Members Present: Phil Farrell, Valerie Gilchrist, Christine Holmes, David Kindig, Doug Mormann, Greg Nycz

Members Absent: Meg Gaines, Susan Goelzer

Staff: Chris Blakey, Cathy Frey, Lorraine Lathen (phone), Tonya Mathison, Ken Mount, Eileen Smith, Karla Thompson

Invited Guests: Bill Oemichen (Cooperative Network), Pat Remington (UW SMPH)

Other Guests: Rachel Habertman (ABC for Health)

1. Call meeting to order

Mormann called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

2. Announcements

Recruitment of public member
A call for nominations to fill the vacant public member position left by Lorraine Lathen was released on October 2, 2009 with a deadline of November 30. Nominations will be reviewed by OAC’s Nominating Subcommittee, made up of OAC’s public members and the Insurance Commissioner’s appointee. The Subcommittee will make a recommendation to OAC, which upon approval will be forwarded to the UW System Board of Regents.

SHOW GO grant award
The Survey of the Health of Wisconsin (SHOW), a targeted MERC program, received $5 million in leverage funding through a federal stimulus grant to expand SHOW to focus on disparities in health and lung disease in Wisconsin. The federal grant will also help establish the Network for Health Equality in Wisconsin (NHEW) to identify how changes within the economic, political and social landscape in Wisconsin contribute to major differences in health among state residents.

Graduate Student Project Assistant – Health Communications
Smith introduced Mike Mirer who recently joined the WPP on a part-time basis as the Health Communications Project Assistant. He is a graduate student in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.
3. Decision on draft September 16, 2009 minutes

Nycz moved approval of the draft September 16, 2009 minutes. Holmes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Medical Education and Research Committee (MERC) report

Nycz provided an overview of the October 12, 2009 MERC meeting. Like OAC, MERC is in the early stages of considering the development of general principles related to future distributions from the endowment. There was general agreement by MERC that the general principles should ensure overall growth in the value of the endowment with a focus on grant sustainability and advancement of the important stewardship role of the OAC and MERC to allocate funds to improve health in Wisconsin.

MERC decided to reduce funding for Dr. Mike Fiore’s *Engineering Effective Interventions for Tobacco Use: A Translational Laboratory* by 10.3% in alignment with the reduction imposed by the National Institutes for Health (NIH) for Dr. Fiore’s P-50 Center grant for a total award of $403,650. MERC also considered a no cost extension request and accepted two final reports for concluded New Investigator Program grants.

5. Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families report

Smith reported that the Wisconsin Partnership Program’s work related to improving infant mortality in Wisconsin is getting media attention with an article in the *Isthmus* on October 15 and an upcoming article in *Newsweek*.

**September 17, 2009 event**

Farrell reported that over 180 individuals, including Mayor Tom Barrett and Commissioner of Health Bevan Baker, attended an event held by the UW Foundation at the Discovery World Museum on September 17, 2009. The purpose of the event was to highlight the School’s efforts in Milwaukee with a focus on the Healthy Birth Outcomes initiative.

**Community Action Planning Grant Request for Proposals (RFP) Notices of Intent**

Lathen reported that following the release of the Community Action Planning Grant RFP on September 21, four Convening Planning Agencies submitted notices of intent on behalf of their respective targeted communities: Milwaukee, Beloit, Kenosha and Racine. Following a technical review, the WPP staff determined that all of the applicants are eligible to be invited to submit a Community Action Planning Grant in January 2010. There was general agreement that the letters of invitation should reflect OAC’s strong support and excitement about the commencement of this collaborative work to improve birth outcomes.
Information and training sessions
Lathen reported that information and training sessions held in each of the targeted communities were well attended.

6. Presentation on concluded 2004 implementation grant, *Co-op Care*

Bill Oemichen, Executive Director of Cooperative Network, provided an update on the concluded 2004 implementation grant, *Co-op Care*. Co-op Care created a viable health insurance model for agribusiness and other rural groups in Wisconsin with the establishment of the Farmers’ Heath Cooperative of Wisconsin (FHCW). Since its inception in 2007, FHCW has organized ten regional health insurance cooperatives offering affordable, quality health insurance to agricultural producers. The FHCW, now with over 2,600 members, offers six benefit plans with 24-hour workplace injury coverage, not typically available in the private insurance market. Annual member surveys indicated that 8% of members were previously uninsured. Additionally, health benefits, including prevention services increased, and premiums decreased for most members.

7. OAC strategic planning discussion

Financial planning
*Input on proposed policy on future distributions*: Following an overview of the requirements of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act, Mount introduced draft general principles for endowment growth and distributions for OAC’s consideration. There was general agreement by OAC to add a principle on maintaining transparency of its policies, procedures and processes in order to ensure effective and prudent management of the funds. As part of this principle, OAC is interested in meeting with the UW Foundation semi-annually to discuss the status of the endowment. OAC’s strategic financial planning discussions will continue over the next couple of months.

*Update on OAC’s projected 2009-2010 budget status*: Mount presented the financial projections for the Wisconsin Partnership Program through September 2009. The projected value of the endowment of $289 million.

*Update on Healthiest State project recommendations to OAC regarding setting strategic priorities*

David Kindig is leading a workgroup meeting on October 28 to review and analyze the results of the *Making Wisconsin the Healthiest State* project and other relevant sources of information in order to identify a smaller number of potential priorities with the expectation that the workgroup will develop specific recommendations for OAC for discussion at the November meeting. Rick Moss is participating with a focus on the potential for OAC/MERC collaborations.
Revised timeline for OAC strategic discussions

A revised strategic discussion questions and timeline were discussed. In November, OAC will consider the recommendations of the workgroup led by David Kindig.

8. **Adjourn – next meeting November 18, 2009**

Mormann adjourned the meeting at 2:55pm.

Recorder, Tonya Mathison
Secretary, Valerie Gilchrist