



COUNCIL ON LINKAGES BETWEEN ACADEMIA AND PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Meeting Minutes
 Council on Linkages Between Academia and Public Health Practice
Pipeline Workgroup Call
 Via Conference Call
 Thursday, February 28, 2008, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. ET

Members Present: Vince Francisco, Patrick Remington, Susan Allan, Susan Lepre, Sandra McGinnis, Shepard Cohen, Gillian Silver, Judy Delaney

Staff Present: Ron Bialek, Ruth Gelles

Agenda Item	Discussion	Next Steps
<p>Discuss of the information that has been compiled</p>	<p>Ruth Gelles briefly summarized the information that has been compiled and can be viewed on the website.</p> <p>Vince Francisco asked members if there are other resources that have been missed.</p> <p>Members discussed other possible sources, including state data that may not be public and enumerations by Public Health Training Centers.</p> <p>Members discussed the idea that most MPH graduates do not go on to governmental public health. Unfortunately, no numbers are available, only estimates.</p> <p>Members briefly discussed why so few MPH graduates do not join governmental public health agencies upon graduation. One reason is the lack of encouragement by schools of public health for students to do their practicum in a health department. Health departments also face difficulty hiring students for practicum experiences because they are not reimbursed for the time spent training/mentoring students. New Council on Education for Public Health requirements will push some, not a lot, toward practice and may tightening the requirements for accreditation.</p> <p>Generally, there seems to be very little hard data about why people leave. It would be interesting to conduct interviews with people leaving health departments before retirement to find out why they leave. These interviews would have to be anonymous and may be very difficult to coordinate.</p> <p>The SUNY Center for Health Workforce Studies will be</p>	

	<p>working with New York, Florida, and Georgia to have exit surveys for people leaving governmental public health.</p> <p>One problem with compiling these numbers is that different professions have different reasons for entering and leaving governmental public health. Also, different locations change peoples' reasons; urban workers may simply go to another health department, whereas rural workers leave public health altogether. There is also the matter of people leaving to work as contractors.</p>	
Discussion of the draft pipeline graphic	<p>Members felt that funnels should not be the same size. Also, having one long pipe implies that all the funnels actually lead to governmental public health; however we know that this is not the case.</p> <p>Members suggest two pipes that split into "governmental public health" and "other professions."</p> <p>Noting the lack of information, a suggestion was made to create an informal survey for Workgroup members, viewing them as an expert panel. This will not be scientific; members should respond purely from their own experiences and perspectives.</p>	A new pipeline graphic, incorporating these suggestions, will be drafted for submission to the Council.
Upcoming dates/deadlines	<p>There was a brief discussion of the future timeline:</p> <p>March 17, 2008 – Council on Linkages In-Person Meeting May 8, 2008 – Final Pipeline Workgroup conference call</p>	