Undergraduate Program Assessment

Department of Public Health

Student Learning Objectives
• Design health programs in partnership with stakeholders using a social justice framework.
• Analyze communities (including health systems within communities) and understand their own role as public health personnel.
• Facilitate small group teaching and discussion on relevant health education issues.
• Describe how health policy is made and implemented.
• Design health advocacy programs and interact with media effectively.
• Demonstrate particular knowledge and skills necessary to continue their education in graduate fields (MS, MPH, MD).

Assessment tools
School-wide:
• Indirect: student surveys at the end of core courses (planned to extend to all courses); student reflection paper in “Evaluation of Learning Outcomes” course; exit survey.
• Direct: examples of student work in “Evaluation of Learning Outcomes” course.

Department of Public Health:
• Direct: evaluation of classroom work, especially from 320, Junior Year Writing, 490B, senior capstone, and classes taken by students in both Social Science and Science tracks.

Highlighted recent activities
School-wide:
• The SPHHS Curriculum Committee is developing a 1-credit course titled, “Evaluation of Learning Outcomes”. This year-long course offering will provide 1 credit per semester; grading will be on a letter basis. Students enrolled in the course will collect assignments, assignment instructions, and syllabi from each of their courses, and will write a reflection paper, using structured prompts, on their learning outcomes at the end of each semester. The results of the course will identify the overall curriculum areas of relative strength and weakness in helping students achieve these learning objectives.

Department of Public Health:
• Indirect: In the Spring 2009 semester, the Department conducted in-person discussions with graduates to obtain in-depth feedback.