

## **CRITERION VII.: SERVICE**

**The program shall pursue an active service program, consistent with its mission, through which faculty and students contribute to the advancement of public health practice, including continuing education.**

**VII.1. A description of the program's service activities, including policies, procedures and practices, which support service. If the program has formal contracts or agreements with external agencies, these should be noted.**

The PMB Graduate Programs promote service activities by students and faculty that:

1. Support and enhance preventive medicine and community health programs throughout the Uniformed Services community; and that
2. Meet the public health teaching, research, clinical, and consultative needs of the Uniformed Services

The Department facilitates and encourages faculty participation in a variety of service activities according to their particular area(s) of interest and expertise. Active duty military or US Public Health Service officers assigned to the University as members of the PMB faculty are extensively involved in ongoing service activities related to preventive medicine, environmental and occupational health, tropical public health, community health, and health services policy and management within their respective Service and/or across the Department of Defense or Department of Health and Human Services. These activities clearly support the mission of the PMB Graduate Programs. Civilian faculty members in the PMB Department are encouraged to include service along with teaching and research as an essential component of scholarly activities. PMB Graduate Programs faculty members teach in other SOM Departments, including Microbiology, Military and Emergency Medicine, Pathology, Pediatrics, and Psychiatry, as well as interdisciplinary programs, such as Emerging Infectious Diseases. Several faculty members have secondary appointments in other departments or graduate degree programs. Most of the faculty serve on committees within the PMB Department and at the University level.

Students in the PMB Graduate Programs serve their communities (military, other federal, civilian) through practicum experiences. MPH students have a wide variety of agencies/organizations in the National Capital Area from which to choose a practicum site. Standing Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) for MPH practicum experiences have been established between the PMB Graduate Programs and external agencies. In addition, individual and time-limited MOAs are executed in support of graduate student practicum experiences at a variety of local and State agencies or other private organizations. See list of practicum sites included in the resource section. Students also participate as members of PMB Department committees that review, evaluate, and make recommendations pertaining to the Graduate Programs in Public Health.

**VII.2. A list of the program's current service activities, including identification of the community groups and nature of the activity, over the last three years.**

Editorial Board Member or Journal Reviewer: PMB faculty members who support our Graduate Programs have served on editorial boards or as journal reviewers for numerous scientific publications, including the following:

- Accident Analysis & Prevention - Dr. Girasek
- Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine – Dr. Farr
- American Journal of Health Education – Dr. Girasek
- American Journal of Kidney Diseases – Dr. Barbour, Dr. Farr
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine – Dr. Trump
- American Journal of Public Health – Dr. Palmer, Dr. Girasek
- American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Dr. Cross, Dr. Kinnmoa, Dr. Farr, Dr. Roberts
- Annals of Family Medicine – Dr. Trump
- Archives of Internal Medicine – Dr. Barbour
- Aviation, Space and Environmental Medicine – Dr. Butler
- Bioinformatics – Dr. Chen
- British Medicine Journal – Dr. Scher
- Bulletin of the Pan American Health Organization – Dr. Roberts
- Cephalgia - Dr. Scher
- Emerging Infectious Diseases – Dr. Roberts
- Environmental Health Perspectives – Dr. Roberts
- Federal Practitioner – Dr. Barbour
- Headache - Dr. Scher
- Health Promotion Practice – Dr. Girasek
- Health Psychology – Dr. Girasek
- Injury Prevention – Dr. Girasek
- International Life Cycle Assessment Journal – Dr. LaPuma
- Journal of Biochemistry – Dr. Quinnan
- Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management – Dr. Barbour
- Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health – Dr. Girasek
- Journal of Infectious Disease – Dr. Quinnan
- Journal of Lab and Clinical Medicine, - Dr. Barbour
- Journal of Medical Entomology – Dr. Roberts
- Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association – Dr. Roberts, Dr. Sardelis
- Journal of Virology – Dr. Quinnan
- Korean Journal of Parasitology – Dr. Cross
- Medical Care – Dr. Barbour
- Military Medicine – Dr. Butler, Dr. Kinnamon, Dr. Trump
- Neurology – Dr. Scher
- Pediatrics – Dr. Girasek
- Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing – Dr. Roberts

- Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health – Dr. Cross
- Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene – Dr. Cross
- Tropical Biomedicine – Dr. Cross
- Wilderness Medicine – Dr. Butler

Agency and Organizational Consultants: Selected members of the faculty have served as agency consultants for a variety of local, national and international organizations, both military and civilian, including the following:

- American Academy of Family Practice – Dr. Cruess
- American Broadcasting Corporation “ABC News” – Dr. Girasek
- American College of Preventive Medicine – Dr. Thomas
- American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine – Dr. Gackstetter
- American Council for Headache Education – Dr. Scher
- American Industrial Hygiene Association – Dr. Hook
- American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) – Dr. Roberts
- American Public Health Association – Dr. Girasek
- Armed Forces Epidemiological Board – Dr. Bradshaw
- Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Board – Dr. Gackstetter
- Armed Forces Pest Management Board – Dr. Schultz
- Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine – Dr. Trump
- Aviron Corporation – Dr. Quinnan
- Biosynexis Corporation – Dr. Cruess
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Dr. Cruess, Dr. Keep, Ms. Olsen
- Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) Site Visit Team – Dr. Gackstetter
- Defense Institute for Medical Operations – Dr. Lipnick
- Department of Defense Global Emerging Infection Surveillance System – Dr. Bradshaw
- Department of Defense Joint Graduate Medical Education Selection Board – Dr. Mallon, Dr. Thomas
- Department of Defense Joint Preventive Medicine Working Group – Dr. Mallon, Dr. Thomas
- Department of Defense Joint Service Equipment Working Group – Dr. LaPuma
- Department of Defense Occupational Health and Medical Surveillance Coordinating Committee – Dr. Thomas
- Department of Defense, Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs – Dr. Trump, Dr. Bradshaw
- Department of Defense Injury/Occupational Illness Prevention Committee Dr. Girasek
- Department of Defense Safety Oversight Council/Task Force on Reduction of Private Motor Vehicle Deaths – Dr. Hooper, Dr. Gackstetter
- Department of Defense, Tricare Management Activity, Dental Integrated Process Team – Dr. York
- Government of India—Public Health Education for the Ministry of Health – Dr. Turner, Dr. Lipnick

- Government of Peru—Human Subjects Training – Dr. Gonzalez-Moreno
- Health Physics Society – Dr. Johnson
- Henry M. Jackson Foundation – Dr. Quinnan
- National Aeronautical and Space Administration – Dr. Cruess
- National Heart Lung, and Blood Institute—National Cholesterol Education Program – Dr. Bradshaw
- National Institutes of Health – Dr. Cruess, Dr. Quinnan
- National Kidney Institute – Dr. Cruess
- National Naval Medical Center – Dr. Cruess
- Naval Health Research Center – Dr. Hooper, Dr, Gackstetter
- Naval Medical Education & Training Command – Dr. Thomas
- Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery – Dr. York, Dr. Farr
- Navy Environmental Health Center – Dr. Thomas
- Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Units – Dr. Thomas
- Navy Occupational Health Medical Surveillance Matrix Committee – Dr. Thomas
- Universidad Peruana, Cayetano Heredice – Dr. Gonzalez-Moreno
- US Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine – Dr. Butler
- US Air Force Surgeon General's Office – Dr. Butler
- US Air Force Surgeon Office of Scientific Research – Dr. Johnson
- US Army Aeromedical Research Center – Dr. Butler
- US Army Human Resources Command – Dr. Keep, Dr. Barbour
- US Army Medical Research and Material Command – Dr. Chen
- US Army Military Infectious Disease Research Program Review Panel – Dr. Quinnan
- US Army Research Laboratory – Dr. Cruess
- US Environmental Protection Agency – Dr. Gibson
- US Marine Corps Chemical Biological Incident Response Force – Dr. Thomas
- Vaxin Corporation – Dr. Quinnan
- Walter Reed Army Institute of Research – Dr. Keep, Dr. Cruess, Ms. Olsen
- World Health Organization – Dr. Scher

Board Member/Advisory Council/Task Force for Another Agency/Institution: Six faculty members served as board members or participated in advisory councils for other organizations, including the following:

- Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Bioterrorism Task Force for Clinical Training – Dr. Trump
- Center for Health Disparities Research and Education Advisory Board – Dr. Cruess
- Department of Defense Occupational Health and Medical Surveillance Coordinating Committee (Chairperson) – Dr. Thomas
- Department of Defense Integrated Process Team for Health Surveillance Capability – Dr. Gackstetter, Dr. Trump
- George Mason University (Doctoral Dissertation Committee) – Dr. Cruess
- George Washington University (Residency Advisory Committee) – Dr. Trump

