



# COUNCIL ON LINKAGES BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

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**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 6, 2009**  
**Via Conference Call**  
**10:00 am —11:30 am ET**

**Members Present:** Diane Downing, John Gwinn, Dawn Gentsch, Janet Place, Joan Cioffi, Jeanne Matthews, Nancy McKenney, Yolanda Savage

**Staff Present:** Ron Bialek, Pamela Saungweme

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>Welcome &amp; Overview of Agenda</b>	Workgroup Chair, Diane Downing welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave an overview of the agenda.	
<b>Deadline for Finalizing Draft of Mid Tier Core Competencies</b>	Diane Downing informed the workgroup that the final version of the Core Competencies for Mid Tier Public Health Professionals draft will be presented to the full Council when it meets via web conference in May 2009. As such, all changes to the draft will need to be completed before the Council meets in May 2009.	It was resolved that the final version of the Core Competencies draft will be ready by May 2009.
<b>Overview of Public Comments</b>	Ron Bialek gave an overview of the public comments, indicating that over 1,000 comments were received from 600 individuals in both academic and practice settings. Comments were received through the Council on Linkages website, Town Hall Meetings, email messages and letters sent to Council staff. Mr. Bialek pointed out that most comments involved relatively minor changes and/or suggestions regarding word choice.	
<b>Items Needing Further Workgroup Input</b>	Diane Downing asked the workgroup for input regarding the items staff noted as needing further attention. Workgroup members discussed these outstanding issues and resolved all but one of them.	<i>(I) The workgroup agreed to the changes listed below:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Deleting #7 (revised) in the Communication Skills domain.</li><li>2. Adopting #8 (revised) in the Public Health Sciences Skills domain which reads: "Determines the laws, regulations, policies and procedures for the ethical conduct of research (e.g. patient confidentiality, human subject processes).</li><li>3. Deleting #10 in the Public Health Sciences Skills domain.</li><li>4. Modifying # 1 and #2 in the Financial Skills domain so that they read as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o "Interprets the interrelationships of local, state, and federal public health and health care systems for public health</li></ul></li></ol>

		<p>program management.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o “Interprets the organizational structures, functions, and authorities of local, state, and federal public health agencies for public health program management.”</li> </ul> <p><i>(II) The workgroup determined that the unresolved issue (#11 in the Analytic/Assessment Skills domain) should be tackled by an informatics expert.</i></p>
<b>The Entry Level Tier</b>	<p>Diane Downing invited Janet Place to talk about the Tier 1 Core Competencies (for entry level professionals). Janet indicated that the Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) could benefit from having some public health practitioners on board. A few workgroup members indicated that they would ask public health practitioners if they would be interested in helping to develop Tier 1 Core Competencies.</p>	<p>Workgroup members and Council staff will approach public health practitioners to see if they would like to help craft Tier 1 Core Competencies. Contact information for interested practitioners will be sent to: <a href="mailto:psaungweme@phf.org">psaungweme@phf.org</a></p>
<b>Next Steps</b>	<p>The Core Competencies Workgroup will make final revisions to Core Competencies draft via email.</p> <p>Other activities for the workgroup to consider (if funding allows) include: 1) Developing tools aimed at helping individuals use the Core Competencies for Mid Tier Public Health Professionals within practice and academic settings; and 2) Exploring the possibility of working with a journal to publish an issue dedicated to articles on the Core Competencies and their uses.</p>	<p>Staff will send out a revised draft of the core competencies and specify a deadline for comments.</p>