NE1939 Annual Meeting

June 10, 2020

Virtual via Web-EX

Link to meeting: <https://iastate.box.com/s/9vqgrjstx0eq5tgcc7inn6dyrv10siow>

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), Tatiana Andreyeva (UCONN), Anna Arthur (U of Illinois) Martha Belury (OSU), Nadine Sahyoun (UMC), LaShan Simpson (MSU), Richard Simpson (U of Arizona), Melissa Ventura-Marra (WVU), Lee Weidauer (SDSU), Kathleen Woolf (NYU), Jiujiu Yu (UNL), Denis Titov (UC Berkeley), Elizabeth McNeil (ISU)

Guests who attended: Elmira Asongwed (UDC), Pier Broadnax (UDC), Michelle Harris (UDC), Phronie Jackson (UDC), Anne Marie Jean-Baptiste (UDC), Tia Jeffery (UDC), Lillie Monroe-Lord (UDC), Tiffany Johnson-Largent (UDC), Wijdan Dabeek (WVU), Annie Contrady (ISU), Silpa Beegala, Annie Ziegler

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

9:00am to 9:30am (CST)

* Meeting starts
  + Minutes from Annual Meeting June 5-7, 2019 were review and a call for a vote
    - Melissa Ventura-Marra welcome the group to our virtual annual multi-state research collaboration and requested that in a brief but thorough statement new members followed by guests to introduce themselves, tell where each are from, area of expertise, and research interest and something notable about the work accomplished last year under the multi-state project. New members would be providing a more detailed introduction of themselves during their presentation as noted on the agenda.
    - Sarah Francis motioned to accept the minutes and Judith Gilbride seconded the motion. All were in favor of accepting the minutes and the vote carried
    - Ingrid Lofgren noted that Dr. Cathy English would be retiring, and that Dr. Richard Rhodes would assume the Administrative Advising (AA) role for this next year. Ingrid Lofgren would be on sabbatical during this year that Dr. Rhodes would be AA, and when she returns, would assume the position of Department Chair, and would then become the AA for the NE1939 Multi-state. Ingrid reference a bylaw provision as to how the AA is appointed.
    - Melissa Ventura-Marra opened the floor for discussion on the nomination of the Member-at-large position currently held by David Buys. The nomination that was moved to the floor was Nadine Sahyoun. Melissa indicated that Nadine had agreed to the nomination and opened the floor for other potential nomination. Hearing none, Melissa Ventura-Marra called for a vote of the membership. All in favor of Nadine Sahyoun as the Member-at-large, by voice vote, unanimous in favor of Nadine. The group congratulates Nadine Sahyoun, the new Member-at-large, she will have a three (3) year term.

9:30 am to 10:00 am

Ramps Study (Collaborative Study with WVU and Rutgers)

* + - Wijdan Dabeek (WVU) an alumnae of West Virginia University, a mentee of Dr. Ventura-Marra, and now a Dental Student at presented on the research accomplished in the Masters of Nutrition program at WVU on RAMPS a vegetable consumed by residents of West Virginia with potential medicinal properties of lowering blood pressure. RAMPS are members of the garlic and onion families and there has been limited studies on the uses of this leafy vegetables in the literature.

10:00 am to 10:20 am

New member research overview presentation

* + - Annie Arthur, Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Sylvia D. Stroup Scholar in Nutrition and Cancer at the University of Illinois reported on her research in cancer and nutrition focused on survivorship
    - Tatiana Andreyeva, Associate Professor in the Center for Academic Programs in Applied and Resource Economics. Her research presentation focuses on COVID-19 capturing secondary data analysis economic impacts

10:30 am to 11:00 am

2020 Research Excellence Award presentation

* + - Melissa Ventura-Marra gave a brief overview of the Excellence in Research award to a member of the Multi-state who has exemplified extraordinary collaborative efforts among multi-state research members. The 2020 research award goes to William Belden. Dr. Belden thanked the multi-state team for this honor. Dr. Belden’s presentation focused on the circadian clock and its impact on telomeres lengths. This research was done in animal models

