

# CEPH Accreditation News & Updates



Council on Education for Public Health

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## TA Session to Consider Changes in Higher Ed, Effects on CEPH Criteria

CEPH is excited to bring a nationally recognized guest speaker to its Technical Assistance session in November (details provided at right). George Mehaffy serves as a vice president at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). His division is responsible for developing and managing programs for member institutions in leadership development, undergraduate education, technology, international education, student success and teacher education.

Our stakeholders will have the opportunity to hear about changes in higher education happening around the country and how they might affect CEPH's next criteria revision, which has just begun. (More

details are provided at the bottom of this page.)

Higher education is undergoing a profound set of changes, the most dramatic in most of our



lifetimes. The powerful forces of economic difficulty and increasing expectations are joined with perhaps the most powerful change agent of this century: technology. The combination of those forces of change have challenged institutions to reconsider every aspect of the enterprise: how courses are designed and delivered in radically new ways, how data is used to support outcomes and student success, how prior learning and competency are used to recognize attainment and a host of other transformational ideas and strategies.

CEPH hopes to use this presentation to set the stage for a participatory discussion of concepts that will be important in rethinking and revising the accreditation criteria. After the presentation, CEPH staff will invite attendees to provide ideas and feedback on substantive issues that will be important to the criteria revision process. While there will be many other opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the criteria revision process, CEPH hopes to use this session as an opportunity to gather information on stakeholders' priorities and suggestions.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**THURSDAY, JULY 31, 2014 AND**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2014**

**Accreditation Orientation Workshop  
(By invitation only)**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2014**

**All materials due for fall 2014 Council meeting**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2014**

**Public comments due on proposed revisions to Procedures**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2014**

**Technical Assistance Session  
New Orleans, LA (Location TBD)**

**4:00 pm – 5:30 pm**

**Changes in Higher Education and the Implications on CEPH's Next Criteria Revision**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2014**

**Technical Assistance Session  
New Orleans, LA (Location TBD)**

**2:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

**Update on Undergraduate Accreditation**

If you know of anyone who would like to be added to the distribution list for this newsletter, please send an email to [kvarol@ceph.org](mailto:kvarol@ceph.org).

## CEPH Continues Procedures, Criteria Revisions Processes

As many know, CEPH is in the midst of a minor procedures revision and a more substantive criteria revision. The procedures are [open for comment](#) through Tuesday, August 13. The most significant change proposed relates to the initial accreditation date for new schools and programs. The Council proposes setting an initial accreditation date that accounts for the self-study and site visit process (p. 29 of redline document). The proposed change will apply only prospectively. The remaining changes seek to clarify current practices.

The Council will review and consider any comments received at its fall 2014 meeting, and expects to disseminate the revised procedures before the end of the year.

The Council has also begun work on revising the criteria for schools (SPH) and graduate programs (PHP). CEPH sought overall comments about the current criteria in spring 2014 and plans to release an initial draft of the revised criteria for public comment in early 2015. Multiple comment periods are expected as the criteria are further refined based on feedback.

## CEPH Director Represents US Specialized Accreditors at International Forum

In May 2014, CEPH's Executive Director Laura Rasar King began a two-year term as chair of the Board of Directors of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA). This national organization of approximately 60 specialized accrediting agencies provides membership services, including professional development for staff, and advocates on behalf of the specialized accrediting community.

As chair, Laura was invited to speak at the EASPA (European Alliance for Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance) meeting, which was held in conjunction with the INQAAHE (International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education) conference in Tallinn, Estonia in late May. She spoke about how specialized and professional accreditation functions in the United States, as well as emerging issues in US-based quality assurance efforts. The subsequent



INQAAHE meeting also covered topics such as 1) engagement of stakeholders in quality assurance processes, 2) the rise of international accrediting agencies and 3) the evolution of quality assurance with the expansion of diverse modes of acquired learning.

EASPA is a nascent organization hoping to develop a similar organization with benefits like ASPA in the United States. The INQAAHE meeting included representatives from six continents and provided an opportunity to exchange ideas and promising practices.

“As higher education becomes increasingly global, it is critical for quality assurance professionals to share information and develop productive working relationships,” King says. “INQAAHE provides a forum for this exchange.”

CEPH is a member of INQAAHE.



## CEPH Councilor Serves as Keynote Speaker at International Meeting

Donna Petersen, MHS, ScD, dean of the University of South Florida College of Public Health and a member of the CEPH Board of Councilors, was the keynote speaker for the 2014



Colloquium on Internationalizing Education for the Health Professions at the NAFSA (Association of International Educators) Annual Meeting.

