MYRON B. THOMPSON SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Context: Our discussion needs to focus on the social work and public health programs, particularly in view of the very strong need for these programs and associated scholarship and service in Hawai‘i and beyond. The Mānoa Budget team recognizes the enormous potential of this school as a service provider within Hawai‘i and an engine for growth at Mānoa. The question is – how do we scale up the school to achieve full success?

October 12, 2020 Presentation:

- Social Work Presentation
- Social Work Presentation Video

Department of Social Work

Revised Recommendations (as of October 13, 2020)

- Continue efforts to increase enrollment and address retention in the PhD in Social Welfare.
- Monitor enrollment and retention in the online (5-week) BSW program; develop a plan to address any capacity issues that could impact the campus BSW program.

Details

- The Mānoa Budget team met with faculty and staff in Social Work on Friday October 9, 2020. Summaries of meetings with department faculty will be posted on the Planning for Post-Pandemic Hawai‘i website.
- The School addressed the recommendations regarding assessment of the BSW programs (campus and online). The recommendation has been removed.
- The recommendation to stop out admission to the PhD in Social Welfare has been removed. The faculty reported that the low number of graduates (a trigger for the low enrollment report) was partially due to a previous stop-out of the program. Since then enrollment has rebounded to 13, which is closer to enrollment in the program prior to the stop-out. The team recommends that the faculty continue with recruitment efforts to reach the enrollment targets they have identified.
- The team understands that demand for the online BSW remains high. The team encourages the faculty and the dean to continue to monitor demand and to develop a plan to address any capacity issues that may arise and impact the campus BSW program.

Office of Public Health Studies
Revised Recommendations (as of October 13, 2020)

- Develop a recruitment strategy to increase enrollment in the MS in Public Health. Consider whether the program name should be changed to Epidemiology.
- Implement plans to add Public Health to the name of the School.

Details

- The Mānoa Budget Team met with faculty and staff in Public Health on Friday October 9, 2020. Summaries of meetings with department faculty will be posted on the Planning for Post-Pandemic Hawai‘i website.

- The recommendation to stop out admission to the MS in Public Health has been removed. The team learned from the faculty that the MS in Public Health is essentially the thesis track of the MPH program, and students typically begin as MPH students in the Epidemiology track. To date, there were no efforts to recruit students directly into the MS program, which has led to the low enrollment. The faculty plan to develop a recruitment strategy for this program. The team supports this effort.

- Given that the MS program is only offered in Epidemiology, the team encourages the faculty to consider whether the program name should be changed to reflect this.

- The dean discussed efforts to add Public Health to the name of the School, which the faculty and external stakeholders support. The name change would qualify Public Health to be accredited as a School. The team supports this name change.