Minutes - Approved  
UW School of Medicine and Public Health  
Partnership Education and Research Committee (PERC)  
Executive Committee  
Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Members present: Rick Moss, Greg Nycz, Tom Oliver, Jim Shull

Members absent:  Rob Lemanske, Liz Petty

Staff: Tonya Mathison, Eileen Smith

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Discussion and decision on draft minutes of October 16, 2012

Shull seconded a motion by Nycz to approve the draft minutes of October 16, 2012. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Discussion and recommendation regarding targeted applications:

Environmental Health Center Strategic Planning Grant
The Executive Committee reviewed a new targeted application from Chris Bradfield titled “Environmental Health Center Strategic Planning Grant.” Shull declared a conflict of interest as the Chair of the Department of Oncology. Bradfield is a faculty member in the department.

Bradfield is requesting $200,000 over one year to develop a state of the art and novel Environmental Health Center at the University of Wisconsin. This transdisciplinary center will integrate leading-edge UW resources around two core programs: Toxicology and Responsomics Core through the UW Molecular and Environmental Toxicology Center, and Population Monitoring and Exposure Assessment Core through the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin. The two cores will facilitate the building of an environmental health program and research that will increase UW’s visibility as a leader in environmental research. PERC’s funding will support the gathering of preliminary data for submission of an Environmental Health Center grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Following great enthusiasm by the Executive Committee in support of the proposal, Oliver seconded a motion by Nycz to advance the application to PERC for funding consideration. Bradfield will be invited to present an overview of the application at the December 10 PERC meeting. Given the timeliness of the request, PERC will be asked to make a funding decision in December. Moss will email PERC in advance of the meeting to prepare members for Dr. Bradfield’s presentation. The motion passed with three affirmative votes. Shull did not vote.

Recruitment of Middle-Aged African-Americans for Studies of Pre-Clinical Alzheimer’s Disease: Minority AD Prevention Prog – 2
The Executive Committee reviewed a targeted renewal application from Sanjay Asthana titled, “Recruitment of Middle-Aged African-Americans for Studies of Pre-Clinical Alzheimer’s Disease: Minority AD Prevention Prog – 2.” Santhay Asthana is replacing Mark Sager as the Principal Investigator in the renewal; a change that was expected. The Executive Committee agreed that this has been a successful
project with the establishment of a Minority Alzheimer’s Prevention Program in Milwaukee. The project established the first African American focused Dementia Diagnostic Clinic in a federally qualified health center in Milwaukee, created a care coordination program connecting African Americans with dementia to support services, provided access to cutting edge research studies, and encouraged the Milwaukee community to take a role in early detection and prevention of Alzheimer’s Disease.

Sanjay Asthana is requesting $1.3 million over three years to enhance and expand the Minority Alzheimer’s Prevention Program and support the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. The budget request is significantly higher than the current PERC grant of $219,544 due to the addition of three new full-time staff. In the past, WPP, ICTR, CUPH and the SMPH each provided funds to match a grant to Mark Sager from the Helen Bader Foundation. The funding model for the renewal does not include funding from Helen Bader, ICTR or CUPH. There was general agreement that the PERC cannot fund at the requested level, and the Executive Committee asked that Asthana resubmit the renewal application with a budget no greater than the current funding level to support Dementia Diagnostic Clinic at Milwaukee Health Services; a critical component contributing to increased African American recruitment. Moss and Smith will meet with Asthana to share the Executive Committee’s feedback and request resubmission of the application.

4. **Discuss next steps for development of targeted initiative on obesity and diabetes in Wisconsin**

Following the October 17, 2012 joint OAC/PERC meeting, the WPP asked Amy Meinen, Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network Director, to provide an environmental scan identifying strengths and gaps in addressing Wisconsin’s obesity epidemic. WPP leadership will be meeting with Ms. Meinen and Alex Adams, Collaborative Center for Health Equity Director, to discuss the results of the scan in December. Moss anticipated that this information will be shared with the Executive Committee at its December 17 meeting.

The Executive Committee discussed the following ideas related to developing a targeted initiative to address obesity:

- May have to design new tools to address obesity in Wisconsin with consideration of national successes.
- WPP as a catalyst bringing together influential partners, including MCW, medical centers across Wisconsin, politicians and business leaders
- Use symposium to launch the initiative

5. **Adjourn - next meeting December 17**

Moss adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison