

Author's response to reviews

Title: A model for integrating strategic planning and competency-based curriculum design in the establishment of a public health program: The UNC Charlotte experience

Authors:

Michael E Thompson (methomp1@uncc.edu)
Andrew Harver (arharver@uncc.edu)
Marquis Eure (Marquis.Eure@mecklenburgcountync.gov)

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Author's response to reviews:

22 July 2009

Dr. Mario Dal Poz
Editor-in-Chief, Human Resources for Health
World Health Organization
Geneva

RE: Revision of "Assuring competence through curriculum design: The UNC Charlotte experience"

into

"A model for integrating strategic planning and competency-based curriculum design in the establishment of a public health program: The UNC Charlotte experience"

Dear Dr. Dal Poz:

On behalf of my co-authors, I am pleased submit the enclosed revised article, now retitled "A model for integrating strategic planning and competency-based curriculum design in the establishment of a public health program: The UNC Charlotte experience," at the suggestion of the reviewer and reformatted to the new case study manuscript per your suggestion, for review and inclusion in Human Resources for Health.

This revised article responds to the reviewer comments in the following ways:

1. The article was retitled to emphasize its shared strategic and curricular planning focus. (reviewer comment #1)
2. The article was reformatted and reorganized to fall under the new case study option. (editor suggestion #1)
3. The role and nature of the community stakeholders/public health practitioners in shaping the choice to offer an MSPH versus an MPH was clarified and

expanded upon. (reviewer comments #2 & 3)

4. Information on program length (time and credits) was incorporated into the body of the paper and a table summarizing the curriculum added. (reviewer comment #4)

5. Data in the text, figures, and tables were updated to include progress made since the paper was first submitted in April 2008.

Thank you for your continuing consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Thompson, MS, DrPH
Assistant Professor