Public Health Applications for Student Experience (PHASE)

Bridging the gap between academics and practice

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Outline of Presentation

• What is PHASE?
• Objectives/Purpose of PHASE
• Who is eligible for PHASE?
• Requirements of PHASE Internship
• Examples of past PHASE projects
• Application Process
What is PHASE?

• Non-paid, credit-earning internship program
  Internships are developed so that students synthesize and integrate knowledge acquired in course work and other learning experiences and apply theory and principles in a situation that approximates some aspect of professional practice.

• Partnership
  - Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DHMH)
  - Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
  - JHSPH MidAtlantic Public Health Training Center (MAPHTC)
  - LHDs in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area
Objectives/Purpose of PHASE

• Provide students with 'real-world' exposures and opportunities for hands-on experiences that are otherwise missing from the academic curriculum

• Expose students to public health in the public sector—strengthening and adding to the existing public health workforce

• Actively involving students in vital public health decision-making
Who is eligible for PHASE?

- Any JHSPH graduate student who has completed *Principles of Epidemiology* (340.601.01) or *Epidemiologic Methods I* (340.751) is eligible to apply to the PHASE Internship Program.

- Internships are tailored to master’s degree candidates (MPH, MHS and ScM).

- Master candidates are encouraged to utilize their PHASE internship to fulfill their Capstone Experience or Masters Thesis requirements for their respective programs.
What are the requirements of PHASE?

- A public health practice experience or research project
  - involving a **minimum of 100 hours of effort** (average 4-5 hours/week at internship site)
  - 2\(^{nd}\), 3\(^{rd}\), and 4\(^{th}\) terms (24 weeks)
- Register for PHASE Internship each quarter (**340.851.01**) after accepted into the program
  - Minimum 2 credits/term, Pass/Fail
  - 3-4 page **Concept Paper** (completed in the first 4 weeks of the internship)
  - **Final paper** (can be adapted for Capstone!)
- Participate in **PHASE Symposium** (usually the 2\(^{nd}\) week in May)
  - 15-20 minute oral presentation of your internship
- Attendance
  - Monthly meetings with other PHASE interns to discuss progress (mandatory)
What are some examples of PHASE projects?

- SARS: implications of the changing case definition
- Spatial analysis of Lyme Disease incidence in Howard County, Maryland
- Is Maryland prepared? Measuring domestic preparedness in the Maryland public health system
- Examination of key factors among hospital norovirus gastroenteritis outbreaks in Maryland during 2004
- Elevated blood lead levels of children at age three given low levels at ages one and two
- TB outbreak investigation in fishery workers, Maryland
- Comprehensive transitional case management for ex-offenders living with HIV/AIDS in Maryland
- The Maryland Clean Indoor Act: a case study in policy implementation
- Evaluating the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene response to Hurricane Katrina
- Temporal trends in HIV incidence in Baltimore City: An ecologic analysis of the Needle Exchange Program
Application Process

• Available projects will be posted online on September 8, 2008 both at www.cha.state.md.us/phase and on www.jhsph.edu (you will receive an email with the specific link)
• Select internships for which you are interested
• Submit online application
  • *Deadline: September 19, 2008*
• Interview during the week of Sept 29-Oct 3
• Matching will occur during the week of October 6-10
• Register for 2\textsuperscript{nd} term when accepted
For more information…

- Go to: [http://www.cha.state.md.us/phase](http://www.cha.state.md.us/phase)
- Courseplus: search course # **340.851.01**
- Send me or Dr. Ibrahim an email
- Talk to former students…they can give you a true assessment of how valuable the internship experience was

Thank you for your time and attention.