



CalSWEC

California Social Work Education Center

Research and Development Committee

Lions Gate Hotel, Sacramento

September 12, 2013 | 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Scott Gruendl, Chair | Amy Levin, Vice-Chair

M I N U T E S

Attendance

Board Members:

Dave Chenot (CSU-Fullerton), Amy Levin (CSU-Northridge), Christian Molidor (CSU-Long Beach), Thom Reilly (SDSU), Virginia Rondero-Hernandez (Fresno State), Mary Sawicki (Calaveras County), Jack Wall (SJSU)

Constituents:

Rosina Becerra (for Todd Franke UCLA), Serenity Bowen (Humboldt State), Carrie Eskay (Loma Linda), Dana Fabella (CFPIC), David Foster (Central and Bay Area Academies) Stuart Oppenheim (CFPIC)

Staff:

Susan Jacquet, Barrett Johnson

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Amy Levin chaired the meeting for Scott Gruendl who was not able to attend.
- Minutes from May 2, 2013, were reviewed and approved.
- CalSWEC's new Evaluation Manager, Sandhya Hermon, will start October 5, 2013.

II. Evaluation-Related Initiative Committee R and D Reports and Action Items

Aging

- Stuart Oppenheim reported that the Aging Committee has identified two studies that are high priority for them, including a cost/benefit analysis of the use of social workers in providing care coordination and aging.
- The Aging Committee will refine these questions into research questions that can be distributed, and CalSWEC will distribute this list to social work faculty and the Research and Training Network to determine if anyone is interested in completing the research.
- CSU- Fresno has new faculty who may be interested.

Mental Health

- Barry noted that the Mental Health Program will be releasing the results of their curriculum evaluation.

Child Welfare

- At the last meeting, the Child Welfare Committee referred the issue of Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) to the R and D Committee. This is an emerging topic in child welfare, and the Child Welfare Council has convened a CSEC Action Team to address the issue. The R and D Committee may eventually become involved in determining what research is available in terms of best practices to address the issue, since there has been little review of the literature done. Barry is a member of the Action Team and will refer any relevant issues to the Committee.
- Field Instruction Initiative (FII) is launching an evaluation of the FII Model implementation.

III. Tier 1 – Evaluation of CalSWEC Programs

Review of Available Data Sets/Studies

- In response to inquiries from last meeting, CalSWEC assembled a matrix that describes the various workforce- and training-related datasets that are currently available. (Refer to the matrix, distributed with the meeting materials.)
- These datasets are either part of ongoing studies of Title IV-E programs or RTA Programs, or they are available from previous or discontinued studies.
- CalSWEC has a set of policies and procedures for sharing data, so that other entities can utilize it for future studies.
- The Committee wondered about comparison data between Title IV-E recipients (both CalSWEC and IUC/LA) and all other CWS staff. The Common Core datasets have this comparison data, as do some of the Workforce Study datasets, but the Title IV-E data primarily includes only CalSWEC students.
- The Title IV-E data includes a longitudinal career path study for IV-E stipend recipients.
- Much of the data can also be sorted by county and region, and is linked with standard demographic information and unique user-generated ID codes.
- The Children's Bureau has requested that additional workforce data be collected for Child Welfare, and CDSS has begun to ask counties to include this data in their reporting. Such data would be very beneficial for CalSWEC to have in order to build on our workforce studies. David Foster suggested sending a formal letter to CDSS asking that they collaborate with CalSWEC to collect and analyze this data. The Committee also suggested that this matrix be sent to faculty, along with the Data Sharing Policies and Procedures, in order to encourage faculty to utilize it.

Actions:

- CalSWEC will modify the matrix to include other additional datasets and distribute to all faculty along with the Data Sharing Policies and Procedures.

Action for the Board:

- A motion passed to have CalSWEC staff draft and send a letter to CDSS requesting formally that CDSS collaborate with CalSWEC to collect the federally required workforce data.

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

Research/Practice Partnerships

- The Selection Subcommittee reviewed the four letters of intent for a rural-focused research/practice partnership, and CSU-Stanislaus and Tuolumne County were selected. The process took longer than expected, and the scores were close. Additional reviewers were solicited from the county board members, as none were on the review committee.

- Stanislaus and Tuolumne will now draft a full proposal based on their letter of interest, and this will be reviewed prior to funding.
- If any of the partners from the other submitted Letters of Intent want to continue with their project, CalSWEC is willing to work with them.

UCLA and SJSU Quarterly Reports

- Both Quarterly Reports were distributed with the meeting materials. Dr. Laurie Drabble is scheduled to present on the SJSU/Santa Clara and Santa Cruz partnership at the Friday Board meeting, with a county partner co-presenting via Skype.
- Highlights of the benefits of the SJSU/Santa Clara/Santa Cruz partnership include:
 - Deeper, more meaningful, research for the students with the teams.
 - Field Instructors are more connected to research.
 - Students are more engaged in research.
 - Interns are less anxious about their research with the team model.
 - Relationships are strengthened between the research faculty and the IV-E Project Coordinator.
 - There is recognition for student research via county-based showcases and receipt of four of the five CalSWEC/CADD student research awards.
- The researchers also have an article that was recently published in the Journal of Public Child Welfare.
- Highlights of the UCLA/Los Angeles County DCFS partnership include:
 - The referral portal is fully functional at the Torrance DCFS office.
 - They now have 25 active or closed service “tickets.”
 - They have trained over 100 caseworkers and about 40 different agencies that serve children and families in the use of the portal.
 - They continue to provide weekly support and training to caseworkers and service providers.
 - They are in discussions with management in other regions to demonstrate the Portal and discuss expanding it to other offices.

V. Student Research Awards

- The final student awards were given, and these were provided in the handouts. Four awards went to SJSU students, one to a CSU-Northridge student.
- The Committee discussed plans for dissemination.

- The awardees will be asked to present at a Board meeting when it is close to their region. They may present a poster or an electronic presentation.
- Amy Levin agreed to ask CADD if they would fund another round of student awards. The Committee supported continuing a similar process next year.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

Research and Training Network (RTN)

RTN has been putting energy into furthering the work of Implementation Science via its partnership with a newly formed Implementation Collaborative. The Implementation Collaborative's plans for the coming year include:

- A second Implementation Science Symposium during 2014.
- A Webinar series in FY 13/14 with the following topics:
 - Basics of Implementation Science;
 - Adhering to Program Fidelity; and
 - Collaboration and the Use of Teams in Implementation Science.

Implementation Center

- CalSWEC partnered with Rady Children's Hospital's Chadwick Center apply for an ACF Grant. The grant focuses on developing curriculum on Evidence-Based Services for child welfare populations. Three levels of curriculum were proposed. It is a 5-year grant that should be announced soon. The abstract is posted with the handouts.

VII. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m. Next meeting February 6 and 7, 2014, in Sacramento.