The Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice

Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice Virtual Meeting

Date: March 31, 2022, 2-4pm EDT

Meeting Minutes

Members and Designees Present: C. William Keck (Chair), Melissa Alperin, Rex Archer, Jessica Arrazola, Ellen Averett, Olabisi Badmus, Terry Brandenburg, Michelle Carvalho, Liza Corso, Michael Fagen, Leah Gillis, Gary Gilmore, Barbara Gottlieb, Paul Halverson, Nancy Harada, Allison Jacobs, Laura Rasar King, Amy Lee, John Wiesman

Other Participants Present: Linda Alexander, Jeanine Arrighi, Sarah Auer, Bobbie Bagley, Mike Barry, Rhonda Bartow, Kathy Basile, Jennifer Beard, Emily Burke, Ashley Burts, Janie Cambron, Vera Cardinale, M. Cardona, Marita Chilton, Amanda Clark, Shandy Dearth, Tammy Dillard-Steels, Cynthia Dunn, Ashley Edmiston, Carrie Evans, Lily Fang, Sarah Ferguson, Mighty Fine, Allison Foster, Traci Fowler, Cheyanna Frost, Jacqueline Gierlach, Adrienne Gill, Lisa Hansen, Amanda Havens, Shelia Hiddleson, Laurencia Hutton-Rogers, Kimberlee Hyman, Jennifer Jimenez, Ravi Kafle, Bryant Karras, Greg Kearney, Geri Kemper Seeley, Janea Key, Mary Kirk, David Knapp, Heather Krasna, Stefanie Krupp, Christine L., Kit Ledvina, Carly Levy, Allison Lewis, Helen Malcolm, Bryn Manzella, Nola Martz, J'Vonnah Maryman, Doha Medani, Amanda Mehl, Lloyd Michener, Lisa Miller, Justine Miracle, Jose Morales, Justin Navratil, Janice North, Amy Origel Jenkins, Victoria Otterman, Saadia Oulamine, Jennifer Pakiam, Elizabeth Parks, Meranda Pitt, Janet Place, Nivithasree RK, Beth Ransopher, Pam Ray, Claudia Reginato, Debra Revere, Jen Ricci, A. Roll, Annabelle Russell, Tali Schiller, Lyndsie Schwarz, Briana Sherlock, S. Spence, Sue Smith-Wood, Ellen Stiefvater, Jill Taylor, Laura Valentino, Alice Vestergaard, Mark Vander Weg, Jaimee Watts Isley, Amber Williams, Lori Williams, Linda Woods, Sarah Worthington, Nancy Yoon, Ali Zuercher

Staff Present: Ron Bialek, Kathleen Amos, Abdullah Tauqeer, Grace Davis

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome, Overview of Agenda, and Introduction of New Representative ➢ **Association of State and Territorial Health Officials: John Wiesman**	The meeting began with a welcome by Council Chair C. William Keck, MD, MPH. Dr. Keck thanked the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the funding support that has enabled current Council activities, reminded participants of the Council's mission, and reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Dr. Keck welcomed a new representative to the Council: John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH, representing the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Dr. Wiesman introduced himself.	
Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2021 Meeting	Dr. Keck asked for any changes to the minutes of the October 12, 2021 Council meeting. Gary Gilmore, MPH, PhD, MCHES, moved to approve the minutes as written. Melissa Alperin, EdD, MPH, MCHES, seconded the motion. No additions or corrections.	Minutes of the October 12, 2021 Council meeting were approved as written.

