

Public Health Graduate Student Association

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Annual Report 2014

I. Administration

The PH-GSA Executive Committee for Spring 2014 was elected as follows:

- Yoonie Jung, MPH-HPM: President
- Claire Mason, MPH-HPM: Vice President
- Alex Hershey, MPH-HPM: Treasurer
- Hopelyn Clift, MPH-HPM: Secretary

The PH-GSA Executive Committee for Fall 2014 was elected as follows:

- Claire Mason, MPH-HPM: President
- Hopelyn Clift, MPH-HPM: Vice President
- Alex Hershey, MPH-HPM: Treasurer
- Belle McFarland, MPH-CHE: Secretary

II. Department Services: Spring 2014

a. National Public Health Week (at least 4 student participants)

The PH-GSA celebrated National Public Health Week, April 9th, by setting up a booth on UTK's pedestrian walkway. A PH-GSA member was present at the table at all times the table was set up. Our table included a golf game, mini interactive public health poster, and giveaways.

b. New Student Orientation (approximately 9 student participants)

The PH-GSA organized an informational session for students entering the MPH program in the spring. This orientation was held in the HPER building. A PowerPoint presentation was made and students were given the opportunity to meet with faculty and get any questions answered. This event was catered by Jason's Deli.

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C. End of Year Social Event (Several student participants)

The PHGSA organized an end of the year party at Bearden Beer Market. This provided a chance for students to socialize and celebrate their hard work. Jason's Deli and other snacks were provided.

III. Department Services: Fall 2014

a. New Student Orientation (at least 19 student participants)

The PH-GSA organized an informational session for students entering the MPH students in the fall. This was a larger event than the spring orientation and was held at the Black Cultural Center on August 14, 2014. A PowerPoint presentation was made and the students were given the opportunity to meet with faculty and get any questions answered. This event was catered by Jason's Deli.

b. Tailgate (approximately 5 student participants)

The PH-GSA hosted a tailgate for the first game of the 2014 season against Utah State on August 31 at Fiji Island. This was a social event and snacks were provided.

c. Social Gathering (at least 7 student participants)

The PH-GSA organized for MPH students to gather after seminar at Aubrey's for dinner and socializing on September 18, 2014.

d. Sunspot (approximately 5 student participants)

The PH-GSA originally planned for students to go to the Corn Maze, but decided to stay local and eat dinner at Sunspot on the strip on October 9, 2014. This was another social event.

e. Health Fair (at least 4 student participants)

Members of PH-GSA helped represent the MPH program at a health fair for undergraduate students interested in pursuing a career in health on October 21, 2014. A booth providing information about the MPH program was set up and any questions students had were answered by MPH students.

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f. Comp Study Party (several student participants)

The PH-GSA organized a study session for students who wanted to study and prepare for comps the following week or find out more information about comps if not taking the exam this semester. This was held in a classroom in HPER on October 23, 2014 after seminar. Pizza was ordered for the students

g. Can Drive for Second Harvest (several student participants)

The PH-GSA organized a Fall Food Drive for Second Harvest Food Bank. The MPH program partnered with the nutrition program to compete against students in Kinesiology for collecting the most items. The food drive was held November 3-24, and was part of the SEC Fall Food Drive.

h. Love Kitchen Volunteering (approximately 4 student participants)

The PH-GSA organized for MPH students to volunteer at the Love Kitchen on November 12, 2014. Students helped prepare meals to be served at lunch and “to go” boxes for those who are unable to leave their homes.

i. Health Department Tours (at least 3 student participants)

The PH-GSA helped advertise Health Department tours that were hosted by Julie Grubaugh on November 12 and 14, 2014 at the Knox County Health Department. On the tours, students were given a walk through of the health department and were shown how the services there relate to the 10 essential services of public health. The tours were interactive and tailored to students’ interests.

j. End of the Semester Social Event (at least 8 student participants)

The PH-GSA organized for students to meet in Market Square on December 3, 2014 for ice skating, dinner, and socializing. This was an end of year celebration.

IV. Meetings

a. Spring 2014

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The executive committee of the PH-GSA met throughout the semester to discuss and plan events.

b. Fall 2014

The executive committee and members of the PH-GSA met on Thursdays once a month to discuss and plan events.

V. Budget

a. Budget

Beginning Fall 2014 PH-GSA was not allotted a set budget. For large events a budget request was required to be created and submitted to Dr. Erwin for approval. The PH-GSA has a small amount of funds in a lockbox in the department office equaling \$130 at the end of 2014. The PH-GSA also has an account with the Division of Student Life equaling \$422.87 at the end of 2014 (money in this account was not used Fall 2014). Contact information for this account is located in the lockbox.

VI. T-Shirts

a. Spring 2014

T-Shirts were for sale for \$20.00, which included membership fees to the PH-GSA.

b. Fall 2014

T-Shirts were for sale for \$20.00, which included membership fees to the PH-GSA. No new t-shirts were purchased this semester.

VII. New Officers

a. Committee Assignments for Fall 2014

- Graduate Student Advisory Board
 - Claire Mason (Representative)
 - Reston Hartsell (Representative)
- Graduate Student Senate

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- Hopelyn Clift (Representative)
- MPH Academic Committee
 - Adam Keck (HPM Representative)
 - Amy Adams (HPM Alternate)
 - Elizabeth Conner (CHE Representative)
 - Sanya Sharma (CHE Alternate)
 - Jessica Matlock (VPM Representative)
 - VPM Alternate

b. November Elections

- Elections for the Spring 2015 PH-GSA executive committee were held in November 2014 the results are as follows:
 - President: Elizabeth Conner
 - Vice President: Elena Stewart
 - Treasurer: Courtney Williams
 - Secretary: Amy Adams
 - Philanthropy Chair: Michelle Wright*

*PH-GSA added “Philanthropy Chair” as a new position on the executive committee to the bylaws. *