Multistate Research Meeting

10/12/2017

Attendance:

Ramona Faith Oswald, University of Illinois

Jasmine Routon, University of Illinois (student)

Alyssa Billington, University of Illinois (student)

Jenifer McGuire, University of Minnesota

Courtney Cuthbertson, Michigan State University

Erika Grafsky, Virginia Tech University

Andrew Reilly, University of Hawaii

S Okrey Anderson, University of Minnesota (student)

**Introductions**

The purpose of this research group: Try to build a community around rural queer research and focus on translating findings into practice. This is a coordinating committee that serves as a hub of expertise on rural queer research.

**Agenda for today:**

1. Jen wants to talk about group paper

2. Talk about trans grant

3. Collaborations that we need to talk about and opportunities for research.

4. Present Ramona’s research in rough form

5. Courtney has a potential funding opportunity to apply for

6. Talk about future meetings- do they have to take place in October? Do they have to be in fall? Where will we be meeting?

7. Outreach output. What can we put out for educators? Come up with some materials.

**Questions:**

What kind of relationship do we have with Brent Elrod? What opportunities can he leverage for us?

Courtney volunteered to contact him.

**Starting point: Goals for this group**

1. Define the research vision and produce research

2. Infrastructure for annual meetings. Communicate cross objectives. Collaborations.

3. Translation. Annual outreach. Dissemination of outreach products.

4. Create pipeline for future engagement with research.

How have we met each of these four goals for the report?

Each institution should write a separate report and then compile.

**Objective 1: Research**

**Research that has been done**

Group Paper

We wrote a paper- submitted to journal of rural studies. Have been waiting for the editor to make a decision. Editor unresponsive.

Gist of paper- thinking about rurality and important to get beyond rural stereotypes. Understanding place identities and how people are connected to place.

We have publication for the group.

Andy and Jen

Andy and Jen have collaborated.

2 papers and a book chapter.

Book chapter done.

1 paper-Andy presents at a seminar and then will be submitted to journal.

Other paper still needs to be discussed.

Clothing fit, identity, trans kids.

Jasmine, Jen, and Ramona

have a paper that is about to be accepted by family relations

**Outreach potential**: Fact sheet- Where is my community at in climate? How assess? What features of communities should I think about? What can I do to improve community support? Very collaborative for this group. – could be paper and fact sheet

Perceptions of support in community. Is it good enough?

Self reports of community perception

Erika

Data from pansexual youth might fit as research resulting from this group collaboration

S and Liz

work on relationship satisfaction, religion and rural context- need to update lit review. Could fit.

**Potential Research and Collaboration Opportunities**

Same-sex Divorce

Jen has been in north central extension divorce education groups, defining common measures, improving divorce education modules for same gender couples. Research and outreach as part of extension. Highly rural organizations.

Ramona possible collaboration with Jen Hardesty on same-sex divorce. Hasn’t been talked about in terms of rurality. Might add to work Jen is talking about.

Jen has interviews about same sex divorce- still need to interview people going through same sex divorce.

Need resources for same sex couples, specifically or to incorporate into overall divorce education programs.

BRFSS

CDC Behavioral and Mental health. National and state level data.

We could use this data for something?

Could we do a collaborative analysis with this data for this project?

Could we use this data to create state fact sheets?

Plan to do a presentation at NCFR with this data. National Outreach Health conference is also an option.

Are there some health outcomes we would like to look at? Is there housing and food security?

Health Outreach:

Financial well-being

Housing and food security

Mental Health

Rural and connected to USDA. Housing and food security as moderators in mental health

Are there analyses using this data that talk about operationalizing low income and food security?

There are some years with a food security module.

Look at research on food insecurity and look at variables correlated with that and see if they are in this data

How to start: Courtney and someone- pick a year, identify GSM sample, see what the states are and available modules, then see what we want to do. Start with what sample we can get.

2015- 3.1% LGBT, 5,000 cases

Rural LGBT- 456 vs Urban 2100- need to do some weighting

Propensity scoring? Inferred cases

What predicts outcome variable (depression) within rural LGBT group?

Courtney is taking lead on this.

Merge 2015 and 2016 data

Doing a national health outreach conference and proposal- May 2-4th

Rural Health and Education Grant

Courtney brought this up. Workshops around LGBT issues. 2 year process. Disseminating surveys with presentations. Community level outreach programs. Training and research.

