

IUPUI GAC Reviewer Form

Reviewer:

School:

Department:

Email:

Date Reviewed: 18 December 2008

Documents Reviewed: *Proposal*
Letters of Recommendation

Summary of Proposal: PhD Program in Epidemiology

1. Are the goals clear and achievable?

Yes.

2. Is the program academically sound?

Yes.

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?

Yes.

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?

No, not that I noted.

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal.

a. The Program’s Objective & Rationale Section (page 3 of Proposal, Abstract) states in its first sentence that:

“The proposed program will develop scholars who will carry out original research that will contribute to the understanding of the occurrence of illness and injury, including investigations of the etiology, prevention, and control of disease and injury.”

- ***My Comment***

- i. After reading the proposal and supporting materials (including impressive letters in support), I believe the Program will be able to fulfill its very important goals, particularly regarding its graduates working in the public health field in Indiana and other parts of the United States.

b. Item # 4 on page 3 of the Proposal (Abstract) is entitled “Employment Potential” and states, in part:

“Graduates with an academic degree in epidemiology would be employed in academic institutions, biotech/pharmaceutical industries, health care systems, federal, state or local government agencies, and health-related non-government agencies”

- ***My Comment. See below, item c.***

c. Item # 4 on pages 14 & 15 is entitled “Local, Statewide, National and Global Factors”.

- ***My Comment—also commenting on item “b” above.***

- i. Is the Program committed to preparing graduates for opportunities in the global marketplace, perhaps through international courses, service, overseas internships, or exchange programs? Will the Program prepare graduates for public health work in inter-governmental organizations (e.g., WHO and other United Nations agencies such as UNAIDS—the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS), international non-governmental organizations (e.g., Physicians for Human Rights, HIV/AIDS initiatives, organizations that combat malaria, etc), etc.

- ***My Comment – Human Rights.***

- i. Is the topic of “Health as a Human Right” or “The Right to Health”—as an international recognized human right—covered in the curriculum? I looked at the course list and searched the document for “right” and “human rights” but did not see this topic expressly covered. I noted mention of the Center on Law and Health of the IU School of Law – Indianapolis. Will Program students be able to enroll in Health and Human Rights or other relevant courses taught at the Law School?

d. Congratulations on the proposal.