



COUNCIL ON LINKAGES BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Meeting Minutes
Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice
Core Competencies Workgroup
Via Conference Call
Wednesday, April 2, 2008, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. ET

Members Present: Diane Downing, Janet Place, Mark Edgar, Nancy McKenney, John Gwinn, Dawn Gentsch

Staff Present: Ruth Gelles, Kathy Miner

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
Recap Council on Linkages In-Person Meeting	Diane Downing and Kathy Miner briefly discussed the Council on Linkages In-Person meeting, held on March 17, 2008 and made clear that the entire meeting was not devoted to the Core Competencies project, but rather an hour discussion.	
Discussion of most recent draft	<p>Workgroup members discussed changes made to the most recent draft of the Core Competencies, in particular the “Basic Public Health Science Skills” domain and informatics.</p> <p>Basic Public Health Science Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Domain name was changed to “Technical Public Health Science Skills” to reflect the multiple tiers that the Competencies will cover. After some discussion, Workgroup members agreed to remove the word “technical” from the domain name and call it “Public Health Science Skills.”• Workgroup members agreed that the references to the Essential Services and the historical development of public health should be re-incorporated into the domain.• There was extensive discussion around the idea of listing the individual core sciences. Some members felt it is necessary to list each science by name, others felt this would lead to having to list every science related to public health. Also, listing multiple sciences within one competency makes measurement more difficult.• Members eventually agreed that listing the sciences in the first mention of “basic public health sciences” makes sense, and the omitting the word “basic” and full listing of sciences	<p>Continue discussions via email over the next month.</p> <p>Dr. Miner will have a revised to draft to Workgroup members after hearing some further comments via email.</p>

from future references.

Informatics

- Dr. Miner asked for guidance on how Workgroup members want informatics included. She suggested including the informatics-related competencies in the same place in each domain (for example last), so make them stand out more and be easier to find.
- Nancy McKenney stressed that informatics is not just “data,” but also a way of managing things to streamline the process. She suggested phrasing a competency along the lines of “applies public health informatics to streamline processes” under the Financial Planning and Management Skills domain. Ms. McKenney offered to bring the informatics issue up at her workgroup meeting of Wisconsin public health workers tomorrow.
- Dr. Miner agreed that getting comments from Wisconsin would be helpful

Ms. McKenney brought up some additional questions:

- In #8 in the Policy Development domain, Ms. McKenney suggested changing “translate” to integrate.” Frequently upper-tier professionals are analyzing policy (with the help of outside partners) and mid-tier professionals are responsible for taking the analysis and integrating it into programs.
- In the Communications domain, Ms. McKenney asked about including the consideration of target population demographics into communications. Some members felt that this could be included in almost any domain, including Cultural and Policy Development.

In the #8 of the Technical Science domain, members agreed that the acronyms should be deleted and replaced with something more general regarding privacy. Referencing HIPPA would date the Core Competencies if changes are made to the law.

Dr. Miner suggested including a competency under the Systems Thinking domain about staying current with developments in public health. This may include areas

	<p>such as genomics, which are clearly important to public health, but which do not require each individual to have expertise.</p> <p>Members agreed that changing #9 in Leadership and Systems Thinking to something along the lines of “establishes mentoring, coaching, and peer-advising opportunities.” This would reflect that mid-tier does not always conduct the actual mentoring, but may have oversight of such a program.</p>	
<p>Next Steps</p>	<p>Final Workgroup conference call: April 30 from 2-3:30pm ET.</p> <p>Ms. Downing emphasized that the April 30 conference call will be the last opportunity the Workgroup has to comment on the document before it goes to the Council. She asked that members pay special attention to emails and share comments with the entire group (use the reply all button in this case). The plan is that the April 30 conference call will be a review of a "final draft" with only minimal changes. After the April 30 conference call there is only a limited amount of time for Dr. Miner to incorporate any changes and get the document to the Council for their review.</p>	