Task Force on Graduate Education: Selective Excellence

Program Ratings and Rationale

Program: Health Management and Policy M.H.A.; Health Services and Policy Ph.D. Program
Rating: High Quality

The Health Management and Policy department offers an MHA in Health Management and Policy and a PhD in Health Management and Policy, recently renamed Health Services and Policy. Selectivity and yield from the applicant pool is good and although the program reports the applicant pool is not geographically diverse, 10% of the PhD enrollees are from underrepresented populations. The program provides financial support to all full-time students. The program has a very good completion rate (73%) and TTD (4.28 yrs). Recently each student has had 7 peer-reviewed publications which the programs feels has resulted in its good placement record at academic research institutions. One challenge to the program is lack of feeder master's program that focuses on health services research.

The MHA program is a highly ranked, accredited professional master's degree program which also offers several dual degrees with business, law and public health, thus the size of the program is somewhat larger than represented in the GC data. The optimal size is to admit 25 new MHA students each year. Admission is selective. The MHA program is primarily a regional program but between 2004-2008, 7% of its enrolled students were from underrepresented populations. Approximately 35% of the students receive some form of funding. The program's completion rate is good and TTD averages 2 years, a little longer if a dual-degree is sought. Placement of graduates is appropriate for its mission.