Minutes
UW School of Medicine and Public Health
Partnership Education and Research Committee (PERC) Executive Committee
January 26, 2015, 9:30 a.m., 4141 Health Sciences Learning Center

Members Present: Elizabeth Jacobs, Rick Moss (chair), Greg Nycz (phone), Tom Oliver, Elizabeth Petty, Jim Shull

WPP Staff: Jim Krueger, Tonya Mathison, Eileen Smith

Guests: Ken Mount (SMPH), Javier Nieto (Survey of the Health of Wisconsin)

1. Call meeting to order

Moss called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

2. Discussion and decision on December 15, 2014 draft minutes

Deferred to next meeting.

3. Overview and discussion of PERC grant award history and financial projections in preparation for committee-wide discussion in February

Following a request made in November 2014, WPP staff members compiled data on PERC’s awards history by type, grant program and department. Moss provided an overview of a chart outlining the total PERC awards from 2004 through 2014 by type (applied public health, public health education and training, clinical and translational research, basic science research) along with a list of examples for each type. He also presented a table showing the distribution of awards by grant program (New Investigator, Collaborative Health Sciences, Opportunity, Strategic) and PI department or “Other” (Academic Affairs, Institutional Centers and Program Initiatives).

Mount presented the latest financial projections for PERC through 2018. To focus the discussion on PERC’s overall portfolio, the projections were developed with the following assumptions: (1) PERC’s projected annual income—using a 4.5% distribution rate—would be $11.7 million, and (2) inflation was not included. He shared two tables and related graphs. The first set included projected expenditures by active awards with decreasing cumulative expenditures as grants concluded. The second set included projected expenditures by both active and projected future awards. Mount believes PERC could increase its annual awards. This would be in alignment with the WPP’s general principles for endowment growth and distributions.

Moss and Mount responded to several questions and comments. There was general agreement that the presentations were ready for the full committee in February.

4. Presentation of Strategic renewal application and requested supplemental information for “Survey of the Health of Wisconsin”

Moss welcomed Javier Nieto and asked that he present his response to the Executive Committee’s request for supplemental information related to the Strategic renewal application for the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW). The Executive Committee had several questions for Nieto after reviewing the application in December 2014. Nieto submitted a written response in advance of the January 26,
2015 meeting addressing the Executive Committee’s questions as well as the two external review summaries. Following his presentation, the committee asked additional questions on the following topics:

- **Leveraging additional funding.** Nieto responded that the SHOW team is making strong efforts to increase levels of external funding. He noted that SHOW has not been as successful as had been anticipated early on. He added that it has taken a long time to build SHOW’s infrastructure, including the number of participants and awareness of the program. He later noted that he hopes by strengthening efforts to engage faculty, SHOW will have more success leveraging additional funds.

- **Translating research findings into practice leading to health improvement.** Nieto gave several examples of translational projects like the impact of Wisconsin’s smoking ban, environmental monitoring and food insecurity. He acknowledged, however, that SHOW will not be able to directly improve health, rather it is more like a diagnostic tool used to track baseline and changes following an intervention which aims to improve health. He described SHOW as an agile tool for communities at the local level to monitor the effects of treatments.

- **Connecting SHOW with WPP’s strategic initiatives, the Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF) and the Wisconsin Obesity Prevention Initiative.**

- **Training opportunities for students and faculty.** Nieto clarified that student mentoring is an important part of SHOW’s mission. He added that SHOW benefits greatly from working with MPH and other graduate students.

- **Setting quantitative and qualitative annual benchmarks/metrics of success, like publications, grants and outreach efforts.** Nieto expressed his willingness to discuss setting benchmarks.

Moss thanked Dr. Nieto for his presentation and his responses to the members’ questions. Dr. Nieto left the meeting.

5. **Discussion and recommendation to PERC on Strategic renewal application for “Survey of the Health of Wisconsin”**

The Executive Committee drafted a recommendation to PERC on the Strategic renewal application for the Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW) which will be presented for consideration by the full committee in February 2015 following a formal presentation of the application by Dr. Nieto.

The Executive Committee recommended that the PERC fund the renewal application for SHOW at the current level over a period of three years beginning March 1, 2015 with a year-one budget of $1,399,523 followed by a $100,000 reduction in year two and an additional $100,000 reduction in year three for a total award of $3,898,569. In addition, the Executive Committee recommended that the PERC provide dollar-for-dollar match of up to $300,000 if SHOW successfully leverages additional funding during the second and third years of the grant period. SHOW’s annual interim progress reports and final report will address the following metrics:

- Number and description of applications/proposals to leverage additional funding, both successful and unsuccessful
- Number and nature of outreach activities to engage researchers across the UW School of Medicine and Public Health (UW SMPH) and the University, including basic scientists and clinicians, in use of SHOW data and biospecimens
- Number and titles, authors, and abstracts of publications
- Data on utilization of SHOW’s biorepository
- Impact or outcomes of SHOW’s collaborations on health, such as the results of SHOW’s work with local health agencies

The Executive Committee also recommended that Nieto seek advice from colleagues in the UW SMPH on strengthening the dissemination and use of SHOW data in research and public health practice.

6. **Adjourn – next meeting February 23**

Moss adjourned the meeting at 11:10 p.m.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison