

# MPH 2016-2018 Cohort Orientation Survey Results

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## Orientation

**The MPH orientation for 2016-2018 cohort was held on September 22, 2016, in PS 326.**

A total of 27 students attended the orientation (100% attendance rate). The first half of the orientation was MPH and MSHSA combined session, with the following guest speakers:

- Dr. Dimitri Tamalis, Chair of Department of Health Science and Human Ecology, CSUSB.
- Diane Podolske, Director of Office of Community Engagement, CSUSB.
- Natasha Smith, CSUSB Office of Graduate Studies representative.
- Ronald P. Nowosad, FACHE, Director, Program Development and Clinic Operations, San Antonio Regional Hospital.

The second half of the MPH orientation included Maggie Hawkins, Director of Randall Lewis Health Policy Fellowship, as a guest speaker; this was followed by review of MPH program requirements. During the MPH session, two second-year students (2015-2017 cohort) volunteered to speak regarding the program, course expectations, internship opportunities, etc.

## Survey

All MPH program students were sent out a survey to obtain feedback on the orientation. A total of 23 students responded (missing value = 4). Results are noted below.

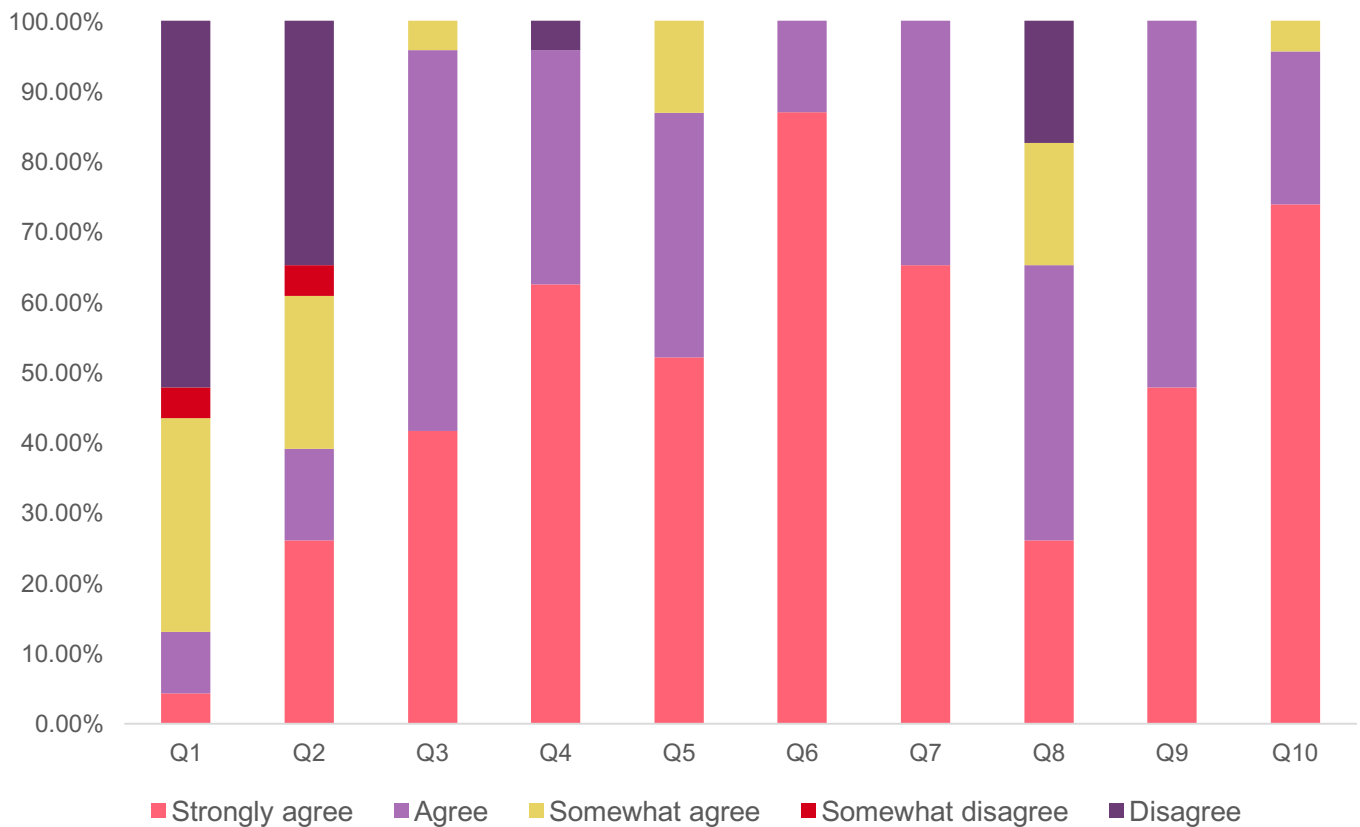
**Some major themes noted in the survey are as follows:**

