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Master of Education in Teaching Program with an Emphasis in the Health Sciences

Marney Gundlach MD, MPH
Baylor College of Medicine

Nancy S. Searle EdD
Baylor College of Medicine

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Master of Education in Teaching Program with an Emphasis in the Health Sciences, Marney Gundlach, MD, MPH. BCM, Houston, TX, 77030. Nancy S Searle, EdD. BCM, Houston, TX, 77030. Wilford A Weber, EdD. UH, Houston, TX, 77004.

Introduction:

Concerns about the quality of physician education have changed current medical education practices. Learners must demonstrate competency in core areas, rather than solely participating in educational activities. Academic medical institutions are challenged with identifying leaders to direct curricular and evaluation reforms. An innovative partnership between the University of Houston College of Education and Baylor College of Medicine, the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, and the University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston offers a Masters of Education in Teaching degree with an emphasis in Health Sciences. Courses encompass fundamental areas including curriculum, instruction, technology, measurement, research design and statistics.

Purpose:

The purpose is to describe the curriculum for the Master of Education in Teaching degree program.

Methods:

The Masters of Education in Teaching degree is a two-year program encompassing thirty-six credit hours taught at the Texas Medical Center. Participants either defend a Masters Thesis project or pass a comprehensive exam.

Foundations of Education courses, required for nine credit hours, have included: Introduction to Educational and Psychological Measurement, Principles of Curriculum Development, and Principles of Human Learning. Program area courses, required for eighteen credit hours, have included: Advanced Digital Imaging for Medical Educators, Curriculum Theory, Instructional Design, Instructional Evaluation, Integrating Technology in the Curriculum, Research in Curriculum and Instruction, and Statistics in Curriculum Instruction. Approved elective courses, required for nine credit hours, may include thesis research, Internships or Special Problems courses.

Current Status:

Eleven professionals began the first cohort in January, 2003, of which nine have graduated with a MEd degree.

Seventeen professionals began the second cohort on or after August, 2005, and are currently completing coursework.

Additional information is available at: <http://www.coe.uh.edu/mycoe/cuin/medcenter/>

Conclusion:

The Masters of Education in Teaching Program demonstrates an innovative partnership offering training for future leaders in medical education.