campus in College Station and the MPH in Environmental Health will continue to be offered in College Station, the discontinuation of the Austin site will not result in the loss of faculty nor staff.

**6. If closing an institution, arrangement for the storing of student records, disposition of final financial resources and other assets**

Not Applicable

**7. Please provide the following additional information:**

**a. How many students are currently enrolled in the program? Ten**

**b. Projected graduation date for the last student(s) in the program? May 2017**

## Teach-out Plan

**Master of Public Health (MPH) degree in Health Policy and Management  
Off-campus Distance Education Program in Austin, Texas  
School of Public Health  
Texas A&M University**

Adapted from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges  
Substantive Change for Accredited Institutions of the Commission of Colleges.

**1. Date of program closure.**

After August 2013, the school was no longer admitting students for the Health Policy and Management MPH program in Austin. The last student is expected to graduate in August 2016. The program is projected to close January 1, 2017.

**2. An explanation of how affected parties (students, faculty, staff) will be informed of the impending closure.**

The Austin MPH was designed as a lock-step cohort curriculum with the understanding that the decision to offer successive cohorts would be reevaluated as needed. In Fall 2014, it was determined that no more educational programs would be offered at the Austin site, and that the cohort started in Fall 2013 would be the last. Department faculty and staff were informed at that time.

**3. An explanation of how students will be helped to complete their programs of study with minimal disruption or additional expense.**

According to the degree plan developed for students in the final cohort, all students graduate in the summer of 2016. No students' completion will be disrupted by the closure.

**4. Signed copies of teach-out agreements with other institutions, if any.**

Not Applicable

**5. How faculty and staff will be redeployed or helped to find new employment**

Since the School of Public Health faculty and staff involved in the Austin site are at the main campus in College Station and the MPH in Health Policy and Management will continue to be offered in College Station, the discontinuation of the Austin site will not result in the loss of faculty nor staff.

**6. If closing an institution, arrangement for the storing of student records, disposition of final financial resources and other assets**

Not Applicable

**7. Please provide the following additional information:**

**a. How many students are currently enrolled in the program? Nine**

**b. Projected graduation date for the last student(s) in the program? August 2016**