Need to figure out what research we want to attach to that grant proposal.

**Objective 2: Infrastructure for communication and collaboration**

Have infrastructure for annual meetings.

Need to lay out meetings for next 4 years.

Need to report 6 grad students involved.

Need to report how many institutions involved.

-Erika has students that want to be involved

No money for travel to support grad students

FlipGrid

Software called FlipGrid- like PowerPoint- put video of yourself and attach document.

Living document.

We can interact with one another through FlipGrid.

Can attach PDFs.

Can link to a webpage where our fact sheets and pubs we are allowed to post.

FlipGrid as a platform for communicating research. Outreach.

Questions about maintaining websites: Can we continually manage FlipGrid? Will it be effectively used? Ramona wants to cut out space for project in a place that is already being used- extension website. Don’t want to tell people how to find us.

Can put FlipGrid on a webpage. Can put on extension webpage. Good for outreach. Video abstract. Not permanently attached to a website. FlipGrid could allow summary of paper that is attached.

Paid allows up to 5 minutes of video. Do we get that from U of M? How do we get access to paid version? Jen needs to ask someone with power.

-Google sites are also an option. Low maintenance and free.

-Once a year update on web thing in preparation for the meeting.

Data sharing- data collection materials.

Data collection materials that can be connected across states to facilitate collaborations. Can be put on Google site.

Trans health measures from Jen at center for sexual health- could mimic infrastructure for sharing data collection stuff that is at center for sexual health. Sharing protocols.

Making sure there is an adequate level of training for shared protocol. Everyone has different training strategies.

Are there other things we want to create for outreach pipeline?

How to do interview training for grad students- if we are doing multistate collection.

**Objective 3: Translation- annual outreach activity**

-Did this at the extension educators panel.

-We need to talk about what we are going to do for next year.

-Erika has done a lot of stuff in Virginia to report here.

-Ramona, Jasmine, and Alyssa need to figure out what outreach activities in Illinois that have already been done that could be reported.

**Object 4: Pipeline: Creating structure for future plans**

Passing baton to students. Training educators to run own programs. Building community capacity.

-Erika was part of LGBT network in Virginia. On vulnerable pop mental health group.

-Pubs with grad students.

-Grads are being supported. Grads coming to meetings.

-Undergrad involvement?

Erika can contribute to undergrad involvement.

-Can say we are planning to provide presentations for undergrads?

-Maybe go to MBLGTACC and present

**Lunch Break**

**Afternoon agenda:**

1. Ramona’s Powerpoint

2. Outreach handouts

3. Grants

**Ramona, Jasmine, Alyssa presentation**

Suggestions for who else to interview

Attorney- family law

Someone who works at a food shelf

Person involved with cake baking incident

Extension educator

Pediatrician

Preschool teacher/daycare provider

Domestic violence/rape crisis services

Owning the issues

More I than We- nature of sampling enforces this. Our method was to talk to people who could speak on this- this person is typically the catalyst for the organization.

Analyze how the I builds the We. We don’t know for sure that the I drives the We. Interplay between I and We is an important part of sustainability. Maybe want to interview rebels.

How to build community- how do people tear down community? Mechanisms for problem-solving but also mechanisms of resistance- look at communities that are hostile

Bloomington doing well- no transience and corporate support.

Suggestions for Theory

Theory isn’t very rich yet. More analysis on commitment and problem-solving, community dynamics, theory might fit together better. Lead us to talking about intersectionality.

Community capacity theory- just starting with fundamental characteristics

There is something that is not quite integrated. Theories of community.

Need to ask about symbols and rituals. Changing language to capture symbols and rituals. Missing piece: Community capacity view is stagnant, need something more dynamic.

Ritual theory perspective.

**Fact Sheets**

Fact sheet we are hoping to develop

How to assess? What are the factors to look for? How can community support can be improved?

-Erika and Jen present examples of fact sheets they have done

-In Jen’s fact sheet, community authors that respond to existing research. What they are doing in their programs that relates to research that is being summarized in fact sheets and future directions for the research.

-Might want to consider the children’s mental health ereview- hugely read. NCFR readers, CYFAR followers, mental health practitioners, counselors, public health

-Repurposing information taken out of article- youth and mental health stuff

Mental health stuff from paper may go with BRFSS Data

-Need to draft basic community climate/support fact sheet content.

Call in educators to work with us- have good ideas to make it useful for community people. Maybe community vitality educator feedback.

