

CTSA Strategic Goal Committee Four:

February 9, 2009

Teleconference

Meeting Summary

Attendees: M.E. Michel, NIDA; L. Michener, Duke; S. Aguilar-Gaxiola, UC Davis; B. Moquin, NCCAM; DJ McCloskey, NCRR; P. Greenland, Northwestern; G. Petrie, Case Western; H. Selker, Tufts; B. H. Pincus, Columbia; M. Goode, Univ. of Texas, Houston; D. Guzick, Univ. of Rochester

The purpose of the teleconference was to review the revised goals, timelines and deliverables that Strategic Goal Committee Four refined at the face-to-face meeting in January 2009, and to discuss the of assignment of tasks and deliverables to Key Function Committee members. At the face-to-face meeting, the committee refined their objectives into two priorities, listed as follows:

4a. "Link and facilitate collaboration among community-based research networks to implement research best practices."

and

4b. "Develop capacity and methods for the translation of research results into practice across the healthcare system, including but not limited to health services and health policy research, comparative effectiveness research, and research into the generation and implementation of evidence-based medicine."

At the face-to-face meeting, the group defined their success with deliverables to be accomplished in 12-24 months. On the teleconference, it was clarified that a deliverable should be more than a white paper or conference, and may be a quantitative metric to measure the progress and success of the group.

Strategic Goal Committee Four's goals were reviewed and clarified to ensure understanding by all Committee members. Goal 4a was clarified as the ability for CTSA's to link existing community engagement networks in an organized fashion to understand the capacity, experience and accomplishments of the networks. In one year, the Goal Committee hopes to identify CTSA's and other communities that are interested in linking into networks. A longer term goal is to develop the IT support and electronic infrastructure to support the network.

Dr. McCloskey highlighted that in the near future, six CTSA's will be announced as receiving NIH grants for research based on community engagement networking objectives. The objectives include community participation in clinical trials, collaborative efforts to improve chronic disease tools, IT software management for networks, recruitment strategies, and more. After these awardees are announced, it will be important for the Goal Committee to collaborate with these efforts.

The Goal Committee noted that goal 4a includes involvement with current consortium-related initiatives as well as supporting new development across networks. An additional deliverable will

speak to not only developing the capacity of responding to community engagement research opportunities, but demonstrating the capacity to do so. After the network connections are established, it will be key to work with the NIH to determine the collaborative priorities and to develop a searchable website to connect the networks.

Goal 4b's first deliverable is a needs assessment for community engaged research. The second deliverable of a white paper meets the need of informing the consortium audience about the CER capacity from the NIH perspective. Other agencies will be invited in to collaborate, but the expertise will still be the NIH/CTSA perspective. The white paper is a think piece answering the question of "how might the CTSA consortium act to facilitate this research" and will be done iteratively with the other deliverables. The third deliverable of goal 4b, recommendations for the research agenda, will be partially fulfilled by the Education and Career Key Function Committee, so the training recommendations are not a primary focus area for the Goal Committee.

In general, 4b was described as the accumulation of experience of trials, networks, treatments and more to impact and promote health, and ensure the findings from research are disseminated into practice across regions. It was recognized that truly achieving 4b is a lifetime goal, but the Goal Committee is focused on the one year milestones and accomplishments regarding the goal. In addition, it was noted that 4a builds the capacity to succeed at the 4b goals, so the two overlap but fulfill separate purposes.

Discussion of assignment of tasks and deliverables to Key Function Committee members occurred, with the co-Chairs of the Community Engagement Key Function Committee agreeing that the deliverables integrately nicely with each other and would be hard to separate. No assignments were decided, because the next step is approval from the CTSA Consortium Steering Committee (CCSC) and/or the CTSA Consortium Executive Committee (CCEC).

After approval is received, the Goal Committee will work with subject matter experts and Key Function Committees mapped to this goal to develop a specific project plan with workgroups, timelines, and deliverables. To form the workgroups, a call for interested volunteers to submit their BioSketches will occur so the leaders of each project can select appropriate subject matter experts. Also, individually requesting the participation of certain subject matter experts will occur, and all Goal Committee members should brainstorm who may be critical to involve with these efforts. Specifically, representation from Informatics is needed on the Goal Committee and certain projects. While approval from the CCSC is pending, activities continue to move forward independently for ongoing projects.

The next meeting will be in two weeks.

Action Items:

1. Drs. Greenland and Selker will make small revisions to the slides based on teleconference feedback.
2. Drs. Greenland and Selker will submit the revised priorities and goals to the CCSC/CCEC for approval.
3. After approval, Drs. Aguilar-Gaxiola and Michener will request BioSketches from interested volunteers in the Community Engagement Key Function Committee.
4. All should recommend Informatics subject matter experts to Committee members through email.