Dean Petersen presented on Framing the Future: The Second 100 Years of Education for Public Health, global health competencies

developed by ASPPH, as well as the necessity for inter-professional education across the health professions.

This event was a unique learning opportunity for deans, faculty members, senior international officers and program directors working to infuse global knowledge, awareness and cross-cultural competency into coursework and co-curricular activities.



## CEPH Accredits 1 New School, 6 New Programs in June 2014

### Oregon State University

College of Public Health and Human Sciences  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### Benedictine University

MPH Program  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### Florida State University

MPH Program  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### Kansas State University

MPH Program  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### Central New York MPH Program

Collaborative between Upstate Medical University—SUNY  
and Syracuse University  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### Pennsylvania State University

MPH Program  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

### University of San Francisco

MPH Program  
Initial accreditation conferred to July 1, 2019

The CEPH website includes a [complete list of accredited schools and programs](#).

*The following schools and programs were granted continued accreditation*

### Jackson State University

Public Health Program  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### Stony Brook University—SUNY

Graduate Program in Public Health  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### Oregon MPH Program

Collaborative between Portland State University  
and Oregon Health and Science University  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### University of California, Los Angeles

Jonathan and Karin Fielding School of Public Health  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### University of North Florida

Master of Public Health Program  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### Armstrong Atlantic State University

MPH Program in Community Health Education  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

### Nova Southeastern University

MPH Program  
Continued accreditation conferred to July 1, 2021

## CEPH to Hold Workshop for SBPs at Undergraduate Summit

CEPH will provide an update about accreditation for standalone baccalaureate programs (SBPs) at the Undergraduate Education for Public Health Summit in November. CEPH staff will provide a workshop describing experiences to date with successful applications, including

- the numbers and types of applications received
- a sample timeline from application submission to accreditation decision
- characteristics of successful applications
- an overview of the procedures and criteria for CEPH accreditation

Attendees of the summit will have the opportunity to ask questions of CEPH staff and other program leaders.

The summit is co-sponsored by ASPPH and the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U). The theme of the fourth annual summit is Leading and Developing Successful Undergraduate Public Health Programs. In addition to CEPH, presenters will include academic institutions with undergraduate public health programs, CEPH-accredited schools and programs of public health and organizations working closely with undergraduate public health education initiatives. Public health educators, practitioners and students involved or interested in undergraduate public health education are invited to attend.

### **WHAT**

Undergraduate Education for Public Health Summit

### **WHEN**

Saturday, November 15, 2014

### **WHERE**

In conjunction with the APHA Annual Meeting  
The Westin New Orleans Canal Place

For more information and to register, visit the [ASPPH website](#).





## Leading and fostering innovation in quality improvement

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) is an independent agency recognized by the US Department of Education to accredit schools of public health and public health programs offered in settings other than schools of public health. These schools and programs prepare students for entry into careers in public health. The primary professional degree is the Master of Public Health (MPH) but other baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees are offered as well. Visit [www.ceph.org](http://www.ceph.org) for more information.

## The Council Considers...

### ...Your Questions about Accreditation Statistics

#### How many schools and programs does CEPH accredit?

CEPH accredits 160 schools and programs.

- 52 schools
- 108 programs

Information about the [difference between schools and programs](#) is available on the CEPH website.

#### How many new institutions has CEPH accredited in recent years?

In 2013, CEPH accredited 11 new institutions

- 10 programs
- 1 school

In June 2014, CEPH accredited 7 new institutions.

- 6 programs
- 1 school

#### How many additional institutions does CEPH expect to accredit in the coming years?

CEPH currently has 35 applicant schools and programs (12 of which are standalone baccalaureate programs). Applicant status does not necessarily guarantee that institutions will ultimately be accredited, but applicants must meet certain eligibility standards to proceed toward accreditation. The CEPH website includes a [complete list of applicants](#).

#### How many accredited degrees are offered in a completely distance-based format?

This number changes as new degrees and concentrations are added, but the most current information is always available on the [Search page](#) of the CEPH website. Simply select "Online Programs Only."

#### How many institutions offer public health degrees at the baccalaureate and graduate levels?

The 195 institutions that offer CEPH-accredited or CEPH-applicant educational programs constitute the only verifiable estimate of US public health degree offerings.

CEPH does not keep a tally of unaccredited public health programs. Anecdotal information suggests that there are a number of non-CEPH-affiliated universities that offer public health education, but no accurate data are available.

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