Rebuilding the Public Health Workforce	Council Director Ron Bialek, MPP, led a discussion on efforts to rebuild the public health workforce. CDC will be releasing a landmark Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to help reinvigorate and rebuild public health infrastructure, *Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce, and Data Systems*. This $3 billion five-year initiative will support "critical infrastructure needs related to workforce, foundational capabilities, data modernization, and physical infrastructure." Component A grantees will be health departments; Component B grantees will be organizations supporting the successful implementation of Component A grantees' activities. CDC Council representatives Liza Corso, MPA, and Michelle Carvalho, MPH, MCHES, shared updates from CDC on this upcoming opportunity. Mr. Bialek invited questions and discussion.	For more information about this NOFO, CDC has established a website with basic information and FAQs at https://www.cdc.gov/workforce/resources/infrastructuregrant/index.html.
Academic Health Department Learning Community	Dr. Keck provided an update on Academic Health Department (AHD) Learning Community activities. The AHD Learning Community is a national community that brings together and supports practitioners, educators, researchers, and others to explore AHD partnerships, share their experiences, and engage in collaborative learning. Since its launch in January 2011, the AHD Learning Community has grown to more than 1,200 members from health departments, academic institutions, and other organizations across the country. The Learning Community offers resources and activities to support AHD partnerships, including a venue for sharing examples and stories of AHD partnerships, webinars featuring AHD partnerships, examples of partnership agreements, a listserv for communication, and technical assistance. Since the last Council meeting in October 2021, the Learning Community and its resources and tools have been accessed online nearly 4,000 times. This brings online usage since launch of the Learning Community to more than 78,000 visits. Since the last Council meeting, staff have responded to 10 requests for assistance related to AHD partnerships, serving 9 organizations in 8 states. AHD partnerships were highlighted at	

	annual meetings and conferences, with sessions at the American Public Health Association (APHA) 2021 Annual Meeting and the Region VII AHD Conference. The *AHD Webinar Series* highlights successful AHD partnerships and other topics related to AHD partnerships. In February 2022, this series built on the APHA 2021 Annual Meeting session by highlighting the critical role of AHD partnerships in enhancing the COVID-19 response in communities across the country and exploring how AHD partnerships can strengthen health departments as we envision and build the public health workforce of the future. Three hundred and seventy-five participants attended this webinar, making it the best-attended AHD webinar to date. The archive of the webinar is available through the Council website, TRAIN Learning Network, and YouTube. AHD partnerships will also be featured in an upcoming webinar hosted by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) in April 2022: *Partnerships Between Academic Health Departments and Schools of Nursing*. Allison Jacobs, MPH, Associate Director of Population Health Initiatives, AACN, shared information about the webinar. Dr. Keck invited questions about the AHD Learning Community and AACN webinar.	More information about the AHD Learning Community and its activities is available through the AHD Learning Community section of the Council website or by contacting Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.
Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals ➢ **Dissemination** ➢ **Resources and Tools for Implementation** ➢ **Healthy People 2030**	Core Competencies Workgroup Co-Chairs Amy Lee, MD, MPH, MBA, and Janet Place, MPH; Council Assistant Director Kathleen Amos, MLIS; and Ms. Corso shared updates about the Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals (Core Competencies). Dr. Lee and Ms. Place shared their reflections on the positive reception the revised Core Competencies are receiving from the field. Ms. Amos provided an update on use of the Core Competencies. The Core Competencies, a set of foundational or crosscutting skills for professionals engaged in public health practice, education, and research, are used in workforce development activities across the US. The most current data show that approximately 80% of state health departments, 60% of tribal health organizations, 45% of local health departments, 25% of territorial health departments, and 90% of academic	

	programs with a public health focus use the Core Competencies. The Core Competencies are used in a variety of ways, including to guide development of job descriptions and performance objectives, competency or training needs assessments, education and training, workforce development plans, other competency sets, and other tools and resources to support professional development for public health professionals. These competencies also appear in major national initiatives, such as Healthy People and accreditation; are integrated into the TRAIN Learning Network; and are designed to reflect the knowledge and skills needed to deliver the 10 Essential Public Health Services. Since the last Council meeting in October 2021, the Core Competencies and resources and tools that support implementation have been accessed online more than 40,000 times, with more than 21,000 visits to the Core Competencies and more than 20,000 visits to resources and tools. Since the 2021 version of the Core Competencies was released in November, the webpage has been visited more than 18,000 times. Since the last Council meeting, Council staff have responded to 31 requests for assistance related to the Core Competencies, serving 23 organizations in 17 states and China. Ms. Amos provided an update on dissemination of the Core Competencies. The 2021 Core Competencies were adopted in October 2021 and have been available through the Council website since November 2021. Since that time, Council staff have been engaged in dissemination activities to try to ensure the public health community is aware of and has access to this latest version for their workforce development efforts. These include direct emails; sharing content through PHF, Council, and partner websites, newsletters, and social media; and presenting during meetings and webinars. Meetings, webinars, and conference sessions to share the revised Core Competencies were held at the 2021 Public Health Learning Forum, APHA 2021 Annual Meeting, 2022 Open Forum: Next Generation, a Region 2 Public Health Training Center Log-in2Learn webinar, a meeting of the Network of the National Library of Medicine's Public Health Collaborative, and a National Indian Health	

