

San Jose State University Health Science Department
Make a Choice that Matters!

EII Consultant Visit Summary

Day 1 afternoon

Meeting with Sherril Gelmon and representatives from Anthropology, Communications, Health Science Departments regarding collaborative curriculum development regarding eliminating health disparities and encouraging community-based learning

Day 1 evening

Dinner meeting with both consultants (Sherril Gelmon & Sandra Quinn), Health Science faculty, community partners (including 2 MPH students, one of whom is teaching in our undergraduate program, one is a key community partner). The purpose was to get to know each other, share context and partnerships, preview for the Summit.

Summit

All day, intensive working meeting with consultants. We began with a group SWOT analysis exercise (resulting in attached SWOT segment of our strategic plan), followed by in-depth examination of key issues arising from the exercise and strategy development for overcoming weaknesses and threats, enhancing strengths and taking full use of opportunities. We met over lunch in small groups to discuss particular aspects of developing the context for supporting dissemination of our work. The afternoon session began with 4 groups, each tackling one of the potential projects we had identified and then reporting back their analyses of what would be needed to move that project forward, commitments from the group going forward. The day ended with a facilitated discussion of themes throughout the 2 days, “lively possibilities”, and commitments from participants.

Overall - The beauty of this meeting was that it was organic – this particular group of partners had never met together before and represented a range of settings and populations. We had a general idea of where we wanted to go and a definite idea, negotiated in advance with the consultants, of what we wanted to accomplish by the end. But exactly how we would move through the two days was entrusted to the facilitation skills of the facilitators and they did not let us down!