

Advisory Board Meeting  
University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute  
Wisconsin Medical Society  
330 E. Lakeside Street  
Madison. WI 53715

Friday, November 10, 2006  
11:00 -1:00 PM

Members present:

Steve Brenton  
Rep.Curt Gielow  
MaryAnn Lippert  
Gregory Nycz  
David Riemer  
Ayaz Samadani, MD  
Tim Size

Guests:

Herb Bostrom Representing Helene Nelson  
Nancy Nankivil Bennett Representing Eric Stanchfield  
Lisa Maroney Health Sciences Legislative Liaison

Members Absent:

Al Jacobs  
Nancy Kaufman  
Helene Nelson  
Chris Queram  
Eric Stanchfield  
Senator Judy Robson

Staff Present:

Patrick Remington  
D. Paul Moberg  
David Kindig  
Bridget Booske  
Donna Friedsam  
Marion Ceraso  
Judy Knutson  
Robert Rancourt

The meeting was called to order at 10:00.

All Board members, staff and guests introduced themselves. Minutes from the previous meeting were distributed and approved. The minutes will be posted: [www.pophealth.wisc.edu/uwphi](http://www.pophealth.wisc.edu/uwphi) .

Dr. Remington presented the Director's Report which summarized activities of the Institute since the last meeting. Donna Friedsam reported on the Health Policy Unit's activities, including collaborative work with DPH regarding Privacy/Security of records.

Marion Ceraso reported on Outreach Education activities. She described the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute which is working intensely with five community health teams from around the state. She also discussed the Population Health Practice Fellowship program. Discussion focused on evaluation of the fellowship program. Barbara Beck is the new Milwaukee Coordinator for the fellows and MPH students in the Milwaukee areas. Recruiting is currently going on for the next class with a deadline of 12/15. A discussion followed regarding where fellows are placed. It was suggested that the Institute look at how we can enrich rural health training, with expansion of placements beyond governmental agencies which appear to be predominant.

Paul Moberg updated the group on the work of the evaluation research unit, including participation in two newly funded large substance abuse projects, one in prevention and a second in screening and brief intervention in primary care. Tim Size initiated a discussion regarding the Institute's program evaluation work and mission versus that of other organizations on campus, in particular CHSRA.

Old business included discussion regarding the role of the new Dean of UW School of Medicine and Public Health. The Institute plans to strive for a high degree of communication and engagement with the Dr. Golden. He will be participate in the Institute's Executive Committee meeting in November, and sees part of his role as that of integrating public health into the School of Medicine and Public Health. Discussion followed regarding the role of the Partnership funds in this transformation and evaluation of the partnership program. Greg Nycz emphasized that oral health has been an overlooked area of need and may be an indicator of successful transformation.

The Evidence-Based Health Policy Project, which is now funded, was discussed by Donna Friedsam. This is a partnership between the Institute, La Follette School of Public Affairs and the Wisconsin Legislative Council. Dave Kindig is PI. Donna emphasized the firewall the project will establish between objective presentation/ translation of research evidence and the interests of UW and UW Health. Discussion ensued regarding the history of this initiative and its critical function as a reality check as health policy is developed. Rep. Gielow emphasized the initiative's importance as a mechanism to engage key people and take the heat off of them by getting facts rather than politics to drive policy. David Riemer emphasized the need to publicize who the contact person is for the project so inquiries can be directed appropriately.

The 2006 County Rankings are scheduled to be released November 15. Dr. Remington summarized some of the changes from prior years, including provision of a compendium that shows changes from prior years, a ranking of programs and policies, and an analysis of discrepancies between outcomes and determinants. Discussion followed on the relative weighting of various determinants, with particular concern over the 10% of health outcome attributed to health care. Greg Nycz suggested that the 10% was variability given the current

base rate of health care we have in place. The point was made that changing the weighting does little to impact the overall results. Tim Size commented that the implications of the weighting were profound. County level analysis was also discussed, with Rep. Gielow commenting that if he moved one mile south he would go from a county at the top of the ratings to one at the bottom. Regional information may be a more accurate portrayal in some cases. The stimulation of discussion and learning function of the rankings was emphasized, rather than its absolute accuracy. Other suggestions included looking for potential areas of impact by payors for health services, looking at employer based units rather than counties, and a suggestion that change rather than rank should be emphasized. There was some discussion of simplifying the discussion to enhance information transfer.

New Business: Dr. Kindig discussed the planned State of the Health of Wisconsin project, which would provide data on Wisconsin as a whole relative to other states and the US. Discussion ensued regarding the relative merits of grading versus ranking, and a strength that broad indicators of population health outcomes are targeted and not just very specific health priority areas. David Riemer suggested that the health status in several other countries (e.g., Netherlands, Finland, Australia, Sweden) might also be included for useful comparison.

For member updates, Greg Nycz circulated a reprint on access to dental care, Dave Riemer reported on progress with the WI Health Project, Herb Bostrom reported that DPH has moved to establish the Institute for Wisconsin's Health, Inc., and Tim Size reported on a Newsletter article on issues related to Medicare supplementation.

The next meeting will be scheduled following a poll for dates for the 2007 meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm to make time for a Healthy Wisconsin Council meeting with Dave Kindig and Bridget Booske and several members of the Advisory Board.