	Board Tribal Accreditation Learning Community webinar. Council staff also held two webinars in December 2021 and March 2022. In total, more than 1,600 participants engaged in these events.	
	Dissemination activities will continue over the coming months, and suggestions of activities or potential audiences are welcome. Council staff would be happy to organize webinars for any Council member organizations interested in providing a dedicated opportunity for their members to learn more and ask questions about this newest version of the Core Competencies. Ms. Amos invited Dr. Lee and Ms. Place to share additional thoughts on dissemination activities.	Suggestions of dissemination activities or potential audiences for the 2021 Core Competencies can be sent to Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org. Council member organizations interested in a webinar for their members to learn more and ask questions about the 2021 Core Competencies can also contact Kathleen.
	Ms. Amos invited discussion on suggestions for dissemination opportunities, strategies, channels, and audiences.	
	Ms. Amos provided an update on resources and tools being developed to support use of the Core Competencies. Since the release of the 2021 Core Competencies, Council staff have been working on updating and developing resources and tools that support individuals and organizations in using the Core Competencies and help with the transition from the 2014 to the 2021 version. Updated competency assessments are now available on the Council website, and a crosswalk of the 2014 and 2021 Core Competencies and a short video or slide set that introduces the Core Competencies are under development. Other tools currently being updated include a competency prioritization tool and a set of FAQs. Resources related to job descriptions, identifying priority competencies for different types of positions, and health equity are also being considered.	
	Ms. Amos invited Dr. Lee and Ms. Place to add any thoughts related to resources and tools for the Core Competencies.	
	Ms. Amos invited discussion of ideas or suggestions for resources and tools that should be updated or developed. As resources and tools are developed, they will be posted on the Council website and updates will be sent through the *Council on Linkages Update*.	Ideas or suggestions for Core Competencies resources and tools that should be updated or developed can be sent to Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.
	Ms. Corso highlighted a new webpage being developed by CDC focused on the Core Competencies and other discipline-specific competencies and shared updates	More information about the Core Competencies can be found through the Core

	on Healthy People 2030 objectives related to the Core Competencies. Ms. Amos invited questions for Ms. Corso and about the Core Competencies.	Competencies section of the Council website or by contacting Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.
Revising the Applied Epidemiology Competencies	Dr. Keck invited Sarah Auer, MPH, CHES, Program Analyst with the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, to share updates on the revision of the Applied Epidemiology Competencies. Ms. Auer shared an overview of the revision process for the Applied Epidemiology Competencies, including the data collection process, changes to competency domains, and alignment with the Core Competencies. Dr. Keck invited questions and feedback for Ms. Auer.	More information about the Applied Epidemiology Competencies can be found on the revision webpage or by contacting CSTE at WFResources@cste.org.
Public Health Accreditation Board Standards & Measures Version 2022	Dr. Keck invited Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Council representative Rex Archer, MD, MPH, and PHAB Director of Accreditation Marita Chilton, MPH, to speak about the recently released Version 2022 of the Standards & Measures for national health department accreditation. Dr. Archer and Ms. Chilton discussed Version 2022 of the PHAB Standards & Measures, highlighting areas related to workforce development, academic/practice partnerships, and health equity. Dr. Keck invited questions for Dr. Archer and Ms. Chilton.	More information about Version 2022 of the PHAB Standards & Measures can be found on the PHAB website.
Other Business and Next Steps	Dr. Keck asked if there was any other business to address. The next Council meeting will take place on June 24, 2022. Additional meetings will occur on September 29, 2022 and November 30, 2022.	Questions can be sent to Kathleen Amos at kamos@phf.org.