- A majority of respondents stated "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" to the orientation being useful in order to start the program (95.8%), answering questions (87.0%), and being well organized (95.8%).
- All respondents stated they felt welcomed, their expectations regarding the orientation were met or exceeded, and the information provided by the guest speakers were useful.
- While 65.2% of the respondents noted "Strongly Agree" or "Agree" to the food being good, 17.4% reported either "Somewhat Agree" or "Disagree."
- Approximately 60% of the students wanted a refresher course.
- Students enjoyed the speakers, though recommended shorter time for some.
- Students enjoyed having second-year students visit, though requested more such visits as well as presentations from other faculty members in the program.

- Request for information on various program course content and expectations was also expressed.
- Students enjoyed meeting their colleagues.

**The first set of questions assessed the overall perception of the orientation:**

- Q1 I wanted the orientation to be longer
- Q2 I would want a refresher course on some of the items presented during the orientation
- Q3 The orientation was well organized
- Q4 I found the orientation useful in order to start the MPH program effectively
- Q5 The orientation answered my questions
- Q6 I felt welcomed into the MPH program
- Q7 My expectations of the orientation were met or were exceeded
- Q8 The food at the orientation was good
- Q9 I found the information provided by the guest speakers useful
- Q10 I'm excited to start the MPH program



No questions had a "Strongly Disagree" response and thus the option was left out of the graphical representation above.

## COMMON REASONS FOR REFRESHER COURSE



**Students were asked to identify positive aspects of the orientation. Qualitative assessment highlights the welcoming environment, opportunity to meet colleagues, the value of guest speakers, as well as the discussion of various internship opportunities.**

- ✓ Guest speakers and going over MPH requirements.
- ✓ Detailed, Interactive.
- ✓ Everyone was very welcoming .
- ✓ Able to see the different career paths our degree can take us. Program was broken down to an easy level of understanding. Great variety of speakers.
- ✓ Presentations.
- ✓ **The faculty seemed very welcoming, and the food was a pleasant surprise.**
- ✓ The program was diverse, we all felt welcomed. The faculty were professional, welcoming, and very helpful.
- ✓ Very informative on the courses and of what is expected.
- ✓ Friendly environment and we were given realistic expectations about the program.
- ✓ Every staff member was very welcoming and more than willing to answer all questions. We were able to mingle with our knew classmates as well.
- ✓ **Getting to know MPH classmates.**
- ✓ Most of my questions were answered.
- ✓ Guest speakers.
- ✓ Meeting fellow students and potential internship preceptors.
- ✓ Everyone was great overall!
- ✓ The guest speakers and school resources talk about some helpful hints.
- ✓ **The extra credit meet and greet took the typical "get to know you" and made it interesting to really find out where people plan to go with their life.**
- ✓ Very informational and straight to the point.
- ✓ They made all the students feel welcomed and everything was explained thoroughly.
- ✓ Provided ideas about internship.
- ✓ This was my first MPH orientation and I was impressed the amount of time, organization, and effort was put into the orientation. The faculty used their resources and made it available for students. In addition, the questions were met with clear answers. I really don't have any negative comment regarding the orientation.

- ✓ It was useful to attend this orientation.
- ✓ Very organized!
- ✓ Faculty were very helpful. I'm looking forward for my academic journey.
- ✓ I loved the meet and greet as well as the information of resources available to us. I look forward to a great program.
- ✓ **This introduction has me incredibly excited to get into the program!**
- ✓ Faculty were clear on expectations and describing the program. The importance of GPA and other academic concerns.
- ✓ Bringing students who already been through the first year of the program was also a great and clever tool/resource to provide for the new students and greatly appreciated.
- ✓ I want to thank the entire faculty for providing the information, resources, tools, and taking the time to explain each step. Having an open door policy for students provided the extra "to go to if needed". It was obvious not only the faculty put into a great deal of time and effort, but also had their student's best interests in mind. I thank you all.



