NE1439 Annual Meeting

June 5-7, 2019

10 Livingston Ave

New Brunswick, NJ

Members who attended: Sarah Francis (ISU), David Buys (MSU), Matthew Delmonico (URI), Ingrid Lofgren (URI), Furong Xu (URI), Elgloria Harrison (UDC), Judith Gilbride (NYU), Nancy Cohen (UMASS), William Belden (RUTGERS), Sabine O’Hara (UDC)

Guests who attended: Elmira Asongwed (UDC), Pier Broadnax (UDC), Michelle Harris (UDC), Diane Hyman (UDC), Phronie Jackson (UDC), Anne Marie Jean-Baptiste (UDC), Tia Jeffery (UDC), Lillie Monroe-Lord (UDC), Kelly Thomas (UDC)

Thursday, June 6, 2019

8:00am to 9:30am

* Breakfast
* Meeting starts
  + Minutes from Annual Meeting June 6-8, 2018 were review and a call for a vote
    - Ingrid Lofgren motioned to accept the minutes and William Belden seconded the motion. All were in favor of accepting the minutes and the vote carried
    - Sarah Francis noted the need to elect the chair-elect, and that Furong Xu name had been put forward as the nominee for Chair-Elect. There was a call from the floor for nominees of others; no others stepped forward. Furong Xu graciously accepted the nomination. A motion was made by Sarah Francis that Furong Xu be nominated as Chair-Elect and was seconded by Ingrid Lofgren. The committee voted unanimously to elect Furong Xu as Chair-Elect. The Chair-Elect position will begin October 1, 2019.
    - Sarah reminded the group that the position of Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past Chair are 9 year commitments. Sarah Francis remains in the position of chair through September 30, 2019 at which time Melissa Ventura-Marra will assume the position of Chair.
    - Sarah Francis noted that this Multi-State research collaboration has been the longest running research collaboration.
      * A question was asked about the meaning of the number and it was noted that this reflected the year the grant was awarded.
      * This multi-state grant was renewed for another 5 years, thus 2019 or 1939 (copy of the proposal is included in the packet).
    - Sabine O’Hara congratulated the team on its successful proposal and encouraged the group to stay the course and to continue to demonstrate true collaboration across multiple states. This is the intent of the multi-state and this synergy will be highly scrutinized as funding sources become more limited. The more you can show impact and how the work that the multi-state impacts the US economy the better. More recently, there has been more emphasis on US job creation as a measure of improving the US economy. As we continue the work of the multi-state collaboration, we should determine how our work fuels job creation.
    - Congratulations to Ingrid Lofgren and Furong Xu awarded Full Professorship at URI

9:30am to 9:45am

* Introductions
  + 19 members attended
  + Each member was asked to introduce themselves and their research interest, along with what they expect for the next five (5) years

9:45am to 10:15am 2019 Research Excellence Award

* Award presented to Dr. Sarah Francis
* Sarah Francis presented her research entitled “Stay Independent—A Healthy Aging Series”
  + Great presentation and many comments as to how this program as developed by Dr. Francis could be implement across multiple states.

10:30am to 11:30am Multistate Project Policy and Procedure Manual

1:00pm to 2:00pm

3:30pm to 4:45pm

* In our 1939 proposal, we plan to develop a policy and procedure manual that will provide basis guidance to all members that are a part of the 1939 NE Multi-State. Sarah indicated that she reviewed a few policy and procedures of other multi-state teams, i.e. the Multistate on Obesity in Adolescence and found their manual was very specific in details such as how members join, how many members can join, criteria for joining, and how members are removed if failure to contribute to the research. Sarah used this as the basis for developing a preliminary policy and procedure manual for NE1939. The process of review was completed over the course of the meeting culminating with a vote that allowed Sarah Francis to finalize the document so that it is available for our use in October 2019. Additionally, the group agreed that this is a living document and while every effort is made to cover most areas, there may be areas that will need to be revisited in the future. Each area of the manual was reviewed to include
  + Board positions and responsibilities
    - Each board position to include sub-committee positions were reviewed and clarified as to what would be the required duties
  + Team expectations
    - Attendance and actual contributions to the research
      * Noted a few members who are in NE1439 have not attended any meetings nor made any contributions to the research efforts
      * Policies not meant to be punitive; but to encourage full participation
      * The secretary will be responsible for gathering this data and reporting this to the full committee for discussion and action if required
  + Application process.
    - Application process will be implemented for NE1939
    - Members agreed to limit this to 25 members
    - Secretary will be responsible for reviewing the NIMSS site monthly to determine if new members have joined and send an email to the new member alerting him or her to the new application process.
    - A rubric was developed and reviewed to make decisions on new member enrollment in NE1939. Should the committee deny membership—there will be documentation to show how the decision was made to deny
    - A question regarding whether there will be an appeal process—and some discussion was made; however, we agreed this was a living document and the area of appeal could be addressed in future discussion.

At the conclusion of the discussion on the policy and procedure manual, a motion was made by Ingrid Lofgren and seconded by Matthew Delmonico that Sarah Francis will finalize the policy and procedure manual.

* Sarah Francis will also submit the policy and procedure manual to David Leibowitz to be sure that the manual is in line with the USDA guidelines.
* Sarah Francis will also inquire where a separate application can be uploaded to the NIMSS website for any new member who wishes to enroll in NE1939.

11:30am to 12:00noon Dietary Sulfur Amino Acid Restriction and the Integrated Stress Response

By Dr. Tracy Anthony Professor in Nutritional Sciences

12:00pm to 1:00pm Lunch

2:00pm to 2:30pm Project Updates from Dr. Sabine O’Hara

* Dr. O’Hara noted that UDC just hosted the North East Regional Agricultural Experiment (NERA) and the Northeast Extension (NEED) meeting in Washington, DC. Scott Angle, the New NIFA director provided remarks at this meeting. These are the six (6) NIFA Priority Areas
  + Agriculture Intensification—this is where urban agriculture is being placed—more food from smaller growing spaces
  + Value Added Efficiency
    - Information Technology—use of Big Data to drive efficiency
    - Dr. O’Hara indicated she pushed the question what about the traditional value added product seen in food production—to which there were not answers
  + Food, Nutrition & Translation—how do we translate what we do that benefits the US economy. It is about job creation and the health and wellbeing of the US economy
  + Climate Adaptation—She was very surprised that climate adaptation remained a priority
  + Agricultural Science Policy & Leadership
    - Policies that protect business start-ups and encourage new business startups; however, if there are uncertainties in the area of policies, it is less likely to be a business-friendly environment
  + Workforce Development—this is a renewed area of focus—educating the workforce of today.
  + NIFA is committed to move it DC based workforce to an area in the mid-west; however, the funding source that was set aside for the move; has been utilized for other priorities.
    - It is believed that in the new budget year, NIFA will move; but funds for the move will not be authorized.
* Dr. O’Hara informed the group that she would no longer be the Administrative Director as they have asked that she take over another group. Kathy English of Rhode Island will be NE1939 new administrative director.

2:30pm to 3:00pm Food Environment and Systems Perspectives in Pursuit of Wellness

By Dr. Nurgul Fitzgerald Associate Professor/Extension Specialist in Nutrition and Public Health

Friday, June 7, 2019

8:00am to 8:45am

* Breakfast
* Meeting starts
  + Future meetings of NE 1939
    - 2020 meeting will be in Ames, Iowa host, Iowa State University, Sarah Francis; the proposed dates include June 7-9 OR June 10-12, 2020. Sarah will send doodle to the team to determine the preferred dates
    - Tentatively—2021 would be at the University of Mass–Amherst—Nancy Cohen—no date established; Bradley Airport is the closest at 45 minutes
    - If UMASS is not available then Mississippi State University (David Buys) will host in 2021, date to be established

Review of Renewal Project

* Sarah Francis reminded the group that we should review the proposal often to assure that we are meeting the goals, objectives, and milestones. Sarah Francis pointed out that one thing was evident in writing the renewal proposal was the number of collaboration across states had increased and believed this really strengthen our proposal for NE1939.
* Sarah Francis directed the group’s attention to the renewal proposal to examine the types of tools that were submitted as a part of this project. These are the tools that the group has agreed to use these next five years. These are validated tools that can be used across disciplines
* Sarah Francis directed the group’s attention to our two objectives and turned the discussion to the types of collaborative experiments the group is willing to work on.
  + David Buys indicated his use of the Qualtrics survey tool and how helpful and useful it has been with his own research. He believes if we consider as our first collaborative project a needs assessment, this will be a low cost and low effort on the group to meet one of our milestones. For example Experiment #1 can be a Needs Assessment to include MSU, UDC, ISU, UMASS, URI and perhaps others:
    - Can do a cross-sectional study of
      * Dietary composition
      * Barriers to physical activities
      * Environmental factors
      * Barriers to healthy eating
    - Will discuss in our first Zoom meeting
    - This needs assessment will focus on Area 1 and Area 2
    - We would need to develop the question
    - Engage a Statistician that could help refine the question (s) so that the data we capture is useful (Sarah Francis indicated that she has access to a Statistician at Iowa State).
    - It was noted that perhaps we should include Kathleen Woolf in this discussion as she has led many needs assessment engagement and may be helpful with formulation of the question

William Belden noted that perhaps experiment #2- Edible Plants a joint collaboration between West Virginia University and Rutgers.

* Experiment would focus under Objective 1 Areas 1 &2

William Belden noted that there are grant opportunities in some of the smaller units under NIH; for example, the NCCIH <https://nccih.nih.gov/> have been shown to fund projects in the area of complementary and integrative health.

Pier Broadnax discussed the training needs of nurses with respect to nutritional health. Nurses are at the front line; but perhaps lack the necessary tools to guide patients in the necessary nutritional knowledge to be successful at home. Because patients are being discharged earlier and re-entering hospital sooner, there may be an opportunity to provide better educations to healthcare professionals at the beside that ensures successful aging.

* A national needs assessments of health professional (other than RD) nutritional knowledge. This could be regional or national and the use of Qualtrics would be an ideal platform to gather this type of data.
* Objective 2 and Area 2
* Would fall under the Quality of Life

11:00am to 11:30am SAKAI tutorial

Ingrid Lofgren provided a step-by-step tutorial of the SAKAI platform. Ingrid Lofgren noted that in about 18 months, URI will no longer use SAKAI and will be moving to a new platform called BrightSpace (formerly D2L—Desire to Learn). In the meantime, we will continue to use SAKAI and when the time comes, will merge to BrightSpace. Ingrid Lofgren noted that she will change the name on the folder to NE1939 and will begin to upload documents relevant to NE1939. NE1039 and NE 1439 documents will remain on the site.

11:45am the NE1439 Annual Meeting was adjourned.