



**The Council on Linkages
Between Academia and
Public Health Practice**

Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice Conference Call Meeting

Date: January 11, 2016

Meeting Minutes – Draft

Members Present: C. William Keck (Chair), Philip Amuso, Chris Atchison, Pat Drehobl, Terry Dwelle, Vince Francisco, Gary Gilmore, Lisa Lang, Amy Lee, Patrick Lenihan, Sarah Linde, Susan Little, Beth Ransopher, Beverly Taylor, Marlene Wilken

Other Participants Present: Ellen Alkon, Katie Amaya, Karlene Baddy, Roxanne Beharie, Val Carlson, Teresa Daub, Ashley Edmiston, Bobbie Erlwein, Nadim Haddad, Elizabeth Harper, Regina Hutchins, Ty Kane, Eric Kasowski, Rita Kelliher, Laura Rasar King, David Knapp, Kirk Koyama, Vanessa Lamers, Jessie Legros, Bryn Manzella, Carol McDonald, Jennifer McKeever, Melissa Moore, Sarah Neal, Jessica Pittman, Janet Place, Connie Russell, Lisa Sedlar, Dorothy Sekowski, Silvia Shin, Jolynn Socano, Joan Stanley, Leslie Stribling, Susan Swider, Kristen Varol, Sandra Whitehead, Nancy Wittmer

Staff Present: Ron Bialek, Kathleen Amos, Janelle Nichols

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
<p>Welcome, Overview of Agenda, and Introduction of New Representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lynn Goldman (ASPPH) ➤ Pat Drehobl (CDC) 	<p>The meeting began with a welcome by Council Chair C. William Keck, MD, MPH. Roll call was conducted.</p> <p>Dr. Keck reviewed the agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Keck welcomed and introduced two new Council representatives: Lynn Goldman, MD, MS, MPH, for the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH), and Pat Drehobl, RN, MPH, for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).</p> <p>Susan Little, MSN, RN, APHN-BC, CPHQ, representative for the Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations (Quad Council), shared the organizational changes occurring within the Quad Council. These changes include a name change to the Quad Council Coalition of Public Health Nursing Organizations, and an expanding membership, with the National Association of School Nurses being the first additional organization to join.</p>	
<p>Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2015 Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Action Item: Vote on approval of minutes 	<p>Dr. Keck asked for any changes to the minutes of the August 10, 2015 Council meeting. Gary Gilmore, MPH, PhD, MCHES, moved to approve the minutes as written. Terry Dwelle, MD, MPH, seconded the motion. No additions or corrections.</p>	<p>Minutes of the August 10, 2015 Council meeting were approved as written.</p>
<p>Request for Council Membership – Council on Education for Public Health</p>	<p>Dr. Keck informed the Council that the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) has requested to join the Council. Dr. Keck welcomed Laura Rasar King, MPH, MCHES,</p>	<p>CEPH was granted preliminary Council membership.</p>

<p>➤ Action Item: Vote on membership request</p>	<p>Executive Director, CEPH, to speak on behalf of CEPH.</p> <p>Dr. Keck asked for discussion on granting preliminary membership to CEPH. Dr. Gilmore moved to grant preliminary membership. Vince Francisco, PhD, seconded the motion.</p>	
<p>Developing Council Strategic Directions, 2016-2020</p> <p>➤ Council Strategic Directions, 2011-2015</p> <p>➤ Process for Reviewing and Refreshing Strategic Directions</p>	<p>Dr. Keck provided an overview of the process for refreshing the Council's <i>Strategic Directions</i> for 2016-2020. Activities of the Council are guided by the Council's <i>Strategic Directions</i>. Over the past five years, the Council has made progress related to activities within each of the objective areas and administrative priorities outlined in its <i>Strategic Directions, 2011-2015</i>.</p> <p>The <i>Strategic Directions, 2011-2015</i> were developed through a strategic planning process in early 2011, adopted in June 2011, revised in April 2014 following a mid-point review, and were in effect through December 2015. To ensure that the Council's work continues to meet ongoing and emerging needs within the public health community, the <i>Strategic Directions</i> are being reviewed and refreshed for 2016-2020.</p> <p>An initial review has been completed by the Council Chair and staff based on the current public health environment and activities of the Council, and suggested revisions have been drafted. Following this meeting, Council staff will be contacting all Council member organizations individually for input on the <i>Strategic Directions</i> and will use that input to draft <i>Strategic Directions</i> for 2016-2020. That draft will be shared with the Council for review, and revisions will be made as needed. A final draft will be produced and provided to the Council for approval and adoption. The process is anticipated to be completed by the end of June 2016.</p>	<p>Comments or questions about the process for refreshing the <i>Strategic Directions</i> may be sent to Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.</p> <p>Council staff will contact Council member organizations to discuss the <i>Strategic Directions</i>.</p>
<p>Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals</p> <p>➤ Usage of the Core Competencies and Related Resources</p> <p>➤ Healthy People 2020 Data Collection</p>	<p>Core Competencies Workgroup Co-Chair Janet Place, MPH, provided an update on Core Competencies resources and tools and usage of the Core Competencies and related tools and resources. Since the release of the 2014 Core Competencies, the Core Competencies Workgroup has focused on developing resources and tools to support public health professionals and organizations in using the Core Competencies. The most recent resource completed is a crosswalk of the 2014 Core Competencies and the Essential Public Health Services, which was released in October 2015. The collections of Core Competencies-based</p>	<p>Examples of job descriptions and workforce development plans that incorporate the Core Competencies and other examples of Core Competencies use can be sent to Janelle Nichols at jnichols@phf.org.</p>