- Johns Hopkins University (Residency Advisory Committee) – Dr. Thomas
- US Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine (Residency Advisory Committee) – Dr. Butler
- Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (Residency Advisory Committee) – Dr. Keep
- District of Columbia Academy of Veterinary Medicine (Board of Directors) – Dr. Gackstetter

Leadership Positions in Professional Associations/Societies: Several faculty members currently serve or have recently served as officers in professional associations or societies including the following:

- American College of Preventive Medicine (Regent and National Chairperson)- Dr. Merchant
- Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine (Workshop Coordinator, Program Planning Committee, 2002 Annual Meeting; Vice-Chair, Program Planning Committee, 2003 Annual Meeting) – Dr. Trump
- American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (Councilor, Executive Committee) – Dr. Gackstetter
- Delta Omega, Psi Chapter, National Public Health Honor Society (President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer) – Dr. Trump, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Thomas
- National Veterinary Examination Committee, Professional Examination Services (Vice-Chair, Consultant Advisory Board) – Dr. Gackstetter
- Virginia College of Occupational & Environmental Medicine (President) – Dr. Thomas
- USUHS Faculty Senate (President) – Dr. Cruess

Chairperson, Host, or Sponsor of Professional Meetings, Symposiums or Programs: Faculty participated as a chairperson, host, or sponsor of a professional meeting, symposium, education/research program, not a part of the USUHS academic program, including the following:

- Chair, Program Planning Committee, 2004 Annual Meeting and Teaching Prevention Institute, Association of Teachers of Preventive Medicine, 2004 – Dr. Trump

Participation in Courses Sponsored by External Organizations: Several faculty members partner with various groups or organizations to teach public health concepts and principles. Some examples are provided:

- “Leadership Program in Regional Disaster Response and Trauma System Management” (Defense Institute for Medical Operations, US Air Force, San Antonio, Texas) is a six-day course involving a multi-agency team to train health care providers outside the United States on health planning for regional disasters, including presentations on trauma, preventive medicine, and mental health issues. – Dr. Lipnick

- “Epidemiology,” Orientation for National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center Ellison Overseas Fellowships in Global Health and Clinical Research. – Dr. Lipnick
- Navy Environmental Health Center sponsors annual conference/workshops at which several faculty members have served as instructors or judges for research presentations from both operational and research military commands. – Dr. Hooper
- A cadre of PMB Department faculty has taught major portions of the American College of Preventive Medicine Board Review Course offered annually. – Dr. Cruess, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Bradshaw, Dr. Keep

Visiting Professor or Adjunct Appointments: PMB faculty members hold appointments as visiting professor, adjunct professor, visiting fellow, external examiner, or honorary professor at other institutions of higher learning, including Eastern Virginia Medical School and George Mason University. – Dr. Thomas, Dr. Cross, Dr. Barbour, Dr. Trump, Dr. Cruess, Dr. Johnson

Other Service Activities: Faculty were involved in professional service activities within the local communities in which they reside, such as judging the Montgomery County Science Fair; delivering lectures in preventive medicine or public health to secondary or high school students; providing public health career information to interested student groups, and teaching health and safety merit badge classes for Boy Scouts

<p><b>VII.3. A description of the program's continuing education activities, including policies, procedures and practices that support continuing education.</b></p>
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The PMB Department is committed to fulfilling the continuing education needs of the Uniformed Services, other branches of the Federal government, and civilian colleagues. To this end, the Graduate Programs’ faculty is involved in a number of regularly offered courses providing continuing education credit. These courses have been designed and implemented by the faculty primarily in response to specifically identified needs within the Department of Defense and are presented in a variety of venues throughout each year.

In conjunction with the Veterans Administration, the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics submitted in early 2005, a USUHS/VA request for Health Care Sharing Incentive Funds. The funds were requested to support an initiative to develop a Master of Public Health Distance Learning (DL-MPH) Degree Program. This application was submitted by USUHS with the support of appropriate VA personnel. The successful completion of the initiative will result in the establishment of a degree program that can meet the needs of the VA for a cadre of health care executives, who are well-educated in the principles of management of efficient, high quality health care systems, as well as other aspects of public health relevant to VA programs. At the same time, the initiative will establish the capacity of USUHS to deliver an MPH program through a DL format that incorporates the specific needs of the DoD with respect to military public health, identical in content to our traditional, DoD-oriented MPH program. If funded, the initiative will position USUHS to meet the growing needs of both the

Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs for graduate education in public health.

A functional area within the PMB Graduate Programs is training, that is related to our medical residency programs. One of our training objectives is to “develop instructional programs in specialty areas, such as parasitology and tropical medicine, to support the global mission of the Uniformed Services and other federal agencies.” Our Master of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene degree program directly supports this objective and is directly linked to affiliated overseas laboratories in Kenya, Egypt, Peru, Thailand, and Indonesia, as well as other international sites under formal agreements.

In addition, PMB faculty members have lectured in continuing education courses on public health issues sponsored by PMB at foreign universities, medical care institutions, societies, or at U.S. sponsored conferences overseas in the past two years, including the following:

- Mahidol University (Thailand)
- Peruvian Naval Hospital
- Second Military Medical College in Shanghai, China
- Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital (Nepal)
- US Conference on Biotechnology (Korea and Thailand)
- Yonsei University (Korea)

**VII.4. A list of the continuing education programs offered by the program, including number of students served, over the last three years.**

The following table lists the primary continuing medical education courses offered by the PMB Graduate Programs faculty and the number of students per course in each of the past three years. A brief description of each course follows.

Course/Program	Number of Students		
	2002	2003	2004
Weapons of Mass Destruction Courses	----	160	206
Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health Certification Program	9	9	9
Military Tropical Medicine Course	75	71	82
Diagnostic Parasitology Course	14	11	18
Introduction to Parasitology Course	2-4 (3-4 times/year)		
Critical Decision Making for Medical Executives: Keys to Improving Population Health Program	60	60	60

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Courses: USU is the nation's leader in operational medicine and has trained military medical officers to support the global mission of DoD for over 30 years. It is currently expanding its role in providing continuing education to include broader local and national communities working to protect and improve the public’s health. The topic of WMD, primarily of concern only to DoD until 9/11, is now a top national security issue and perceived as possibly the greatest threat to domestic and international

peace. USU will be expanding the WMD courses available to the local community. This three-part series of graduate level courses include (1) Biological Threat Agents, (2) Chemical Warfare and Consequence Management, and (3) Nuclear and Radiation Threats. It represents a multidisciplinary effort that brings together some of the leading authorities in the field from across DoD, Federal, State and local governments. The first iteration was offered September – December of 2003 and ended in spring 2004 and was attended by over 50 military service members, government employees, and civilians. The second iteration began in the fall of 2004 and is still underway with over 125 students in attendance. Students who complete all three graduate courses receive a USU Certificate of Knowledge in the Weapons of Mass Destruction. USU has also partnered with the U.S. Naval War College to allow students at the War College to take these WMD courses for credit in their Masters degree program(s). Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health Course: This is a comprehensive lecture, seminar, laboratory, and case-based course approved by the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene as fulfilling the didactic requirements for eligibility to take the qualifying certification examination in Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health. Since 1996, 51 students have completed this course, 27 in the last three years (2002-2004). The timing of this 12-week course coincides with the Spring Quarter of the MPH program, which accommodates graduate students interested in a tropical public health concentration.

Military Tropical Medicine (MTM) Course: A merger of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research's "Tropical Medicine" course and the Naval School of Health Sciences' "Medicine in the Tropics" course resulted in this 4-7 week course held annually at USU in July. The MTM course is administered by the Naval Medical Education and Training Command and accommodates 80 physicians, veterinarians, and other health care professionals from the three services (30 Army, 30 Navy, and 20 Air Force). The PMB Graduate Programs faculty and adjunct faculty participate in lectures and laboratory sessions. Approximately 40% of students follow didactic training with a two-week overseas experience, which includes hospital rounds, outpatient clinics, and humanitarian assistance visits to areas of the world where tropical diseases are endemic.

Diagnostic Parasitology Course: This course is offered as a series of lectures and hands-on laboratory sessions for individuals wishing to study the diagnosis of human parasitic infections. Military & civilian medical technologists and physicians from all over the world have completed this course. The annual two-week course has an enrollment of approximately 10-20 students, comprised of State Department employees and civilians.

Introduction to Parasitology: This two-day course is offered to U.S. State Department physicians 3-4 times per year in small groups of 2-4.

Critical Decision Making for Medical Executives—Keys to Improving Population Health: USU offers this advanced-level course to military health care professionals to provide them with tools and methods to continuously improve health care systems. The course supports the Congressional mandate that healthcare leaders receive training in healthcare management. With the establishment of the National Quality Management Program, medical executives are accountable for clinical effectiveness and efficiency in the use of healthcare resources at their facilities. This course focuses on improvement in the quality and cost-efficiency of clinical

practice and population health outcomes through evidence-based decision making. Course presentation is structured around the Malcolm Baldrige Quality Criteria and provides an overview of current approaches to the assessment and improvement of health care delivery in the DoD and civilian managed care environments. Emphasis is placed on the analytic methodologies that support decision-making by medical executives and evaluation of processes that improve health outcomes and minimize resource costs. The course is offered approximately four times per year to three TRICARE Regions in the continental United States and one TRICARE Region outside the continental United States and consists of pre-course distance learning modules, in-class lectures and discussions, hands-on computer laboratory exercises, and group case study assignments. This course has been approved for continuing education credit by the following organizations: The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation, the American Academy of Family Physicians Commission on Continuing Medical Education, and the American College of Healthcare Executives. Since 1997, sessions have been held in all TRICARE regions, and a total of over 1005 senior officers have been trained.

Public Health Issues in the International Environment: This web based educational activity is a new initiative sponsored by the United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM)/International Health Program (IH), and Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) was beta tested from 5 April through 25 April 2005 by staff and students physicians at USUHS, and is expected to be available for CME credit in July 2005. This project will be hosted by the Air Force Institute for Advanced Distributive Learning (AFIADL) and be open to members of all Services.

**VII.5. A list of other institutions, if any, with which the program collaborates to offer continuing education.**

- Defense Institute for Medical Operations, U.S. Air Force, San Antonio, Texas
- Naval School of Health Sciences/Naval Medical Education and Training Command
- Walter Reed Army Institute for Research
- Department of State
- U.S. Naval War College
- Navy Environmental Health Center
- National Institutes of Health Fogarty International Center
- American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine
- George Mason University
- George Washington University
- National Institutes of Health
- National Naval Medical Center
- Walter Reed Army Medical Center
- U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine/International Health Program

**VII.6. Identification of the measures by which the program may evaluate the success of its service program, along with data regarding the program's performance against those measures over the last three years.**

PMB Graduate Programs goals and objectives pertaining to its service component were previously articulated under Criterion I. In this section we have provided a matrix that presents data on program performance measured against those stated objectives.

Program Objectives/Measures	Data on Program Performance
Provide consultative services to DoD and other federal agencies, local and state health departments, and other public and private organizations with a public health mission	"Cost-avoidance" data collected annually by USUHS VP for Administration and Management documents faculty providing broad range of consultative services to DoD and other federal agencies; over past 3 years, about 25% of the faculty contributed the equivalent of \$461,758 in consultative services to the Uniformed Services community. Data from annual performance evaluations and self-study process indicates substantial faculty involvement on task forces, conference planning committees, and professional organization executive committees, among others.
Encourage faculty participation in the development and teaching of continuing education programs that meet the public health needs of our community	Faculty curriculum vitae, self-study process (surveys) document involvement of faculty in continuing education activities; extensive PMB faculty involvement in American College of Preventive Medicine Board Review course over the past 3 years (CME activity)
Support faculty participation in instructional activities outside the University that foster public health capacity-building within the broader community	Faculty presentations documented at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Univ of Arizona, Institute of Medicine, U.S. Medicine Institute, Defense Institute for Medical Operations (US Air Force, San Antonio, Texas) Leadership Program in Regional Disaster Response and Trauma System Management, among others.
Support faculty involvement in community service activities in general, as well as community partnerships that promote public health	Faculty members provide clinical services or consultation in infectious diseases, psychiatry, travel medicine, occupational medicine and family practice to the USUHS Primary Care Clinic, National Naval Medical Center (including satellite branch clinics), Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and Malcolm Grow USAF Medical Center.
Support faculty involvement as peer-reviewers for scientific journals, members of external committees or advisory boards, and/or leaders within professional associations/societies related to public health	Annual survey of faculty includes specific reference to serving as journal reviewers, consultants, leaders in organizations with public health missions (American College of Preventive Medicine, American Collage of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, Assoc of Teachers of Preventive Medicine)
Recognize faculty with outstanding service records	Letter of appreciation to faculty and students from the Environmental Protection Agency for environmental sampling following Pentagon attack shared at faculty meeting. PMB provides input to USU Journal and other publications showcasing faculty with outstanding service records

Program Objectives/Measures	Data on Program Performance
Encourage and provide opportunities for students to participate in service-related activities that support the PMB Department's Graduate Programs	Committee lists include student representatives (GAC, PMB Doctoral Committee, GEO Doctoral Committee)
Provide opportunities for students to voluntarily participate in classroom instruction or mentoring activities	Graduate students informed of opportunities (MSI and MSII Epidemiology Laboratory sessions, medical student mentoring, participation in preventive medicine/public health interest groups) at orientation and in "PIP" classes. Graduate students included in potential laboratory instructor e-mail list and provided handouts for mentoring activities by SOM Commandant
Support student involvement in community service activities	Practicum experience described to graduate students as opportunity to provide service to community as well as opportunity to apply knowledge and skills from the classroom. Feedback from community organizations on student performance document contributions. Practicum sites over past 3 years in Criterion V, Instructional Programs, section.
Encourage student's active participation in professional associations/societies related to public health	Presentation on professional organizations related to public health as part of Introduction to Public Health course. Participation assessed in alumni survey one year post-graduation (pilot survey).

**VII.7. A description of student involvement in service.**

Many of our graduate students are mid-career professionals with extensive medical or public health backgrounds. As a result, they continue to provide public health consultative service to their communities as well as to their fellow graduate students. For example, participation by MPH students in a tabletop exercise for influenza outbreak planning at the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene was arranged by one of our doctoral candidates, and a Congressional briefing on Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness was coordinated by one of our MPH students, a senior military medical officer.

Additionally, a major contribution by our MPH students towards "the advancement of public health practice" occurs in conjunction with their MPH practicum experience and independent project implementation. Just a few specific examples of student involvement in public health service as part of their practicum experience are provided:

- LT Gary W. Carter, USPHS, Senior Assistant Environmental Health Officer, completed his practicum experience during the months following the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the subsequent anthrax bioterrorism events. LT Carter's participation in activities as part of the Homeland Security Emergency Support Team resulted in his receiving "The Crisis Response Service Award from the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, Department of Health and Human Services, on February 14, 2002, in recognition of his participation in the response to the anthrax attacks on the United States; a Letter of Commendation from the attending physician, United States

Congress; and a Certificate of Appreciation from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, New York State Emergency Management Office.

- LT Gregory L. Langham, USPHS, received the US Public Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, Unit Commendation “for exemplary performance of duty,” September 9, 2002. This commendation referred to his practicum experience, which involved a multi-agency outbreak investigation of avian influenza that included over 600 personnel from state and federal agencies. LT Langham spent well over the required number of hours for his practicum and was considered a distinct asset to the efforts of the Biosecurity Group.
- LCDR Sharon White, USPHS, conducted an investigation of a varicella outbreak at a Loudon County, Virginia, elementary school to fulfill the MPH practicum and project requirements. Her work was well received by school officials, as well as the Loudon County Health Department’s epidemiologist and Director. Her uniformly outstanding performance evaluation included a statement that she “contributed to the successful resolution of a community health problem.”
- CPT Brent R. Gibson, MC, USA, was involved in several activities at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Office of Environmental Information. From his initial project of compiling web information from multiple sources, he eventually represented EPA at a National Library of Medicine multi-agency working group session, entitled Toxicology to the Consumer. He was also invited to serve on an EPA multi-agency working group involving the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Interagency Testing Committee and is now the principal representative on this committee for the Department of Defense. For his MPH project, Dr. Gibson conducted formal usability testing of the web-enabled interface for the Public Health Inventory (PHI), which consists of 344 federal sources of health information. His performance and contributions were consistently rated as “outstanding.”
- Kari Stone, USAF, NC, made key contributions to the overall mission of the American Association of Retired Persons through her assistance with two high priority projects—“Across the States 2002” and “Beyond Fifty: A Report to the Nation on Independent Living and Disability.” Her contributions were described as “exceedingly timely and truly important.” She did additional work on weekends to make up for absences of AARP staff, and her contributions were seen as critical in the staff’s ability to meet deadlines for two publications with national visibility.

<b>VII.8. Assessment of the extent to which this criterion is met.</b>
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**VII.8.a. Strengths**

The Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics continues to demonstrate a commitment to service in a variety of areas such as clinical service, consultation, continuing education, active participation in professional societies, and voluntary work for professional publications. The Department's faculty service activities are extensive and can be found at the local, regional, national and international levels.

**VII.8.b. Weaknesses**

MPH student involvement in multi-year projects is somewhat constrained by the relatively short, 12-month program. In many instances, student practicum activities qualify as “service to the community.” The assessment process for the service criterion could be improved by including both qualitative and quantitative components as performance measures.

**VII.8.c. Recommendations**

Evolve the metrics used to evaluate the success of our service program by including more quantitative performance measures.

**This criterion is met.**