2019 Annual Report
Intersectional Council

APHA staff: Fran Atkinson, Caitlin Sarlo, Elsa Greer

Members: Suparna Navale (Chair), Kathy Lituri (Past-Chair), Megan Weil Latshaw (Chair-Elect), Jim Wohlleb (Secretary), Moose Alperin (CoA liaison), Sarah Gareau (Caucus Collaborative liaison), Emily Bartlett (Student Assembly liaison), Ann Dozier, Durrell Fox, Julie Gast, Rachael Reed, Brenda Stevenson-Marshall, Beth Sommers and Winston Tseng

Represented on: Executive Board (Suparna Navale), Committee on Social Responsibility (Kathy Lituri), EB’s Membership Committee (Rachel Reed), Council on Affiliates (Megan Latshaw), EB’s Leadership Pathways (Julie Gast)

Summary of 2019 Activities

Organizational Efficiency Initiative

The idea of the Organizational Efficiency Initiative came from the ISC as a result of discussions on the moratorium on new Sections. As a result, we are following it closely. We were delighted that the Executive Board decided to take the lead and hope that the organization will be able to find funding to advance this issue. It has the potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our work, which many Section leaders feel is needed.

Work Plans

This year the ISC talked about ways to improve Section work plans. We also understand the Executive Board had similar conversations. Some of our discussion centered around:

- all the metrics and whether they are all necessary
- adding criteria from the original work plan
- how the Section connect with affiliates and how they can collaborate
- how to celebrate the work of the Sections
- How to make them easier to fill out (looking for a new platform)
All but one section (the first ever to go on probation) submitted their leadership rosters and work plans and updated their web sites on time, likely due penalty of losing sessions at the annual meeting.

Webinars

One webinar was held with nomination, membership and Section chairs where we discussed nomination timelines and best practices. With the assistance of the Leadership Pathways committee we hosted an APHA 101 for all leaders in the organization, that included an overview of APHA structure and how leaders can help get members more involved in the Association. After we held a similar APHA 101 for ALL members in which leaders were able to use the chat function to answer their questions.

Elections

Thankfully, we only held one election. Any unfilled slots will be filled at the annual meeting during the Section business meetings. One Section’s elections were organized by the ISC Steering Committee - after several years’ failures in meeting deadlines.

Book-keeping

Regularly issued rosters and budget reports to ISC members were stopped until errors and their sources were discovered and fixed. Instead of monthly budget reports, APHA now shifted to sending them in alternate months. Still delays persist; perhaps the Organizational Efficiency Initiative could help improve such functions.

Affiliate Collaboration

President- & Chair-Elects meetings

Held the President-Elect & Chair-Elects meetings at the same time and with joint sessions. The meetings also coincided with the Speak for Health Bootcamp and involved a common social event and Hill Day. In the past new chairs expressed uncertainty on who to contact & what resources were available to them; these meetings helped connect them to those resources better. In the future, more contact with Chair-Elects prior to their summer meeting might help smooth transition, as well as a call in January after they assumed their new role.

Leadership Roundtables

These roundtables provide an opportunity for Section and Affiliate leaders to collaborate on specific issues and events. Often there is a lot of energy at the annual meetings, but the momentum ends after that. So this year we will use a form to highlight next steps and who is responsible. The form will be
photographed and emailed to APHA staff, but the form itself will go home with the person taking the overall lead for the efforts discussed.

This year the CoA/ISC decided to focus the roundtables on one event: the 25th anniversary of National Public Health Week. Leaders have been surveyed ahead of the meeting about priorities in their field and region. This (along with region) will help assign seating during the roundtables.

Candidate Forum

The biggest difference from previous years is that we mixed the President-Elect candidates and the EB candidates for the roundtables. This allows for more informal conversations and would be distinguished from what happens on Saturday at Governing Council. Also, since last year there was a lot of noise in the room, the roundtables will be spread across two rooms. Next year we might want to have each Section designate a person to attend via an RSVP survey.

Topical Groups

ISC leaders seem to agree that topical groups have been a great way to have Sections collaborate. All of the active groups will have sessions at the annual meeting and have had or plan to have webinars (including Gun Violence, Climate change, Rural Health, and Opioids).

The ACA Public Health Prevention Fund group seemed to stall this year and an annual survey of affiliates showed no interest in engaging on this topic. Since the group focus lined up well with what the Government Relations team does, ISC decided to sunset this committee.