



SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# Academic Community Partnerships Advisory Board (ACP)

## Introduction

The mission of the University of North Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health is to create solutions for a healthier community by advancing public health knowledge through research, service and the education of public health professionals. The school offers Masters Degrees in Public Health (MPH), Health Administration (MHA), and Science (MS), Doctoral Degrees (PhD) and professional certificate programs. The School's programs are accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health and the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education.

## Definition of the Academic Community Partnerships Advisory Board

ACP offers a vehicle for input and guidance for UNTHSC SPH to best meet the educational, service and research needs of the surrounding community. Through education, research and service, the SPH addresses the social determinants of health using a healthy equity lens. ACP plays an active role in influencing positive community change in partnership with UNTHSC SPH. ACP also serves as an essential component and important asset in the development, promotion, and support of the UNTHSC SPH mission and vision.

## Purpose of the Academic Community Partnerships Advisory Board

The ACP's goal is to build solutions for a healthier Tarrant County and surrounding areas through the implementation of intentional academic-community partnerships. The ACP strives to unite, educate, and keep the community informed regarding UNTHSC SPH education, service and research. The ACP also serves in an advisory capacity to the Associate Dean of Community Outreach and Health Equity, Assistant Director of Programs and staff regarding UNTHSC SPH outreach, direction and delivery of programs and services as well as the effectiveness of the UNTHSC SPH's engagement with the community.

## Functions of the Academic Community Partnerships Advisory Board

ACP will be tasked to partner, collaborate and offer in the following areas:

- Public health curriculum and student outcome assessment
- Research
- Workforce development
- Service (community & professional)
- Alignment with CEPH accreditation standards
- Review Vision/Mission/Values/Goals/Objectives
- Public health practice and community engagement
- Responsiveness to community needs
- Diversity and cultural humility

## Commitment and Constituency of the Community Engagement Advisory Committee

ACP membership consists of a two-year term and will be composed of various community stakeholders such as residents and representatives from the business, faith, non-profit, and educational sectors that correspond to the local community. Membership will also include SPH alumni, employers of alumni, as well as multi-disciplinary UNTHSC students, faculty and staff. Members are invited to apply to the ACP and provided an application seeking their areas of expertise, commitment to the ACP and desire to positively impact their community's well-being.

The ACP meets quarterly and subcommittees will meet in between the quarterly full-board sessions. This will allow community members to become more knowledgeable and have a voice in the delivery of UNTHSC SPH education programs, service projects and research.

## Executive Committee

An executive committee will include the Associate Dean for Community Engagement and Health Equity as chair and three elected Co-Chair positions representing Partnerships, Solutions and Knowledge. The Partnerships Co-Chair will provide leadership regarding SPH relationships with community members, organizations, and other entities outside of the school. The Solutions Co-Chair will provide leadership regarding community-based projects and research studies that promote solutions for a healthier community. The Knowledge Co-Chair will provide leadership regarding the SPH curriculum, workforce development and practice-based learning opportunities.

The executive committee may hold regular administrative committee meetings between general ACP meetings to organize and carry out the day-to-day work of the ACP. The executive committees' primary responsibilities include but are not limited to leading the following:

- Determine ACP membership, establish meeting rules and create quarterly agendas.
- Prepare a program that reflects the priorities of stakeholders in the community and promote member involvement.
- Review mission, roles, membership, and guidelines annually.
- Define goals and develop or update strategic plan to address goals annually.

## Ad Hoc Topic Committees

Ad hoc committees will be established and meet one or more times to address specific topics of interest to ACP. Members will be asked to volunteer for at least one and no more than four special topic committees on an annual basis. The need for Ad Hoc committees will be determined by ACP in partnership with the Executive Committee.

ACP membership expectations will include participation in 4 annual full-board meetings and up to 4 additional topic-specific meetings. The 2017 schedule will involve meetings to establish overall structure and expectations of the board. By 2018-2019, meetings will follow a typical structure and include advisory review of UNTHSC research, academic and service activities, community networking opportunities, and other agenda items that support successful academic-community partnerships.

Month	Full-board	Ad Hoc Special Topic Committees
September 2017	Introduction to structure and functions of the Academic Community Partnerships Advisory Board, Election of Co-Chairs	
October 2017		SPH Degree Programs Re-design
November 2017		MPH Practice Experience Re-design
December 2017	Current research and practice projects	
January 2018		Work force needs assessment
February 2018		Funding Opportunities- Current Sources
March 2018	A review of community Needs Assessments	
April 2018		Setting priorities with a lens of social determinants and health equity
May 2018		Review measurement of student outcomes
June 2018	A review of workforce development needs	
July 2018		Diversity
August 2018		Review SPH Mission/ Vision/ Values