

**Gerontological Health Section
Leadership Conference Call
March 13, 2009**

Attendees: Nancy Miller, Steven Wallace, Pat Alt, Denys Lau, Karen Peters, Helena Temkin-Greener, Susan Miller, Daniela Friedman, Cindy Bryant, Larry Weiss, Daniel Meng, Lene Levy-Storms, Connie Evashwick, Dana Mukamel, Jim Swan

I. Welcome and introduction: Nancy Miller opened the meeting and welcomed all.

II. Minutes from January 2009: Approved

III. Aging themes for 2011 Conference: There was extensive discussion of possible themes to propose, and whether to propose two or only one. Ideas about “intergenerational” and “life course” themes were considered, and it was decided to pick one and promote it, as they will be winnowed before going to the Governing Council. It was also decided to seek to get other sections to support it, especially the Forum on Aging.

“Health and Well-Being Across the Generations” was agreed upon, and Susan agreed to draft a one paragraph rationale and circulate it by email in the next week (it’s due 3/20). Nancy Miller offered to find out what the process is with APHA.

IV. NIH Challenge grants: Denys suggested we see about working together on some of these. How can we identify possible interests which might match? There was also concern about needing to be multi-site...that these need to be RO1, projects ready to go, or places with sites to offer to those seeking collaborators. Can we develop a site to upload vitae, etc.? Would the listserv be too unwieldy? Perhaps a Google group would be the best bet as a place to communicate. Steve Wallace set up a Google Group.

V. Annual Meeting plans: Nancy reported for Ashley.

a. Abstracts: There were over 200 abstracts submitted, and at least five reviewers will review each abstract. The reviews are due in on March 31. There is discussion going on about room assignments, and several symposia requests were received on: nursing home quality, international health, Medicare, aging and the environment, and physical activity.

b. Research Awards: Daniela indicated that there is not much to report yet. There seem to have been a lot of applications, including three for Masters, 7 for international, among others. Some applied for multiple awards.

c. Archstone Awards: No report.

d. Leadership: Nancy redrafted the forms for the Weiler award and Lifetime Achievement award. Connie Evashwick (Weiler) and Joan VanNostrand (Lifetime) have been nominated.

e. Local arrangements & booth: There was discussion of the need to have a liaison to the exhibit people, in order to secure a good spot for the booth. Also discussed was who to approach to be the local person to coordinate our presence, and Karen Peters was suggested. Nancy will discuss it with her, and will ask on the listserv for other volunteers.

VI. Elections status: Susan reported that the ballots have been sent out, with the elections held later in the spring.

VII. Policy Committee:

Karen reported that our policy recommendation was submitted during the late-breaker process last year, but it was not discussed at the Governing Council meetings in San Diego. We are asking for expansion of Federal spending on health promotion research centers for older adults. The timeline involved is:

- Late February, the joint committees were to have met
- People have until 3/31 to make comments on the web site
- In April, APHA meets to consider them

Are there others we want to propose?

Ideas discussed included:

- Community-based care
- Rebalancing
- Possibly try again for a late-breaker, given the Obama administration's proposals, etc.

Late-breakers are due by 6pm on 11/7, during the Annual Meeting.

VIII. APHA Committees:

Committee nominations are due in by March 31. It was agreed that the senior leaders of the GHS would circulate committee possibilities on the listserv and solicit volunteers.

The meeting was adjourned with thanks to all at 3 p.m.

The next call will be on June 19.