Another potential fact sheet

Families and parenting fact sheet. Family boundaries, pushed out of family, ambiguously in family, how is parenting affected, how same sex parents navigate rural environment. Rural life for families with LGBT parents or LGBT kids.

Look at Patterson fact sheet. See how we can add a rural component.

**Grants**

Rural health and safety education grant

-Due at the end of June

Region rural development center- North Central

250-350,000 for 2 year period

Chronic disease- depression and suicide

Explore opioid addiction angle?

-Health education projects that provide individuals and families living in rural areas with health info

Need to explicitly tie to health outcomes and community education

-Schedule phone call with Brent to learn what grant will look in next cycle as far as focus area.

-What training model would we use? Set it up so there is an evaluation component that gives research data.

-Do we want to do this grant? Call Brent then decide

Grant from department of justice

-Rural sexual assault, sexual violence, domestic violence, dating violence

Address and prevent these crimes in rural areas

Trans

Discretionary grant programs

**Goals for tomorrow:**

Future meetings

Plan community fact sheet

NIH Grant collaboration

What kind of collaborations can we do?

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-Ramona, Jasmine, and Erika talked about how to improve Erika’s survey (question clarity, LGBT community involvement and attachment, defining geographic parameters of sample) and about adding climate questions used in Rainbow IL data (supportive, tolerante, or hostile) so they could potentially collaborate.

-Courtney and Jen discussed NIH grant

**Future Meetings**

Where?

We want to do a meeting in each state

-Minnesota

Research cabins in Bimidji for a work retreat, lake Itasca

Good idea if working intensely on something- should rotate for extension

Cabins for writing retreat

Could also do northern Minnesota outreach.

-Hawaii

Andy could apply for diversity grant to bring people to Hawaii campus for workshop on campus

Would help for people who don’t have funding to cover travel

Don’t know if Russ going to be involved

Get a house instead of hotel

Outreach in Hawaii- social workers, counseling, LGBT center, HDFS, extension, center doing family research

-Virginia

Would like to host in Virginia, but don’t know about tenure so might wait

Erika has connection to do extension in Virginia

-Illinois

Outreach in Illinois during symposium- could have meeting somewhere that is not attached to outreach

When?

Does it have to be in October?

Timing matters because of paying for travel

Ask Chris Hamilton about when we have to meet

We decided to try to organize next year’s meeting in Hawaii

**Fact Sheet**

Brainstorming

Rural, community, family stuff

How to understand how supportive your community is?

How do I make community more supportive, where to start?

Where to get more information?

Why does this matter?

Everyone is happier, not just queer people

How do you assess?

What are the indicators?

Voting, bohemian index, churches- supportive or hostile denominations

Send people to religious database

Census data on same sex couple households

Presence of LGBT orgs, municipal ordinances at local level

Put links in fact sheet

Rate your own community quiz

Qualtrics QR code- assess community- get the data, say we want to know who accessed

Assess community, then reflect

Look at your wwn experience and how that fits with facts about community

Your community fits in this assessment, does this match up with your belief?

Range of climate scores- sliding scale where you might fit

Data visualization, see other community ratings, emoji pin head icons depending on rating

Interactive online component

This fact sheet is about queer people in rural communities, how to understand it, how to make it better?

Should we include kids and families? This is a part of why it matters, could also be a second sheet

Basic Organization

Frontside:

Rate your community

It matters because we know connection between climate and health

Rate objectively and subjectively- do these connect?

Back side: Ways of improving include: findings from work. What can I do? Interpersonal, clinical, small action- email pronouns, safezone signs

Action relates to indicator of climate. What can you do in response to certain indicator?

Need to know what the LGBT resources are.

Where to start

Some of S’s RA hours could be allocated to helping with online component of fact sheet

Ramona, Courtney, Jasmine, and Alyssa would add climate stuff

Andy would add signs and symbols. Should be included in assessment.

Erika would add to how to improve, especially interpersonal component

Jen has a good format for fact sheet

Deadlines for progress on fact sheet

Front and back of one page

Dropbox- Erika is going to set up a dropbox

Release date by May

Need basic content before Christmas,

Formatting, IRB, qualtrics after Christmas break

Final draft of content by end of the semester

Drafts in the next couple weeks

Put logos and templates in folder, sheet logo with NCERA and little institution logos

Potential survey questions in another folder