

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

**Members Present: Vogel, Miller J, Fossen, Copeland, Butler, Riske, Weatherford, Michelle Leeker, Kendall, Bendure, Schaefer FV,
Ex Officio: Byerly, Williamson**

Agenda Item	Discussion/Conclusion	Recommendations/Action
Review of February minutes	No changes to minutes so accepted as presented	Minutes Approved
Committee Reports	Advocates: Byerly reported that the advocates assisted with the pilot project review process. One advocate reviewed each project. The group is also discussing an educational/training opportunity for the summer or next annual meeting. Next meeting March 21.	
	Clinical services: No new report. They are working on the Telegenetics manual. Will be meeting March 6.	
	Education: Williamson reminded the group that the committee is currently working on two projects: family health history PSA and genealogy education project. Miller requests that state genetics coordinators be notified before family health history campaign is implemented in a state.	
	Laboratory: Schaefer reported that the disaster preparedness and NBS activities of the committee will be transferred to the NBS committee. The lab committee needs to focus on molecular and cytogenetic labs in the region and may work with the Clinical Services committee to identify small laboratories offering genetic testing.	
	Newborn Screening: Next meeting 3/2/07 at 9AM.	
	Policy: Next meeting: 3/23/07	Williamson to notify state genetics coordinators of Policy committee meeting
	Research —Butler reported that the four applications were reviewed and scored; 100% return of reviews with each application receiving an outside expert review and a lay advocate review. Awards were supposed to be announced today but have been placed on hold due to budget cuts from HRSA. Awards will not be made until we know more about the cuts.	Committee can use more members
Scholarship for further training in public health genetics	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. 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. Volunteers for ad hoc committee to review applications were sought. Bendure requested the 2007 dates for future reference. Deadline for applications is March 2, 2007.	Williamson sends Bendure 2007 module dates—DONE.
February NCC call	Williamson reported on the monthly PI call with NCC held February 15. A summary of that meeting was sent to the Heartland listserv on 2/22/07 and is attached with these minutes. The NCC is also putting out a newsletter, which was also disseminated to the Heartland listserv and is attached with these minutes.	
RCC report	Williamson provided a verbal report of RC activities. These activities are also summarized monthly for states holding their genetics advisory council meetings and can be found on the Heartland website: http://heartland.ouhsc.edu	

Annual meeting	Dates: September 6/7 in Oklahoma City. Hotel selection being finalized. Some ancillary meetings may take place the afternoon of September 5. One of those meetings might be a CME conference for primary care providers. Schaefer mentioned that there is usually better turn-out with a longer conference as opposed to a shorter conference like we had planned. Further discussion ensued re: the possibility of doing this as a web cast or over videoconferencing to open it up to PCPs in the entire region. A quick poll of “connectivity” was taken—SD, ND and IA have connections at their universities; AR also in the AHECs; NE has the capacity statewide; and KS has connectivity at regional health departments and AHECs. OK has connectivity statewide in local health departments as well.	Williamson to put out skeleton agenda after site selection is final. Contact HRCC if interested in being on planning committee.
New business	Byerly reported that the website has some new features. Kinetic Communications is completing the work for this fiscal year, and then we will be putting out a bid in May. If you know of a good website company, please let us know. Vogel reported that AR legislature approved expanded NBS!! They will be increasing from 4 to 29 disorders beginning July 2008.	
Upcoming events	North Dakota conference: April 23/24 targeting PCPs April 18 meeting in DC re: Long Term Follow-Up—Sara Copeland will be attending March 27 is Oklahoma's Genetics Day at the Capitol April 25 is national DNA DAY!!!	
Next meeting	Thursday, April 5, 2007 at 4PM for FULL COUNCIL MEETING	This meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for May 3.