



Research and Development Committee
Hilton Sacramento Arden West, Sacramento
February 6, 2014 | 12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.
Scott Gruendl, Chair | Amy Levin, Vice-Chair

M I N U T E S

Attendance

Board Members:

Jeff Edleson (Berkeley), Todd Franke (UCLA), Amy Levin (CSU-Northridge), Christian Molidor (CSU-Long Beach), Jim Raines (CSU-Monterey Bay)

Constituents:

Holly Bowers (for Susan Brooks - UC Davis, Northern Academy), Danna Fabella (Aging Initiative), David Foster (Central and Bay Area Academies), Zoila Gordon (CSU-San Bernardino) Helen Miltiades (Fresno State), Stuart Oppenheim (CFPIC), Ken Smith (Humboldt State)

Staff:

Sandhya Hermon, Susan Jacquet, Barry Johnson, Rodger Lum

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Scott Gruendl was not able to attend the meeting. Amy Levin led the meeting with Sandhya Hermon and Barry Johnson collaborating as Executive Leads for this Committee.
- Sandhya Rao Hermon introduced herself as CalSWEC's new Research and Evaluation manager.
- Minutes from the September 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Evaluation-Related Initiative Committee Reports

Aging Committee

- Wednesday's Aging Summit has implications for Research and how we show evidence for supporting the workforce:
 - The theme of the Summit was Interprofessional Education (IPE).
 - Breakout groups explored possibilities for placements and curricula for Gerontological Social Work.
 - Resources and funding for research is needed because there is currently no evidence about differences in the workforce.
- The Aging Committee is also developing a Coordinated Care model.

Mental Health Committee

- The Committee talked mostly about the OSHPD RFP. At this time, there are no funds for research.

Child Welfare Committee

- The Committee discussed wanting more information about agency culture and climate.
- The Committee also discussed the Workforce Study Data Brief Latinos in the Workforce: <http://calswec.berkeley.edu/workforce-study>.

III. Tier 1 – Evaluation of CalSWEC Programs

Evaluation Model

- Sandhya Rao Hermon presented the highlights of her model. She will be presenting the model at the main Board meeting. The model encompasses CalSWEC's current evaluation efforts, and broadens them into a larger workforce framework.

Discussion:

- The National Child Welfare Workforce Institute (NCWWI) has scales that measure competence, and we will try to draw on them.
- Ken Smith suggested accounting for rural and smaller county workers as well as measures on recruitment and selection.
- Holly pointed out that supervisors hesitate to be surveyed, and Danna suggested measuring the role of supervisor. Danna suggested asking what worked and what didn't and to be thoughtful about what is asked.
- Rodger commented that we may be able to get interest from counties and universities to find out what happens to students after they are employed.
- The Child Welfare Committee will discuss culture and climate at their next meeting and review some of the research that indicates culture and climate in the agencies impact outcomes.
- National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) is developing scales on culture.
- David suggested including the role of the community and the connection with agencies. He also suggested offering tools to agencies.
- Sandhya said that the next step would be to select a county for soliciting workforce data and testing the model.

Workforce Study

- An update on request for collaboration with CDSS was presented. CalSWEC sent a letter to CDSS regarding collaboration on collecting workforce data. The Feds want more information on the Workforce. CalSWEC hasn't heard back yet from CDSS, but will follow up.
- Preliminary planning is being done. An outline will be developed by the next meeting.

Data Sets and Data Sharing

- The list of Data Sets and Data Sharing documents will be posted the on the CalSWEC website, and faculty will be notified once the website has been updated.

IV. Tier 2 – Evaluation of Emerging Practices to Inform Training and Education

UCLA and SJSU Quarterly Report

- Todd Franke and Barry reported that both projects are on track. Progress reports are included in the handouts.

Selection for New Partnership Update

- CSU Stanislaus and Tuolumne County are partnering and plan to use Participatory Action Research (PAR) design. Their proposal, “Examining Well Being and Recidivism in Tuolumne County’s Work to Increase Safety for Children and Families” was submitted, reviewed and provided with feedback. They will refine it and meet with CalSWEC to finalize the proposal. Funding for the planning period will be granted, but further funding depends on the revision of the proposal and progress during the planning period.

V. Student Research

2014 Award Progress Report

- The deadline for submitting proposals was extended to February 28 because the announcement had not been distributed. Thirteen proposals had been submitted by the January 31 deadline.
- Members were asked to volunteer for reviewing proposals. Christian Molidor, Jeff Edleson, Sandhya Hermon, Stuart Oppenheim, Barry Johnson, Amy Levin and Susan Jacquet volunteered.

Presentations to the Board

- Katie Litchfield, a 2013 graduate from SJSU, will present her award-winning research, “Predicting Reentry Rates in California’s Child Welfare System Based on Type of Substance Abuse” at the Board meeting on Friday.

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

RTN Update/Implementation Science Collaborative

- The Evidence-Informed Webinar Series continues and has been well attended. Upcoming webinars include:
 - January 9, 2014: California's Most Vulnerable Parents: A Population-Based Examination of Youth Involved with Child Protective Service.
 - January 23, 2014: The Real Meaning of Fidelity in Implementation Science.
 - All webinars are recorded and posted on the CalSWEC website, as are announcements of upcoming webinars: <http://calswec.berkeley.edu/evidence-informed-webinar-series>
- RTN is planning a statewide meeting to revise the research agenda. Workforce research will be added to the agenda, which now includes safety, permanence and well-being topics. The current research agenda, last updated in in 2008, is on the CalSWEC website: <http://calswec.berkeley.edu/californias-statewide-child-welfare-research-agenda>
- The Implementation Science Collaborative, which the RTN members participated in, has ended its work. Continued work in this area can be carried on by the RTN.

VII. Adjournment

- Next meeting May 1 and 2, 2014, in Los Angeles.