

ATTACHMENT III. 3. Comments by C. Patrick Babcock, Interim Vice President for Health, W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Today, I mostly wanted to come to observe and listen. The key issue why Barbara Sabol and Al Yee want to continue these programs because of what you can accomplish.

My involvement in government began as a staff person, a broker of ideas bringing new ideas to the table.

One of the issues that makes this an important program is the opportunity to bring research, participatory research and the voices of community to the policy making process and create a cadre of people who can bring new leadership to the academy and practice; not only to policy but to implementation.

At Kellogg, we are in transition. We have a new CEO and are looking for new VPs. The issues that we are looking for in our portfolio are 1) community governance, research, to put information into the hands of community that they need to do their work, for the legislature, 2) the focus on disparities – our program is aimed at looking at reducing disparities, looking at race, ethnicity, a broad difficult to measure look at disparities. Most important is the issue of access to health services, and 3) leadership – creating a generation of leaders who are able to deal with the diversity of these issues.

We are looking at issues of systemic change, how we can leverage a little bit of money to address these issues. We can't afford to back off from any of these areas.

We are going to advance an access policy proposal that will probably focus on child health. Many children are eligible but not signed up for Medicaid. That speaks to a lousy implementation of a program. We want to set up a better outreach for these programs and also look at the services available.

In NOLA, we are looking at better ways to deliver primary care than the charity hospitals. We are looking at pandemics through a partnership with UNC, MSU, looking at how federal and state governments are getting prepared for pandemics. This will be a systems building approach.

Al Yee will be focusing on disparities on Asian American Pacific Islanders pulling together community voices and build on this. Hispanic communities, pipelines in these communities. (?? Pipelines into the Hispanic communities will be included in the focus as well.)

The last is leadership. Will the universities or federal government pick up these programs and keep the essence of these programs to sustain them? We want to change

that discussion. It is important that the academy sustain those programs, and, more importantly, is to build the leadership in those institutions.

If you have friends interested in these open VP positions, please call me.