NE1939 Annual Meeting

June 16-17, 2021

Virtual via Zoom

Members who attended: Sarah Francis (ISU), David Buys (MSU), Matthew Delmonico (URI), Ingrid Lofgren (URI), Furong Xu (URI), Elgloria Harrison (Lehman College), William Belden (RUTGERS), Tatiana Andryeva (UCONN), Anna Arthur (U of Illinois) Martha Belury (OSU), Nadine Sahyoun (UMC), Melissa Ventura-Marra (WVU), Lee Weidauer (SDSU), Kathleen Woolf (NYU), Jiujiu Yu (U of Nebraska), Denis Titov (University CA Berkley), Elizabeth McNeil (ISU), Lillie Monroe-Lord (UDC), Phronie Jackson (UDC), Dara LoBuono (Rowan University), Jake Eubank (Lehman College), Andrew Alto (Lehman College), Douglas Oberlin (Lehman College), Yuxiang Sun (Texas A&M)

Guests who attended: Elmira Asongwed (UDC), Pier Broadnax (UDC), Michelle Harris (UDC), Anne Marie Jean-Baptiste (UDC), Tia Jeffery (UDC), James Maiden (UDC), Tiffany Johnson-Largent (UDC), Matthew Richardson (UDC), Amy Schweitzer (UDC), Kristen Brown Johnson (ISU?) Afnan Alamoudi (WVU), Natasha Peterson (ISU)

Wednesday, June 16, 2020

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

* Meeting starts
  + Minutes from Annual Meeting June 10, 2020 were review and a call for a vote
    - Melissa Ventura-Marra indicated that the membership of this longstanding multi-state research collaboration has grown and there are now 33 members representing 17 states that span the entire country. Every five (5) years the multi-state proposal is resubmitted and she gave credit to Sarah Francis as the architect of the current multi-state NE 1939. The members of this research collaboration developed and agreed on two broad objectives that provide opportunities for a variety of research projects under this proposal
      * **Objective 1:** To conduct multidimensional assessments of diet, physical activity and related factors affecting aging adults.
      * **Objective 2:**  To develop, implement and evaluate interventions that preserve or improve health in aging adults living in rural and urban environments.
    - Sarah Francis has volunteered and agreed to host our in person annual meeting next year at Iowa State University at ISU
    - Melissa Ventura-Marra welcomed 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. Two new members would be providing a more detailed introduction of themselves during their presentation as noted on the agenda.
    - The minutes were approved with a note of a typo. Motion made by Elgloria Harrison and seconded by Sarah Francis to accept the minutes with the minor change. All members were in favor of accepting the minutes and the vote carried
    - Melissa Ventura-Marra opened the floor for discussion on the nomination of the Secretary position currently held by Elgloria Harrison. Melissa Ventura-Marra asked Elgloria to describe her perspective of the secretary’s position. Elgloria noted that because each meeting was recorded, the time commitment and labor intensity of the position was less burdensome. Ingrid Lofgren added that elected positions on the multi-state research collaboration has the weight of a national organization, to which members who are adding artifact to their faculty portfolio can use these positions for the promotion and tenure process. The nomination that was moved to the floor and Lee Weidauer self-nominated for the position of Secretary, there were no other names added to the nomination list. Melissa indicated that this is a two-year term that will begin in October 2021. Terms of officers are staggered so that there is board stability and not all board members leave at the same time. Melissa Ventura-Marra called for a vote of the membership. All in favor of Lee Weidauer as the Secretary, by voice vote, unanimous in favor of Lee. The group congratulates Lee Weidauer, the new board Secretary, he will have a two (2) year term.

9:30 am to 9:45 am

A review of the Multistate Research Collaboration activities under each objective

* + - Year 1 and Year 2
      * Developed an operational manual of survey tools
      * Developed the SPSS-based code book for each of the common research tools
      * Create the LifeSpan curriculum and prepare related grant application
      * Optimize laboratory procedures for blood collection and preparation of peripheral blood lymphocytes at multi-sites
        + URI/South Dakota/ISU are conducting a Needs assessment and grant for a 3-year pilot
      * Prepared a number of collaborative manuscripts and grant submission
        + Collaboration with ISU and UDC: Annette Contrady, Sarah L. Francis, Elgloria Harrison, Doris Montgomery, Catherine Rudolph, Lillie Monroe Lord, Elmira Asongwed, Phronie Jackson, Anne Marie Jean Baptiste, Tiffany Johnson-Largent, B. Michelle Harris, Tia Jeffery, Pier Broadnax submitted to *the Journal of Human Sciences and Extension*, "PHYSICAL ACTIVITY: WHAT DO OLDER ADULTS PREFER AND NEED? A COMPARISON OF RURAL AND URBAN OLDER ADULTS.
        + Preparation of an Education and Workforce Development grant through NIFA/REEU grant entitled U-Star collaborators DC, OH, IA, WV, and CT
        + Development of new collaboration on Brain Health in older adults led by Nadine Sayhoun: collaborators UMD, DC, Lehman, WVU, (U of Illinois)

10:00 am to 11:00 am

Special Presentation: Dr. Christy Tangney from Rush University in Chicago, Illinois

Dr. Tangney presented information on the various studies that are examining cognitive decline in older adults. She demonstrated comparison data of three different diets: DASH, MED, MIND which she and colleagues are collaborators on the MIND diet. Dr. Tangney research mostly focused on dietary behaviors in older adults with Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases. Dr. Tangney research showed a decrease in cognitive decline on both the MIND and **Mediterranean** diets.

