Proposed Transition of MAS in Health Policy and Law to MS in Biomedical Policy & Advocacy
A new interdisciplinary degree serving the local, national, and global community

UCSD is well known in the biomedical field and shares this strength across multiple academic departments. The revised MAS has the potential to elevate UCSD’s reputation through strategic UCSD partnership facilitated by a format change. Biomedical policy offerings are limited and learning areas can help further specialized the degree.

We detected only two programs based in the USA that address the topic. Specifically there is a MS in “Biomedical Science Policy and Advocacy” at Georgetown School of Arts & Sciences and a MA in “Bioethics & Science Policy” at Duke.
Key Program Design Elements

The proposed MS in Biomedical Policy and Advocacy will be a multidisciplinary degree involving the collaboration of multiple departments and academic units at UC San Diego. The core learning areas of the degree will comprise of health policy, regulatory science, and biomedical innovation.

Interdisciplinary
This degree embraces the concept of being "interdisciplinary", bringing in the best of various fields and academic expertise in public policy, public health, biomedical sciences, and business and innovation.

Hybrid Format
The degree will be delivered in a "hybrid" format comprised of intense short periods of face-to-face instruction, online learning content, and a structured mentoring process culminating in a final capstone project.

Professional Development
In addition to course taught by renowned UC San Diego faculty, students will have various opportunities to engage in professional development including through program events, networking, and group projects.
Propose Course Format (hybrid):

**KICK-OFF**
- **One week intensive:** All students will be required to attend a one week intensive course in the Summer of Fall. Here they will meet their cohort, get exposure to high-level speakers, and prepare for their online course work.
- **Advantages:** Hybrid design requiring minimal commitment from professionals. Easier to secure high-level speakers that will bring greater value to the program with most content managed online.

**ONLINE COURSES**
- **Online Content:** Students would be required to complete different interdisciplinary learning modules in topics such as health and pharmaceutical policy, biomedical innovation, regulatory science, implementation science, data science, and ethics.
- **Advantages:** Course creation has costs, but teaching requirements and content management can be shared. Ability to leverage UNEX infrastructure and carry over curriculum from MAS.

**MIDYEAR/COMPLETION**
- **Mid Year:** Optional midyear symposium to allow students to network, take short face-to-face workshops, present projects, and work with mentors.
- **Completion Year:** Students would be required to return for face-to-face career counseling and final project presentation during one week period at end of graduation year. Yearly gathering (graduation reception) for graduates.
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<th>Potential UCSD Partnerships (focus on UCSD system wide)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SOM-ANES</strong>: Departmental home of the revised program responsible for coordination and academic leadership. Responsible for Health Policy learning area and coordination of entire degree.</td>
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<td><strong>UNEX</strong>: Responsible for program administration, online content curation and management, event planning, and coordination between different departments.</td>
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<td><strong>Skaggs SOP</strong>: Partnership in pharmaceutical policy and innovation learning areas. Link to MAS in Drug Development</td>
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<td><strong>Jacobs SOE</strong>: Partnership in biomedical innovation learning areas. Link to existing work/partnerships with UCSD Extension.</td>
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Core Learning Areas

The MS in Biomedical Policy and Advocacy will be designed as an interdisciplinary degree with partnership of multiple departments and academic units at UC San Diego. The core learning areas will comprise of health policy, regulatory science, and biomedical innovation. The MS will have 38 total units and can be completed as fast as 1 year.

This learning area will provide instruction on fundamental principles of domestic and global health policy. Courses on policy analysis methods, and opportunities for applied biomedical advocacy.

12 total units

Proposed Courses
UCSD School of Medicine

Introduction to U.S. Health Policy and Law
Global Health Policy
Comparative Health Systems
Policy Analysis 101
Washington DC Policy Advocacy Seminar (optional)

Learn more about this learning area's core faculty, research, special programs, and advocacy related activities.

Faculty Activities

This learning area will provide courses on the fundamentals of regulatory and implementation science. Topics include regulatory affairs, compliance and translating research into policy action.

12 total units

Proposed Courses
UCSD SOM & Skaggs SOP

Introduction to Regulatory Science
Regulatory Requirements Drugs & Biologics
Regulatory Compliance Drugs & Biologics
Implementation Science and Policymaking
Program Evaluation: Theory, Research & Practice (optional)

Learn more about this learning area's core faculty, research, special programs, and advocacy related activities.

Faculty Activities

This learning area will provide courses on the fundamentals of regulatory and implementation science. Topics include regulatory affairs, compliance and translating research into policy action.

12 total units

Proposed Courses
UCSD SOM, Jacobs SOE, Skaggs SOP

Introduction to Data Science for Policy
Overview of BI and Data Analysis
Drug Discovery and Commercialization
Biomedical Policy, Innovation and Intellectual Property
Biomedical Policy Lab (optional)

Learn more about this learning area's core faculty, research, special programs, and advocacy related activities.

Faculty Activities
How we are responding…

Community need?
Responses to the UCSD and local community need for “biomedical policy” research and applied skills

Student body
By changing the format to hybrid, we can increase the number and diversity of student body better serving career advancers as a market segment

Niche and specializations
Specializations will be built into learning areas in online courses and other delivery formats that will be developed in partnership with advisory committee