



August 30, 2018

Re: Communication about PHACT Public Health Academics for Clinicians in Training (PHACT)

Dear GME Community,

We write to share great news concerning on-going discussions between the School of Medicine (SoM) and the School of Public Health (SPH) regarding SoM fellows seeking a Master of Public Health (MPH) or Master of Science (MS) degree at the SPH.

We heard your concerns regarding ACGME requirements, fellows' schedules and clinical load. As a result, we are no longer proposing an accelerated Master program. Instead, clinical fellows will continue to apply to and participate in the traditional SPH MPH or MS program that best fits their needs. In addition, they will be asked to participate in a framework, tentatively called Public Health for Clinicians in Training (PHACT), which includes supports for success: joint mentorship by faculty from both schools and an informal weekly seminar providing skills and networking.

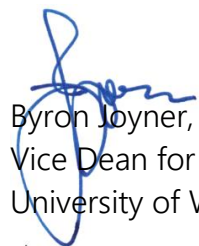
To address the financial challenge, the two schools have worked out a financial arrangement whereby the University's tuition exemption will continue to be available to SoM trainees, faculty and staff for classes taken at the SPH. However, in recognition of the financial burden placed on the SPH, particularly by trainees pursuing MPH/MS degrees, the SoM has agreed to help offset the costs to the SPH exemption based on the number of MPH/MS degree-seeking SoM fellows. The financial assistance will enable clinical fellows to continue to utilize the employee tuition exemption, regardless of the program in which they are enrolled.

The PHACT framework will be piloted this fall and publicized more broadly for Fall 2019. In order to create a cohort of clinical fellows, organize mentors and secure proper resources, we anticipate including all fellows in SPH degree-granting programs beginning this Fall (2018).

We are also planning to create Clinical and Translational Research options associated with the MS degrees in both Epidemiology and Health Services beginning in academic year 2019.

We are very pleased that through our collective efforts we have been able to create additional academic supports that will assist our clinical fellows with obtaining a Master's degree (MPH/MS) while also addressing our financial challenge. We look forward to communicating more with you when we have additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Byron Joyner".

Byron Joyner, MD, MPA
Vice Dean for Graduate Medical Education & Designated Institutional Official
University of Washington School of Medicine

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Green".

Mark Green
Vice Dean for Administration and Finance
University of Washington, School of Medicine

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley A.A. Beresford".

Shirley A.A. Beresford, PhD
Senior Associate Dean
University of Washington, School of Public Health