11:00 am to 11:30 am

Review of NE1939 Year I goals-updates and review

* + - The goals for the multi-state were broadened to expand the research reach. This expansion allows researchers that may not have considered this Multi-state collaborative so see how their research can contribute to this effort in the study on older adults. NE1939 has two overarching goals
      * Objective 1: To conduct multidimensional assessments of diet, physical activity and related factors affecting aging adults
        + Sarah Francis is leading a sub-group of researchers in developing a needs assessment tool that will be used to evaluate a larger sample of older adults within our multi-state regions
        + Sarah Francis is leading another sub-group of researchers in developing an assessment survey of professionals, such as physicians, nurses, dietitians, social workers, and others in their nutrition knowledge level
        + Sarah Francis is leading a small research team in writing a grant that will cultivate internships of students within five (5) of our multi-state institutions, that provides a diverse settings for students to participate in a learning experience and gain exposure to research methodologies in various laboratories. The grant application is due in July 2020.
        + Ingrid Lofgren reported that the Sakai system had been the repository for the Multi-state data and documents; however, the Sakai system will no longer be available at URI as of the end of this year. The new system Bright Space will now require that each member will need a URI email address to access this system. Bill Belden indicated the Rutgers uses the Sakai system. Ingrid Lofgren suggested that Bill, Sarah, and Ingrid would talk off lines on other systems that the Multi-state research collaborative might consider hosting the groups documents.
        + **ACTION:** Sarah agreed to send a Qualtrics Survey to the group to get a idea of which system might work best.
      * Objective 2: To develop, implement, and evaluate interventions that preserve or improve health in aging adults living in rural and urban environments.
        + Nancy Cohen reported that her doctoral student, who has now received her Ph.D. has continued the work that was started during her training and continues to write manuscripts for publication in this area.
        + Sarah indicated that she has a research student that has worked with her to develop the curriculum related to the LifeSpan Curriculum. Many of the lessons have been created and others have not due to the current pandemic situation, progress has slowed.

11:30 am to 11:50 am

New member research overview presentation

* + - Elizabeth McNeil, Assistant Professor, in Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University. Her research focused on Genetic research the development and tissue maintenance during aging, and to understand their contribution to certain human pathological conditions.
    - Jiu Jiu Yu, Assistant Professor in Nutrition and Health Sciences at the University of Nebraska- Lincoln. Her research focuses on understanding the impact of dietary molecules on metabolic inflammation and obesity-related diseases.

12:00 pm to 12:20 pm

Physical Activity Needs Assessment Study (ISU and UDC)

* + - Annie Contrady, graduate student at ISU with Dr. Sarah Francis presented her findings of a collaborative study between ISU and UDC on the Physical Needs of Assessment of Aging Adults doing a comparison of perceptions of aging adults in rural vs. urban cities. We congratulate Annie as she will defend her thesis on July 6, 2020 and receive her master’s degree and move forward into her Ph.D. program.

12:20 pm to 12:40 pm

New member research overview presentation

* + - Lee Weidauer, Assistant Professor, in Health and Nutritional Sciences at South Dakota State University. His research focused on the development of osteoarthritis using protein supplementation, diet recommendations for post-surgery obese patients and injury models for young athletes.
    - LaShan Simpson, Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering. Her research focuses on Novel Therapies to Treat Vascular Calcification in which she seeks to prevent re-occurring plaque build-up by using protein-based therapy to encourage stem cells to become different cell types.

12:20 pm to 12:40 pm

Meeting wrap-up and Next steps

* + - Melissa Ventura-Marra noted in concluding remarks that we are pleased with the types of research being conducted across the multi-state collaboration and believes there are many collaborations in the makings for our research team. Melissa Ventura-Marra suggested the following
      * Elgloria and Melissa will work on getting a email started to all members to indicate their contact information and their area of expertise, this would more easily facilitate collaboration efforts as others members would know what others are working on.
      * The small groups that are already working on projects will continue to move forward
      * The annual meeting for next year will be at Iowa State University
      * **ACTION:** Sarah would send out a Qualtrics survey to the membership to determine what month is best for the group, whether it remains in June or shifts to July.
      * Lastly, Dr. Nancy Cohen announced her pending retirement to this group; while it is not yet common knowledge on her campus, she wanted to let everyone know this would be her final meeting. She expressed her joy for the work that has been accomplished during her 35 years with this project and was very pleased that this multi-state was in good hands and would be moving forward.

BIG CONGRATULATIONS to Dr. Nancy Cohen, you will be missed

Last on the Agenda

Bill Belden indicated that he needed to share something with the group and needed to share his screen.

* + - * BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO Dr. Melissa Ventura-Marra for Promotion and Tenure at West Virginia University

At 1:15pm the meeting was adjourned, and the Executive committee went into session