	<p>job descriptions and workforce development plans and examples of how public health organizations have used the Core Competencies continue to be enhanced. Additional resources to add to these collections are welcome. Other Core Competencies resources and tools available through the Council website include archived webinars, videos highlighting the Core Competencies, a set of Frequently Asked Questions, a crosswalk of the 2014 and 2010 versions of the Core Competencies, and a set of competency assessments, among other items. Many of these resources and tools were featured in a presentation at the 2015 American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting.</p> <p>The Core Competencies and related resources and tools are widely used, and this usage is highlighted by the frequency with which these resources are accessed through the Council website. These resources remain among the most accessed items on the Public Health Foundation’s website and are the most popular Council items available online. Since the June 2014 release of the current version of the Core Competencies, the Core Competencies have been accessed nearly 71,000 times and resources and tools have been accessed more than 130,000 times. Responding to questions about the Core Competencies has also become a significant part of the work that is done to support usage of the Core Competencies. New Core Competencies resources and tools will be shared through the <i>Council on Linkages Update</i>.</p> <p>Dr. Keck thanked all for their assistance with and willingness to collaborate to produce and share these resources and tools.</p> <p>Core Competencies Workgroup Co-Chair Amy Lee, MD, MPH, MBA, provided an update on Healthy People 2020 data collection activities. Within <i>Healthy People 2020</i>, the Core Competencies are incorporated into three objectives in the Public Health Infrastructure topic area, one of which is to: “Increase the proportion of Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited schools of public health, CEPH accredited academic programs, and schools of nursing (with a public health or community health component) that integrate Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals into curricula.” The Council serves as the data source for this objective, and previously collected data for an equivalent objective in <i>Healthy People 2010</i> by working</p>	<p>Council staff will provide information about new Core Competencies resources and tools through the <i>Council on Linkages Update</i>.</p>
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	<p>with member organizations to reach out to academic institutions. Since the August 2015 Council meeting, when it was reported that work on this activity was on hold as funding was not available, the Council has received funding from CDC’s Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services (CSELS) to pursue this activity, and the data collection instrument that will be used has been finalized. Discussions have begun with several Council member organizations about engaging academic institutions, with an aim of initiating data collection by the end of March.</p>	
<p>Discipline-specific Competencies</p>	<p>Dr. Keck provided an overview of the discipline-specific competencies initiatives Council staff are involved in.</p> <p>The Core Competencies have been a major initiative of the Council for over two decades. During this time, Council staff have assisted numerous organizations in developing and refining discipline-specific competencies that are aligned with the Core Competencies. More recently, requests for assistance from Council staff with competencies development, refinement, and implementation have increased, as have requests for Council review of new sets of discipline-specific competencies. Council staff are currently involved in efforts related to competencies for public health laboratorians, public health professionals working with people with disabilities, and community health workers.</p> <p>In addition, CDC has requested Council involvement in developing two new sets of competencies: 1) Competencies for Performance Improvement Professionals; and 2) Population Health Competencies for Hospitals and Health Systems. The Competencies for Performance Improvement Professionals will help articulate desired skills and competencies for individuals working primarily in health departments who have responsibility for quality improvement, performance management, accreditation, and related activities. The Population Health Competencies are being designed for individuals in healthcare settings who have responsibility for population health work in communities. Part of CDC’s funding for the Council is being used for these initiatives.</p> <p>CDC’s Ms. Drehobl, CSELS; Eric Kasowski, DVM, MD, MPH, FACPM, CSELS; and Bobbie Erlwein, MPH, Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support, spoke about these two</p>	

	<p>new competencies development efforts, the importance of these types of competencies, and why CDC is interested in and supporting these efforts.</p>	
<p>Academic Health Department Learning Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recent Activities ➤ AHD Research Agenda 	<p>Academic Health Department (AHD) Learning Community Chair Dr. Keck provided an update on the Learning Community. The Learning Community has grown to approximately 550 members.</p> <p>In June 2015, the Learning Community launched the AHD Mentorship Program. Led by Bryn Manzella, MPH, Jefferson County Department of Health (AL), this mentorship program aims to foster AHDs by building ongoing relationships between individuals involved in AHD efforts, connecting individuals seeking guidance related to AHD development or operation with those who have experience or expertise in those areas. Learning Community members have volunteered to serve as mentors through this program, mentor/mentee matches are being created, and mentoring is occurring. Positive feedback has been received from current participants, with mentor/mentee pairs discussing a variety of topics. Additional participation in this program is welcome.</p> <p>The Learning Community continues to hold webinar meetings, with the most recent meeting being in January 2016 and focusing on examples of successful AHD partnerships in Kansas and Kentucky. The archive of this meeting will be accessible through the Council website and TRAIN. The Learning Community listserv continues to provide a means for communication within the Learning Community, and work continues to enhance access to Learning Community activities and resources.</p> <p>The idea of developing a research agenda focused on AHD partnerships proposed by Dr. Francisco during the August 2015 Council meeting is the newest initiative of the Learning Community. Efforts to develop an AHD Research Agenda have begun and are being led by Learning Community member Paul Campbell Erwin, MD, DrPH, University of Tennessee Department of Public Health. Once an initial draft is completed, it will be shared with the Learning Community for review and feedback. A final draft will be produced and presented to the Council for review and approval. Information about this activity will be shared through the Learning Community listserv and the <i>Council on Linkages Update</i> as the project develops.</p>	<p>Anyone interested in participating in the AHD Mentorship Program as a mentor or mentee can email Janelle Nichols at jnichols@phf.org.</p> <p>Questions about the AHD Research Agenda may be sent to Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.</p> <p>Council staff will provide information about the AHD Research Agenda through the AHD Learning Community listserv and <i>Council on Linkages Update</i>.</p>

	<p>The ASPPH-sponsored Academic Public Health Caucus has issued a call for abstracts for the 2016 APHA Annual Meeting, which includes as a topic area “Building the Evidence Base for AHD Partnerships.” Abstracts related to this topic are encouraged and can be submitted through APHA’s website.</p> <p>Dr. Dwelle and Ms. Manzella spoke about the importance of AHD partnerships and the Learning Community to the broad public health community and their respective health departments, including in achieving accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board.</p>	
<p>Update on Other Council Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recruitment and Retention Survey Report ➤ 2015 APHA Annual Meeting 	<p>Dr. Keck provided an update on the Council’s recruitment and retention survey report, noting that data collected through the Council’s survey of public health workers in 2010 continue to be shared, and additional analyses of these data have been conducted with researchers at Tulane University. Papers written as a result of this work have been accepted for publication in the <i>American Journal of Public Health</i> and the <i>Journal of Public Health Management and Practice</i>. A full report of the survey findings is also being prepared for release through the Council website. A draft of this report is expected to be available online in early 2016.</p> <p>Council Director Ron Bialek, MPP, shared highlights of the 2015 APHA Annual Meeting panel session, <i>Navigating the Seas of Public Health Workforce Development: What Do Practitioners and Academics Need to Know?</i> Moderated by Dr. Keck and featuring speakers Ms. King, CEPH; Donna Petersen, ScD, MHS, CPH, ASPPH’s Framing the Future Task Force; and Edward Hunter, MA, de Beaumont Foundation, this session addressed how national public health workforce development initiatives are aligned. The session was well attended with exceptional participant engagement.</p>	
<p>Other Business and Next Steps</p>	<p>Dr. Keck asked if there was any other business to address.</p> <p>Dr. Keck shared that CEPH is currently in the process of revising the accreditation criteria for graduate-level programs and thanked Council members and others for providing comments to CEPH on its proposed accreditation criteria revisions. Comments on draft revised criteria were accepted through January 8, 2016. Additional public comment periods are</p>	

	<p>expected, and Council members are encouraged to provide feedback to CEPH.</p> <p>Kristen Varol, MPH, CHES, CEPH, shared that CEPH's Board of Councilors will meet to review the comments submitted, with a new draft of the revised criteria expected in February 2016. Comments on this draft will be accepted through mid-May 2016 and again reviewed by the Board of Councilors. An additional round of comments is anticipated in summer 2016.</p> <p>Dr. Keck shared details about CDC's Public Health Associate Program (PHAP), a two-year, paid training and development program that provides opportunities for recent graduates to gain experience in the day-to-day operations of public health programs. State, tribal, local, and territorial public health agencies; community-based organizations; public health institutes and associations; academic institutions; and CDC quarantine stations are encouraged to apply to host a PHAP associate. The application period for host sites is open through January 22, 2016.</p> <p>The next meeting of the Council has not been scheduled, but will likely be held by webinar or conference call. Council staff will be in contact to schedule that meeting.</p>	<p>Council staff will schedule the next Council meeting.</p>
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