11:20 am to 11:30 am Break

11:30 am to 12:15pm

2021 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 2021 research award goes to David Buys. Dr. Buys proposed the idea of the Excellence in Research award and it has now come full circle in that he is the recipient of the award. Dr. Buys thanked the multi-state team for this honor. Dr. Buys’ presentation focused on his research trajectory over the course of his tenure from University of Alabama to his transition to the University of Mississippi. He has embraced the Ernest Boyer Scholarship statements which provides the freedom to embrace scholarship from the point of discovery, practice, teaching, and integration.

12:30pm to 1:00pm

New member research overview presentation

* + - Jake Eubanks, Assistant Professor of Recreation Therapy at the Lehman College City University of New York reported on his research in informal recreation to relieve stress in college age students
    - Denis Titov, Assistant Professor, Departments of Molecular & Cell Biology, Nutritional Sciences & Toxicology, and the Center for Computational Biology at the University of California, Berkeley. His research is performed in animal model and molecular mechanism(s) driving the effect of nutrition on aging and age-associated diseases. He proposed broad questions of “How does diet extend lifespan and delay onset of age-associated diseases? How can we develop mathematical models of metabolism that will accurately predict experimental results? How can we predict the diet that will increase the lifespan of an individual in animal models?

1:05 pm to 1:15 pm The Breakout sessions scheduled for today Wednesday, June 16, 2021 will be placed on the agenda for Thursday and there will be an expectation of an overlap of some of the break out sessions.

At 1:15pm the meeting was adjourned on Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Thursday, June 17, 2020

9:00am to 9:15am (CST)

* Meeting starts-Melissa Ventura-Marra welcomes the multistate collaboration for the second day of the annual meeting. To assure there is enough time to participate in the breakout session, breaks maybe limited and everyone is welcome to take a break at their leisure.

9:15am to 9:30am

New member research overview presentation

* + - Dara Lobuono, Assistant Professor of Health and Exercise Science at the Rowan University in New Jersey reported on her research mostly notably on Parkinson Disease using Digital Nutritional intervention to manage the condition.
    - Loo Yee Wong RD, second year graduate student at Iowa State University who worked on the Physical Assessment across seven states within the multistate using Qualtrics as the distribution platform using the Social Determinants of Health Framework. Loo Yee has been successful in analyzing the data and is now in the manuscript preparation stage.

10:00 am to 11:00 am

Special Presentation: Dr. DC Lee, Associate Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at Iowa State University. Dr. Lee presented information on the physical activity and older adults and added some information regarding sarcopenia (he indicates that he is not the expert in this particular area). His focus on the health benefits of exercises and the use of a cohort model. The volunteers of his study agree to participate through even until death.

11:15am to 12 noon

Panelist: Sarah Francis (ISU), Elgloria Harrison (Lehman College), Matt Delmonico (URI), Furong Xu (URI), and Kevin Schalinske (ISU)

Professional Development Panel: this was a Question-and-Answer session on the following topics designed to assist junior faculty in some of the processes as you prepare promotion and tenure portfolio.

1. Research Statement
2. Promotion and Tenure preparation and review and Key points shared and discussed:
   1. Make document readable, learn to communicate your scholarship vision, be adaptable, and be flexible with your type of scholarship, as it may change as you grow into your position.
   2. Spend dedicated time to organizing your tenure and promotion portfolio and pay close attention to the mechanics, i.e., space between paragraphs, margins, and grammar. While these seem minor, they make huge impressions on the reviewer.
   3. Networking opportunities like these with the multi-state are helpful when making recommendations to your chair for reviewers
3. Submission of a grant application
   1. Pay attention to the details of your grant submission and be certain you understanding the funding mechanism that you wish to submit your grant to
   2. Get invited to be a reviewer on some of the funding panels, this is a good way to know what is expected
   3. If possible, seek out others who received grants and asked if he or she would be willing to share their grant proposal-another good way to get a first-hand look at grant requirements.
   4. Spend dedicated time to organizing your tenure and promotion portfolio and pay close attention to the mechanics, i.e., space between paragraphs, margins, and grammar. While these seem minor, they make huge impressions on the reviewer.
4. Finding quality mentors
   1. Seek out mentors that can assist you in preparing for promotion and tenure and it could be mentors outside your department or even outside your school.

Wrap up:

Melissa Ventura-Marra asked the executive committee to remain on zoom to conduct the last of the annual meeting business.

Sarah noted that we would establish the annual meeting date for next year via a doodle poll. This seemed to work well last year. We have agreed that Iowa State University will host the annual meeting.

Melissa noted that we will need to set the day of the multi-state monthly meetings. The meetings are held on Friday at 12noon. The 12noon time has been a challenge for some of our members. It is possible that the day remains Friday and that a later time on Friday is selected that will allow more members to participate.

At 1:05pm the meeting was adjourned on Thursday, June 17, 2021