Graduate Certificate in Medical Humanities  
IU School of Liberal Arts  
IUPUI Campus

Documents Reviewed: Certificate program proposal; syllabi of two new required courses for this certificate program

Summary of Proposal: In contrast to the conventional clinical approach, a focus on the “humanistic and socio-cultural perspectives on healthcare” is what Medical Humanities provides. Such an “angle” could provide a unique perspective for students who are interested in a variety of careers in healthcare (which can include becoming a physician) and other disciplines as well. This certificate program will consist of 15 credit hours of existing courses from within the School of Liberal Arts, as well as two new proposed required core courses; the latter specifically designed for this certificate program. Students will be exposed to both didactic and practicum educational formats.

1. Are the goals clear and achievable? Yes

2. Is the program academically sound? Yes

3. Are faculty resources available to offer this certificate without undercutting other key missions of the unit?
   There are apparently a minimal number of faculty participating (e.g., the Co-Directors and Dr. Richard Gunderman—IUSM)

4. Is there overlap, either real or potential, with any other unit that could harm the program or be exploited to help the program?
   If this is meant to be a collaboration between the Schools of Liberal Arts and Medicine (not stated by them but by virtue of Dr. Gunderman’s participation), is there something offered by the Center for Bioethics in the School of Medicine that could be included as an elective or part of a practicum?

5. My recommendation, comments/concerns regarding this proposal…
   I would recommend this proposed graduate certificate ultimately be approved by the GAC; some comments to address:
   a. An overall goal is to develop analytical skills—how?
   b. The number of students they would anticipate enrolling is not indicated; how many can they realistically handle?
   c. Why isn’t Dr. Gunderman a Co-Director if he “will play a significant role in developing and implementing the certificate program?” What exactly is his role?
   d. All faculty who will participate should be listed in the Appendix
   e. Be specific on how the Community Resources might be utilized, rather than just listing what is available.