

Kellogg Health Scholars Program Networking Meeting Proceedings

June 7-9, 2006

Executive Summary

The first Kellogg Health Scholars Program (KHSP) meeting was held in Washington, DC, on June 7-9, 2006. The first half of this three-day event was a joint meeting of the two tracks of the KHSP, Community Track and Multidisciplinary Track. The other half consisted of separate Track meetings.

This Kellogg Health Scholars Program Networking Meeting Proceedings provides a summary of event activities, minutes and a list of recommendations for discussion and follow up.

Meeting Activities:

Wednesday, June 7, 2006

Joint meeting of the Community Track, Multidisciplinary-Disparities Track, Site Directors, Joint Advisory Committee and Track NACs

How to make the KHSP research policy relevant and community relevant was discussed during the joint meeting. KHSP aims to be supportive of equitable health policies and community social change.

Welcome and Introductions

Barbara Krimgold and Toby Citrin, Co-Directors of KHSP and Directors of the Multidisciplinary Track and Community Track, respectively, welcomed participants to the first meeting of KHSP. Participants included the new 2006 KHSP Scholars, current Scholars of the CHSP and SHDP, program alumni, Track site directors and advisory committee members, program evaluators, Ann Zuvekas and Jennel Harvey (KHSP) and Norge Jerome (CHSP). Jen Martin and Bonnie Lefkowitz, KHSP policy advisors, were in attendance as well.

Roundtable Discussions

Two sets of six roundtable discussions were held following the Welcome and Introductions. A total of 12 roundtables were held based upon distinct topics of interest. There were two presentations at each roundtable, one provided by a researcher from the Community Track and one from the Multidisciplinary Track. Each roundtable had the following objectives: 1) to build relationships among program participants around areas of common interest; 2) to further understanding of multiple disciplines and styles that can be applied to health disparities research; and 3) to discuss the translation of research into policy. Each group had an assigned facilitator and note taker.

The topics covered at these group discussions include the following:

- Adolescent Health

- Environmental Justice
- Urban Health/Men's Health and Media Messages
- Immigrant Health: The Latino “Paradox”
- Social Inequalities in Health: Defining and Measuring the Problem
- Health Care Services and Access
- Sexual Health, HIV/AIDS and Addiction
- Prevention of Chronic Disease Health Risk Behaviors
- African American Community: Research Infrastructure and Empowerment
- Immigrant Health and Variations Within and Among Groups
- Politics of the Social Inequalities in Health
- Dismantling Racism to Reduce/Eliminate Health Disparities

Notes from the Roundtables are attached to this report.

Following the roundtable discussions, the first day of the KHSP meeting was adjourned.

Thursday, June 8, 2006

Using Research in Policymaking (Barbara Krimgold Moderator)

"Using Research in Policymaking" consisted of four separate sessions.

- a. The goals of the first session were to understand the role of Congress in health disparities research and policy, and to understand how researchers, such as the Kellogg Health Scholars and community partners, can help inform policy and access resources for health disparities research. Remarks were made by The Honorable Donna Christensen, D-Virgin Islands, Delegate, United States House of Representatives and The Honorable Michael M. Honda, D-California, 15th District, United States House of Representatives
- b. The goals of the second session were to understand the role of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) in health disparities research and policy and how KHSP researchers and community partners can play a role in health disparities research and policy at the federal level. Carolyn Clancy, M.D., Director of AHRQ, addressed the attendees.
- c. The goals of the third session were the same as those in the two previous sessions. Judith Miller Jones, Director of the National Health Policy Forum, and Joy Johnson Wilson, Health Policy Director of the National Conference of State Legislatures, addressed the goals from the viewpoint of the executive branch and state legislatures, respectively.
- d. Lynn Etherege, Consultant, spoke about data issues in evidenced-based research.

Notes from these presentations are attached to this report.

Comments by C. Patrick Babcock, Interim Vice President, Health, W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Using Research in Policymaking was followed by comments from C. Patrick Babcock, Interim Vice President, Health, W.K. Kellogg Foundation. During his talk, Mr. Babcock provided an overview of the Foundation's Health program issues of focus. He touched upon the importance of KHSP as a means to create an opportunity to bring research, participatory research and the voices of community to the policy making process and to create a cadre of individuals who can bring new leadership to the academy and practice.

The text of Mr. Babcock's comment is attached to this report.

Role of Advocacy in Policymaking (Moderated by Toby Citrin)

A panel of representatives from advocacy organizations and organizations involved in translating research into policy (TRIPP organizations) presented short summaries of their organizations and work. The panel consisted of:

- Gail Christopher, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
- Phil Tegeler, Poverty and Race Research Action Council
- Brian Smedley, The Opportunity Agenda
- Rea Pañares, Families USA
- Jennifer Ng'andu, National Council of La Raza
- Mildred Thompson, PolicyLink
- Makani Themba-Nixon, The Praxis Project

Each panelist addressed the way their organization uses research to inform policy and the role that researchers and community members might play in the work that their organization pursues. The notes from these presentations are attached to these proceedings.

Following the panel, each organization hosted small breakout discussions to specifically address the research and policy interests of the attendees. Notes from these sessions are also attached to these proceedings.

Joint Meeting Adjourned