

**Heartland Regional Council on Genetics  
Executive Committee  
Teleconference Minutes  
February 1, 2007  
4:00 – 5:00 PM (CST)**

**Members Present:** Mulvihill, Bendure, Weatherford, Fossen, Riske, Copeland, Vogel, and Willige  
**Ex Officio:** Byerly, Williamson, Vaz

| <b>Agenda Item</b>  | <b>Discussion/Conclusion</b>   | <b>Recommendations/Action</b>   |
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| <b>Review of January minutes</b>                                  | No changes to minutes so accepted as presented   | Minutes Approved  |
| <b>Committee Reports</b>  | <b>Advocates:</b> Willige reported that the advocates met on 1/22/07. They are to use their yahoo e-group to discuss their next face-to-face meeting and training options. Three new members were added: Stacey Montgomery (IA), Holly Johnson (AR), and Michelle Stringer (OK). Fossen stated that she is working on identifying someone from SD. Williamson reminded committee chairs to respond to e-mail from advocates regarding their roles on the committees. Mulvihill suggested that the lay advocate group should be diverse to reflect the diversity in genetics across the life cycle.   | Vaz will send Willige contact info for Stringer.  |
|   | <b>Clinical services-- Cancer sub-committee:</b> Bendure reported that this subcommittee is assimilating known resources of hereditary cancer services in the region. Their next step is to develop a template to rate the resources. They are in the process of identifying an individual in each state to review existing information and add any unlisted resources. The committee also seeks representation from each state; they are lacking representatives from IA and SD.  | Contact Melissa Craft with names of potential members from IA and/or South Dakota   |
|   | <b>Education:</b> Vaz reported that committee is dividing into two work groups: one for family health history PSA and one for the genealogy education project. They are also considering a campaign for grandparents' day (MO is doing this) and Collins suggested some sort of handout (e.g., a bookmark) to give at presentations and health fairs. The item would list Heartland's family health history website.   | No action   |
|   | <b>Laboratory: Next meeting 2/15/07 at 1:30.</b>   | None  |
|   | <b>Newborn Screening: Next meeting 3/2/07 at 9AM.</b>  | None  |
|   | <b>Policy:</b> Next meeting 3/23/07  | None  |
|   | <b>Research</b> —Williamson reported that four applications were received. Committee met to identify potential reviewers. Each application has been assigned to a reviewer outside of the Heartland (this was at HRSA's request). A Lay Advocate reader will also be assigned to each application. Comments and scores are due 2/16/07. Awards will be made by March 1, 2007.  | None  |
| <b>Scholarship for further training in public health genetics</b> | Williamson reported that money from the Year 2 carry-forward was set aside to provide a scholarship for one individual to attend the new Sarah Lawrence Public Health Genetics Certificate Program. The next module is offered March 29-31, 2007. An ad hoc committee needs to be created to determine selection criteria and review any applications. The intent behind this award is to ultimately improve public health genetics infrastructure in the Heartland through continuing education. The application process is open to anyone in the Heartland. Riske asked about the coordinating center's expectations for the individual upon completion. Williamson suggested presentation about their experience at the next annual meeting. Mulvihill suggested the awardees show new competence with Heartland by chairing a committee. This is something that the ad hoc committee will need to discuss. Byerly asked if funding was to complete the certificate or only for the March module. Vaz reported that all modules will be offered for 2007. | Williamson to form ad hoc committee. Williamson to promote dissemination of application. Budget was reviewed and funds were earmarked for the scholar to complete the certificate program (e.g., all three modules during the course of one calendar year). However, a no-cost extension will be needed in order for the scholar to complete the work after May 2007. We do not |

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|                     |   | anticipate that such approval will be problematic. |
| <b>New business</b> | <p>Byerly reported that our annual conference will be September 5-7 timeframe; most likely the 6/7 but there are more hotel choices for the 5/6 dates. Mulvihill requested comment—no comments were made about changing the date to the 5/6.</p> <p>Williamson reported that the monthly NCC/HRSA PI call was held January 18. The major agenda item was each region describing novel activities proposed in their base applications and their projects for priority areas, if applicable. Byerly asked if all regions had applied for priority funding; and, yes, all regions had applied.</p> | Hold Sept 5-7 on Calenders!!                       |
| <b>Next meeting</b> | <b>Thursday, March 1, 2007 at 4PM</b>   |  |