



Community-Campus Partnerships For Health

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Engaged Institutions Initiative to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities

CC: Sarena Seifer, MD, Executive Director, Community-Campus Partnerships for Health

DATE: May 28, 2007

RE: Consultation at UNO/UNMC – May 8-9, 2007

Summary of Consultation

In preparation for the consultation, I completed two conference calls with members of the Project Team and leadership of the Center on Health Disparities February 13, 2007 and March 16, 2007. An additional preparatory meeting was held with Dr. Schumaker at the CCPH conference in Toronto.

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

The first day is dedicated to the campus with the major activities being a “grand rounds” open to medical center and university faculty and students; and a focused discussion with faculty researchers about community engaged scholarship.

Time	Activity
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	Steering Committee Meeting – Consultant meets with Steering Committee for breakfast to review schedule and objectives for the two-day consultation. (Venue: UNO Alumni Center, Hospitality Room) 8 participants.
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM	Community Based Participatory Research Partnerships University faculty, students, staff with interest in health disparities. (Venue: UNO Alumni Center, Hospitality Room) 14 participants.
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	UNMC/UNO Grand Rounds – <i>University/Community Engagement to Reduce Racial Ethnic Health Disparities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Defining health disparities• Defining the “community of focus”• Defining community engagement (Venue: UNMC DRC Room 1004) 40-50 participants.
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Informal lunch with Steering Committee members and other

For Engaged Institutions Initiative (EII) team member distribution only

	stakeholders. 6 participants.
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Focused Faculty Discussion – <i>Community Engaged Scholarship</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-Based Participatory Research • Promotion and Tenure Guidelines • Community Advisory Board • Faculty Development (Venue: UNMC DRC Room 1005) 6 participants.
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Break/Return to Hotel
5:30 PM – 8:00 PM	Community Meeting and Reception – Directors of Community Clinic, Health Centers and non-profit organizations. (Venue: Collaborating Center Room 002) 14 participants.

Thursday, May 10, 2007

The second day is dedicated to work with community partners and other stakeholders such as, state and county health departments, community service providers, clients, residents and interested university faculty, with the major activities being a video conference with health department officials and a community forum

Time	Activity
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Video Conference Meeting – w/ Center for Health Disparities and State Health Officials in Lincoln. (Venue: UNMC Pointer Room 5014 - 3 rd floor) 15 participants.
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Working Lunch – Community Care Council Chairs and Center for Health Disparities. (Venue: UNMC Woodson Dean’s Conference Room 3042) 5 participants.
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Community Forum – <i>Enhancing the Level of Community Engagement Between Universities and Communities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and Introductions – (TBD) • Presentation – “Realizing the Potential of Authentic Community University Partnerships” – Elmer Freeman • Presentation – UofN Case (TBD) • Discussion (Venue: Collaborating Center)
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Consultant debriefing with Steering Committee (Venue: Collaborating Center Room 1010)

The primary responsibilities of the consultant were to deliver a lecture for grand rounds, facilitate focused faculty discussions, and conduct 2 educational forums in the community. To provide advice and counsel based on his experience and expertise in developing and sustaining authentic community/campus partnerships for health to the process.

Follow Up Notes and Next Steps

Graduate student intern Julie Ferris was responsible for taking notes at the various sessions and is expected to write up and distribute them to the various participants.

The following notes correspond to the activities as reflected in the schedule of the consultant’s visit.

The Steering Committee is a dedicated and committed group with the expertise, knowledge and ability to effectively lead the College's efforts in community engagement. There is a real interest and desire to promote community-based participatory research and have it valued in the review, promotion and tenure process of the new college. There is a real recognition of the important of this work with minority and underserved communities to impact on health disparities.

Based on my experience I think the grand rounds lecture was well attended and I have no way of ascertaining audience response, interest, etc. The Steering Committee should follow up on any potential opportunities to help move the agenda of the College and the Center forward from those that attended.

The focused discussion with faculty indicated little coordination between search committees, overlapping and competing interests and concern that the extraordinary opportunity for shaping the development of a new college that is truly "engaged" is being missed. The Steering Committee may want to consider leading efforts to provide faculty development opportunities and support for CBPR efforts and community engaged scholarship.

The community meeting/reception clearly highlighted the issues to be worked on to develop the trust and relationships necessary for working in partnerships. Based on what I experienced I think the work of the college and the center has to focus on addressing the underlying issues of racism as expressed by members of the community. The Steering Committee may want to develop the list of "who is not at the table and should be" for future direction, discussions and partnering.

Having personally experienced the "un-doing racism" training of the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond (PISAB), I suggest the Steering Committee consider contracting with them. Affectionately known in the community as The People's Institute, is a national and international collective of anti-racist, multicultural community organizers and educators dedicated to building an effective movement for social transformation. They consider racism the primary barrier preventing communities from building effective coalitions and overcoming institutionalized oppression and inequities. Through Undoing Racism™/Community Organizing Workshops, technical assistance and consultations, PISAB helps individuals, communities, organizations and institutions move beyond addressing the symptoms of racism to undoing the causes of racism so as to create a more just and equitable society. The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond <http://www.pisab.org/>. The People's Institute has been used by the University of Arkansas, University of Michigan and University of North Carolina in their work with communities.

The video conference with officials at the state health department was very encouraging of the potential for meaningful partnerships and concrete areas for collaboration that was exciting. The participants identified several "projects" that could be easily undertake and require immediate follow-up.

Maximize utilization of the vast array of resources available on the CCPH website: www.ccph.info by faculty and students.

The Center may want to consider the work of the University of North Carolina School of Public health <http://www.sph.unc.edu> in defining health disparities in their strategic plan.

Conclusion

I was impressed by the commitment of members of the Steering Committee and the leadership of the College and the Center. The Steering Committee and community stakeholders, including those attending the meeting/reception recognize and accept the challenges and opportunities of partnership.

Through the Community Care Councils there is a good base of relationships upon which to build authentic partnerships with community organizations and residents to achieve the vision of the College and the Center. The legacy of racism continues as a real influence on how trusting community members will be of these efforts and will need regular and consistent attention.

The excitement and enthusiasm expressed by all those I met over the course of the two day consultation was encouraging and I hope sets the level of commitment to the work to be done in partnership with the community.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to share in your vision and contributing in a small but significant way to the beginning of your College the Center and your community partnership development process.