Minutes
UW School of Medicine and Public Health (UW SMPH)
Partnership Education and Research Committee (PERC)
January 14, 2013 at 5:00PM – Room 4201 Health Sciences Learning Center

Members Present: David Andes, Betty Chewning, Marc Drezner, Jenny Gumperz, Elizabeth Jacobs, Craig Kent, Paul Moberg, Rick Moss (chair), Greg Nycz, Tom Oliver, Elizabeth Petty, Pat Remington, James Shull

Members Absent: Norman Drinkwater (ex officio), Patricia Keely, Rob Lemanske

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

Guests: Alex Adams (Family Medicine), Dale Schoeller (Nutritional Sciences), Vince Cryns (Medicine), Amy Meinen (Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network)

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

2. Decision on draft December 10, 2012 minutes

Nycz seconded a motion by Shull to approve the draft December 10, 2012 minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. PERC Executive Committee report

Moss reported on the December 17, 2013 PERC Executive Committee meeting. The PERC Executive Committee reviewed a targeted renewal application by Jonathan Jaffery for “Advancing Evidence-Based Health Policy in Wisconsin”. This partnership of the UW Population Health Institute, the La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Wisconsin Joint Legislative Council focuses on increasing the involvement of University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty in issues of state public policy. The WPP has supported this project since 2006. The committee agreed to invite Dr. Jaffery to present additional information and respond to a number of questions.

The PERC Executive Committee also discussed next steps related to development of a targeted obesity initiative. Since PERC’s strategic planning meeting in August 2012, the PERC Executive Committee has been collecting information on Wisconsin’s obesity epidemic and efforts underway to address it. At its October 16 meeting, the PERC Executive Committee heard presentations from several experts on the statistical evidence, associated health problems, treatment options, research potential, community interventions, and the development of the Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network. At the joint OAC/PERC meeting on October 17, 2012 the committees solidified their commitment to developing a targeted obesity initiative, to be led by PERC, and agreed to initiate an environmental scan to identify strengths and gaps, include a question on the survey by the Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network, and plan a summit to launch the initiative. Amy Meinen, Alex Adams and Dale Schoeller compiled the environmental scan of what is currently underway in Wisconsin and at a national level in response to the obesity epidemic. This has been reviewed by WPP leadership for advice and comment.
4. Presentation on development of targeted obesity initiative: Background, current activities and efforts, and future plans

In preparation of the development of a targeted obesity initiative, the following experts presented background on Wisconsin’s obesity epidemic, current activities and efforts, and an overview of future plans.

- Alex Adams, Associate Professor, Family Medicine; Director, Collaborative Center for Health Equity
- Dale Schoeller, Professor, Nutritional Sciences
- Amy Meinen, Director, Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network
- Vince Cryns, Professor, Medicine; Chief, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism

Following the presentation, the committee shared the following observations:

- Must identify which entities are doing what activities in order to avoid duplication. PERC’s investment in obesity prevention must not be redundant or replace functions already led by other entities. Meinen reported that a survey by the Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Network, supported by an OAC implementation grant, will be collecting this information.
- Infrastructure investments for an obesity initiative must be limited to start-up support with the expectation that extramural funds will support the initiative going forward. PERC’s funding should reduce and eventually go to $0. Adams clarified that federal funding will be sought in support of the Nutrition and Obesity Research Center as well as the Prevention Research Center. Oliver noted that PERC must be convinced that its initial investment can transform the system through collective impact. Must also leverage PERC’s current infrastructure investments in ICTR and SHOW.
- Must delineate metrics and milestones to document success. There must be a tangible outcome with an obvious return on PERC’s investment. For example, must lay out a research plan with a hypothesis and an evaluation providing conclusions on effectiveness.
- PERC could focus on dissemination and sustainability of initiatives that have proven to be successful. For example, PERC could play a role in informing the public through policy.
- There was discussion of the development of a CDC Prevention Research Center focused on obesity policy, prevention and intervention. Remington noted that a specific deliverable could be a successful application for a PRC.

Moss proposed that WPP leadership draft a charge for a targeted obesity initiative planning committee. There was general agreement by the PERC. WPP leadership will draft and circulate the charge for initial reaction by PERC.

5. Consent agenda:

Drezner seconded a motion by Nycz to accept the following reports:

- Aaron Carrel’s interim progress report for Effects of Environmental Opportunities and Barriers to Physical Activity, Fitness, and Health in Hispanic Children in Wisconsin
- Neil Binkley’s final report for Vitamin D Inadequacy: Documentation in Rural Populations and Evaluation of Correction by Food Supplementation

The motion passed by unanimous vote.
6. Discussion and decision on interim progress report, Cystic Fibrosis MRI: Tracking Lung Function and Response to Therapy (Scott Nagle)

Petty presented her and Drinkwater’s independent reviews of Scott Nagle’s interim progress report for Cystic Fibrosis MRI: Tracking Lung Function and Response to Therapy. Over the past year, Dr. Nagle’s work focused on developing a novel method for lung MRI which performs better than existing methods. Although this work was not funded by PERC, the reviewers expect that this discovery will enhance the outcomes of the PERC project. Dr. Nagle was not able to begin recruitment to the cystic fibrosis trials during the first year of the project. Therefore, the reviewers were interested in receiving a timeline for recruitment of patients into the trials described in aims 1 and 2 of the original proposal. PERC did not take action on the report, and asked Dr. Nagle to clarify whether it will be possible to accomplish this work in the remaining year of the project, or if he anticipates needing a no cost extension.

7. Discuss Collaborative Health Sciences Program draft 2013 Request for Proposals

Moss reported that the Collaborative Health Sciences Program draft 2013 Request for was posted with the meeting materials. The RFP incorporates minor edits and updates. Nycz noted that “contribution to the SMPH transformation” had been removed throughout the RFP. Smith responded that although the transformation will not be addressed directly, it is embodied in the WPP mission, vision and guiding principles, which all applicants are required to address. Moss asked members to contact WPP staff with additional revisions or questions. PERC will take action on the RFP in February 2013.

8. Oversight and Advisory Committee report

Remington reported on the December 21, 2012 OAC meeting. The committee welcomed a new public member, Kenneth Taylor, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. He was recently appointed by the UW System Board of Regents to serve a four year term on OAC as an advocate for children’s health.

In December, OAC awarded $2.7 million for 22 projects. OAC awarded 16 development grants (each for $50,000) and 6 implementation grants (each for $400,000). The press release describing the awards was distributed.

On January 16, OAC will have a strategic planning meeting to build consensus on the next Five Year Plan, 2014-2019.


Petty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison