Minutes
UW School of Medicine and Public Health (UW SMPH)
Wisconsin Partnership Program Education and Research Committee (PERC)
January 9, 2012 at 5:00PM – Room 4201 Health Sciences Learning Center

Members Present: Marc Drezner, Norman Drinkwater, Jenny Gumperz, Rob Lemanske, Paul Moberg, Rick Moss, Greg Nycz, Tom Oliver, Pat Remington, James Shull

Members Absent: Betty Chewning, Craig Kent, Elizabeth Petty

Staff: Quinton Cotton, Cathy Frey, Mary Jo Knobloch, Tonya Mathison, Ken Mount, Eileen Smith, Steve Smith

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called the meeting to order at 5:10pm.

2. Announcements

Membership terms ending March, 2012
The following PERC membership terms end March 31, 2012: Kent as a representative of the clinical chairs, Lemanske as a representative of the clinical faculty, Oliver as a representative of the public health faculty, Moberg as a representative of the academic staff, and Chewning as an external appointee. Moss recommended extending their terms for two years in order to ensure continuity in the membership as PERC considers expansion of its current portfolio of programs, renewal applications and plans for the next Five-Year Plan. Eileen Smith will contact members to discuss their interest in remaining on the committee for another two year term.

UW Foundation
The Wisconsin United for Health Foundation, Inc. (WUHF) met in closed session on December 20, 2011 to discuss the recapture fee charged by UWF for the management of the Wisconsin Partnership Program endowment.

Joint UW SMPH/MCW Conference, September 27, 2012
Eileen Smith reported that the UW SMPH/MCW joint conference will take place on September 27, 2012 at the Olympia Resort and Conference Center in Oconomowoc, WI.

WPP communications staff hire
Eileen Smith reported that Karen Roach was recently hired as the new communications specialist for the WPP beginning mid-January. Roach comes to the WPP from the Wisconsin Alumni Association, where she worked as a senior copywriter.

3. Decision on draft minutes of December 12, 2011

Moberg seconded a motion by Remington to approve the draft minutes of December 12, 2011. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
4. Oversight and Advisory Committee (OAC) report

Remington reported on the December 14, 2011 OAC meeting. The OAC considered the finalist applications for the 2011 cycle of the Community-Academic Partnership Fund. OAC funded four implementation and 12 development grants for $2.2 million.

The OAC votes annually on the allocation for public health and health care provider education and research (i.e., 35/65 split). In June 2011, the OAC voted to retain the allocation of 35 percent for public health initiatives and 65 percent for education and research initiatives and scheduled the next vote in December, 2011. In December, the OAC deferred the vote on the allocation until May or June, 2012 so that the discussion is aligned with review of the annual report - a more appropriate time for the OAC to consider education and research initiatives.

Philip Farrell provided an update for the committee on the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF). Media attention on the causes and consequences of infant mortality and morbidity in African American women in Wisconsin continues to be extraordinary. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel continues to provide excellent coverage through the Empty Cradle series.

5. Discussion and decision on Collaborative Health Sciences Program 2012 Request for Proposals

PERC took the following action on the Collaborative Health Sciences Program 2012 Request for Proposals.

Motion #1 – Scope of Funding: Nycz seconded a motion by Remington that the scope of funding indicate that the maximum award is $500,000 over three years with up to two projects funded each cycle. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion #2 – Collaboration: Oliver seconded a motion by Shull that the 2012 RFP indicate the following: “The Collaborative Health Sciences Program supports interdisciplinary research and education. Therefore, proposals must be led by a collaborative team of investigators from two or more of the following disciplines: basic, clinical, social, and/or population health sciences. Teams with a history of collaboration must explore a new topic area.”

Following thorough discussion by PERC, Lemanske proposed the following amendment to provide clarity: “The Collaborative Health Sciences Program supports interdisciplinary research and education. Therefore, proposals must be led by a collaborative team from two or more of the following disciplines: basic, clinical, social/behavioral, and/or population sciences. Teams with a history of collaboration must explore a new direction.” Shull and Oliver accepted the amendment, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion #3 – Eligibility Requirements: In alignment with the discussion of motion #2, Oliver proposed removing the term “research” from the definition of Collaborator in motion #3. Drinkwater added that all of the revisions made in motion #2 must be reflected in motion #3. Oliver seconded a motion by Nycz to revise the eligibility requirements to more clearly define the roles of the Principal Investigator, Co-Principal Investigator, and Collaborator as follows:

Principal Investigator (PI): A Principal Investigator is required and must be a UW School of Medicine and Public Health (SMPH) Tenured, CHS, or Clinician-Teacher Associate Professor or
Professor, or a Senior or Distinguished Scientist, with a salaried appointment of 50% or greater in the SMPH. The PI is responsible and accountable for the conduct of the project as specified in the Memorandum of Understanding of the Wisconsin Partnership Program.

**Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI):** The project must have one Co-Principal Investigator and may include up to two. The Co-PI(s) may have an appointment in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, or in other UW-Madison schools or colleges, UW System campuses, Aurora Health Care, Marshfield Clinic, Gundersen Lutheran Health System, the Medical College of Wisconsin, state and local government agencies, or community organizations.

Together, the PI and the Co-PI(s) comprise the primary collaborative team for the CHSP proposal. Given the goal of the CHSP, this team must include at least two of the following disciplines: basic, clinical, social/behavioral, and/or population sciences.

Besides participating in the CHSP proposal, the Co-PI(s) will be expected to contribute to project oversight, as well as drafting of manuscripts and progress reports.

**Collaborator:** The project may include any number of Collaborators. Collaborator(s) may have an appointment in the UW School of Medicine and Public Health, or in other UW-Madison schools or colleges, UW System campuses, Aurora Health Care, Marshfield Clinic, Gundersen Lutheran Health System, the Medical College of Wisconsin, state and local government agencies, or community organizations.

Collaborators typically contribute specialized expertise to the project and have more narrowly defined roles than those of the PI and the Co-PI(s).

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

*Motion #4 – Review Criteria:* Remington seconded a motion by Oliver to incorporate the revisions in motion #2, and that proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

**The project:**
- Is innovative and has outstanding merit
- Advances the Mission, Vision, and Guiding Principles of the Wisconsin Partnership Program (see section # on page #)
- Enhances interdisciplinary research or education, and fosters collaborations among two or more of the following disciplines: basic, clinical, social/behavioral, and/or population sciences
- Describes the process by which successful execution of this research or education intervention could be translated into improved health of the people of Wisconsin
- Includes a sound plan for evaluating research outcomes or project results
- Provides opportunities for community engagement, if applicable

**The PI and Co-PI(s):**
- Have an established record of independent scholarship or have experience developing, administering, or evaluating research or education programs

The motion passed by unanimous vote.
The Request for Proposals will be released on January 30, 2012 with preliminary applications due March 1. Moss will be appointing the preliminary application review subcommittee made up of PERC members. The subcommittee will bring a recommendation to PERC’s April meeting on which preliminary applications warrant further development as full applications.

The Request for Proposals includes PERC’s Guideline for the Classification of Research and Education. Remington reported that he has been reworking these guidelines and will bring a draft to a future meeting for PERC’s consideration.

6. Financial report

WPP endowment value and cash balances
Mount presented the financial projections for the WPP through December 31, 2011. The projected return in December was -0.40% bringing the value of the endowment to $290.7 million; 3.15% above its original value. There is a total cash balance of $32.8 million, $20 million of which is allocated to PERC. The projected returns in November were revised from -1.70% to -1.20%. Actual balances through September, 2011 will be available once the UWF closes the third quarter.

Discussion and decision on WPP endowment distributions in 2012
In accordance with the WPP’s policy on General Principles for Endowment Growth and Distributions, Mount presented the stipulated endowment distribution rate for the upcoming year. Mount indicated that the rate used by the UWF is 4.50% based on a rolling historical endowment value, therefore the WPP’s financial projections for 2012 will be based on that rate.

7. Discuss PERC interim and final reports

New Investigator Program

Evaluation of Cuidandome: A Communitywide Intervention to Promote Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening among Latinas
Nycz presented both Chewning’s and his review of Ana Martinez-Donate’s final report for “Evaluation of Cuidandome: A Communitywide Intervention to Promote Breast & Cervical Cancer Screening among Latinas”. Dr. Martinez-Donate successfully met the project’s goals and aims. She was able to sustain this important study despite several challenges during the project’s implementation. Planned Parenthood will continue using the “Cuidandome” model to address other health issues. Project outcomes were disseminated through a number of publications and presentations. Drezner seconded a motion by Nycz to accept the report. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Probiotics for prevention of infection by multi-resistant bacteria
Gumperz and Lemanske presented their review of Nasia Safdar’s final report for “Probiotics for prevention of infection by multi-resistant bacteria”. The reviewers were concerned by the lack of detail in the report, especially since there was a significant delay in its completion. After considerable discussion, there was general consensus that PERC was unable to accept the report in its current form and requested that Dr. Safdar resubmit the report with more detail and specificity.
Collaborative Health Sciences Program

A Comprehensive Approach to Insomnia
Drinkwater and Moss presented their review of Ruth Benca’s final report for “A Comprehensive Approach to Insomnia”. Dr. Benca successfully met the goals and aims of the project. Preliminary results of the data analysis for the first aim are promising in that they identify specific abnormalities in the EEG data from insomniacs. The second aim resulted in a publication and a submitted manuscript showing that insomnia was a significant predictor of subsequent depression and that cognitive behavioral therapy was more effective in reducing insomnia than standard care. Remington seconded a motion by Drinkwater to accept the report with a request for an update on the status of the submitted manuscript and plans for sustaining this work with extramural funding. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Wisconsin Children’s Lead Levels and Educational Outcomes
Nycz presented both Chewning’s and his review of Marty Kanarek’s interim progress report for “Wisconsin Children’s Lead Levels and Educational Outcomes”. Dr. Kanarek is making good progress toward the project goals despite facing several challenges to achieve the needed sample. He has obtained a sample size of 3,176 cases and 1,588 controls with “Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exams” scores. Drezner seconded a motion by Nycz to accept the report with a request for clarification of several issues including, use of parental report data and plans for expending the remaining balance of grant funds. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Closing the Gap on Pediatric Health Disparities: Discerning the Causes and Consequences of Iron Deficiency in Infancy
Drezner and Lemanske presented their review of Pamela Kling’s interim progress report for “Closing the Gap on Pediatric Health Disparities: Discerning the Causes and Consequences of Iron Deficiency in Infancy”. The reviewers were interested in getting additional information from Dr. Kling related to the 12 month sample size and the related power analysis, methodological techniques and preliminary data on the establishment of the assays reflecting iron status in newborns, preliminary data on Epo RNA, and the status of a paper on maternal obesity. No action was taken by PERC on the report.

Targeted RFA

Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine
Moberg and Oliver presented their review of Byron Crouse’s final report for “Wisconsin Academy for Rural Medicine”. Dr. Crouse successfully achieved the goals and aims of the project and established a high quality education program that will make a significant impact on access to health care in rural areas. With the conclusion of PERC’s funding, continuing support for WARM has been secured from the UW SMPH and through the recapture of tuition. Strong partnerships have been developed with the establishment of regional teaching sites in Rice Lake, Marshfield, La Crosse, and Green Bay, leading to increasing numbers of applicants from those regions. Oliver seconded a motion by Moberg to accept the report. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Institutional Clinical and Translational Science Award
Drezner declared a conflict of interest as the PI, and left the meeting.
Drinkwater and Remington presented their review of Marc Drezner’s interim progress report for “Institutional Clinical and Translational Science Award”. Dr. Drezner is making significant progress toward achieving the goals in all four program areas supported by PERC, namely, biomedical informatics, the Wisconsin Network for Health Research (WiNHR), the Community-Academic Partnerships (CAP), and the pilot awards. There was general consensus that it was helpful to see PERC’s proportion of the total budget in each of the four program areas as well as the breakdown of the total funding. Remington seconded a motion by Drinkwater to accept the report with a request for clarification on several issues, including the impact of the Community Connections program and acknowledgement of WPP support in publications and presentations. The motion passed with eight affirmative votes. Drezner had left the meeting and was not present for the discussion and vote. Moberg, who receives salary support from the grant, did not participate in the discussion and did not vote.

Development of a Human Rights Initiative

Remington presented his review of Cindy Haq’s final report for “Development of a Human Rights Initiative”. Dr. Haq successfully achieved the goals and aims of the project through the development of an educational seminar, colloquia on human rights, and a new graduate course on health and human rights. The project led to additional grant proposals and two scholarly papers. Schull seconded a motion by Remington to accept the report. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Recruitment of Middle-Aged African-Americans for Studies of Preclinical Alzheimer’s Disease: Development of a Minority Recruitment Model in Milwaukee

Nycz and Oliver presented their review of Mark Sager’s interim progress report for “Recruitment of Middle-Aged African-Americans for Studies of Preclinical Alzheimer’s Disease: Development of a Minority Recruitment Model in Milwaukee”. The reviewers were interested in getting additional information on several issues, including, the number of patients served by the memory clinic and its impact on recruitment, the cost per WRAP recruit, and the status of recruitment for the Wisconsin Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. There was no action taken on the report.

8. Adjourn – next meeting March 12, 2012

Moss adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison