Notes from SPAN Teleconference 8-18-10 (1:00 – 2:15 p.m. EST)

SPAN Participants

Danielle Carlin (NIEHS; moderator); Heather Henry (NIEHS); Beth Anderson (NIEHS); Janet Cakir (NIEHS); Justin Crane (MDB); Maureen Avakian (MDB); Rebecca Wilson (MDB); Sandy Segna (Oregon State University); Courtney Kozul (Dartmouth); Colin North (Michigan State University/Exxon)

Action items are shown in blue and are in bold

AGENDA

Number: 1-800-416-4956

Passcode: 46315649

- Introductions: Sarah Allan (OSU) will be the SPAN trainee representative at the SRP annual meeting. She will serve as a point of contact for other trainees for questions pertaining to the trainee events scheduled at the meeting. She will also be highlighted in the e-posted notes newsletter.
- Strategic Plan (Heather Henry)
  - The SRP Strategic Plan is on the SRP website. It has been in the Federal Registry for the past 30 days. Part of the plan mentions that the SRP training activities will be further enhanced and these have been formalized in the plan. The activities will include collaboration with EPA and ATSDR and a summer internship program.
  - Link to Strategic Plan: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-07-01/pdf/2010-16072.pdf
- Alumni Webinar: The alumni webinar was discussed later in this teleconference. See notes under "Seminar series for trainees/alumni".
- Annual Meeting Update
  - November 10-12, Location: The Nines, 525 SW Morrison, Portland, Oregon 97204
  - Website: http://oregonstate.edu/conferences/event/superfund2010/index.html
  - Agenda: Not available yet, but the website is up and running.
  - Trainee Events:
    - IceBreaker – Wednesday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m.; approximately 30 people; this event will be held at the hotel and may include drink/ hors d'oeuvre specials. **A casual invitation will be sent to trainees regarding this event.** This event will take place before before the Research Translation "Film Festival" (at ~7:30 p.m.).
    - Poster sessions (Beth Anderson)
      1. Posters will be set up in the main ball room and in the pre-function area.
      2. Posters can either be set up Wednesday evening or Thursday morning, and are to be left up the entire meeting. Posters will be presented by the trainees and judged Thursday evening (November 11th). Poster awards will be given out Friday morning.
      3. There will be approximately 120 posters.
      4. Posters will be placed so that 4 posters will go on a poster board (2 posters/side). The posters will be 3 feet wide x 4 feet tall. **The specifications will be sent to the trainees. Danielle also suggested that a guideline for formatting poster should also be given to the trainees because of the unusual size of the poster.**

5. Registrants will check off on the registration as to whether or not they want to be judged.
6. **The poster criteria and the poster judging form will be added to the meeting website.**
7. This year, the posters will have either a Research Translation or Community Engagement component. This will also be one of the judging criterions. **This will need to be added to the poster judging form.**
8. It still needs to be decided by the meeting planning committee whether or not the biomedical and non-biomedical posters will be mixed or separated.
- SPAN social event: Thursday evening (November 11th 8:30 p.m.) at a local establishment where trainees can meet, greet, and eat. **Sandy will locate a restaurant with an extra room for approximately 30 people.**
- Trainee breakfast with PIs
  1. Courtney had suggested that more PIs need to be encouraged to attend the Trainee/PI breakfast. At last year's meeting, there were more students than PIs. **An announcement will be made at the meeting to encourage the PIs to attend (or perhaps this can also be added to the registration form).**
  2. Approximately 50 people will attend the breakfast.
- **Sandy said that there will be a place on the registration form for the registrants to check off if they will be attending any of these events.**
- Other items for discussion...
  o Facebook SPAN page: Is it useful; what kind of information would the trainees like posted there, etc.? (Justin Crane)
    - The SPAN Facebook page has received 11 "friend requests"/"fans of"/"likes" and will be used as a tool for announcements about the annual meeting and any other upcoming meetings of interest.
    - If more trainees add the Facebook page to their account, then a shorter URL can be developed for the page. **Justin would like to get a truncated URL before the annual meeting.**
    - **SRP will develop a handout for the annual meeting that will contain information about the SPAN Facebook page.**
    - With time and continuous advertisement of the SPAN Facebook page, it should grow in popularity.
  o Input about further defining SPAN's role and how to make SPAN more useful to trainees/alumni.
    - **Danielle will request that SPAN members and Training Core leaders get together to discuss this topic at the Annual meeting.**
  o Determining if and how mentors tell trainees about SRP and SPAN when they are either interviewing or new to the position.
    - **SRP will develop materials (a handout/pamphlet) for new trainees when they begin their position (e.g., funding opportunities, goals of SRP, etc) so that they may become more familiar with SRP.**
  o **A handout will be developed and given out at this Annual SRP meeting telling attendees what SPAN is about.**
  o Seminar series for trainees/alumni (open to all of SRP trainees, alumni, mentors, EPA, ATSDR, etc) to achieve more national exposure of research supported by SRP. This seminar series will not overlap with Risk e-learning and ATSDR seminars.

- **SRP will develop at series of seminars (4 per year) with a mixture of alumni and current trainees.**
- **We will start by asking this year's Poster Competition winners to give a seminar, and we will ask the poster judges to also make recommendations for speakers based upon the posters at the Annual meeting.**
- Should we request the Training Core leaders select a trainee to serve as a representative during the SPAN teleconferences?
  - **Danielle will contact the Training Core Leaders and SPAN members by e-mail to see if they are interested in discussing many of the above listed topics at the Annual meeting. We would like to get their input on these ideas listed in the notes, get their involvement, and help promote SPAN. Danielle will ask Sandy if she can set up a space and time that we can meet for a brainstorming session.**
- Updated list of SPAN members and all SRP trainees/alumni
  - List will be updated in December.
  - When a new student is added, SRP would like to send out a pamphlet containing information about SRP.
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Updated e-mail list

Jillian Goldfarb (Brown) – no longer exists Jillian_Goldfarb@brown.edu

Mindy Reynolds (Brown) – no longer exists mindy_reynolds@brown.edu

Colette Quinn (Dartmouth – no longer exists colette.quinn@dartmouth.edu

Erica Brice (Texas A & M)- no longer exists 'erica-bruce@tamu.edu'

clearn@ciit.org – no longer exists

'Christopher Grandlic' (U of A) – no longer exists grandlic@email.arizona.edu

Beth Oesterling (EPA) – no longer exists Oesterling.Beth@epamail.epa.gov

aholder@lbl.gov – no longer exists

gargib@bu.edu – no longer exists

'Aihui_Yan@brown.edu'; 'ams66@duke.edu'; 'Arzuaga.Xabier@epamail.epa.gov'; 'birak@email.unc.edu'; 'brittany-prather@uiowa.edu'; colin.m.north@exxonmobil.com; 'courtney.d.kozul@dartmouth.edu'; 'hoffmank@bu.edu'; 'james-jacobus@uiowa.edu'; 'jynliu@ucdavis.edu'; 'kar2108@columbia.edu'; 'karenw@ldeo.columbia.edu'; 'Kathleen M. McCarty; 'njohnson@cvm.tamu.edu'; 'northcol@msu.edu'; 'parnell8@msu.edu'; 'pcspiess@ucdavis.edu'; 'siwai@msu.edu'; Owens.Beth@epamail.epa.gov; amara09@vt.edu; aetheredge@ibt.tamhsc.edu; beb2@duke.edu; dhill@ibt.tmc.edu; hbzhu81@gmail.com; ian-lai@uiowa.edu; ior@ucdavis.edu; mendez.monica@gmail.com; senthil-kumar-pk@uiowa.edu; sdrichar@email.unc.edu;

Vivien.F.Taylor@Dartmouth.EDU; aziz@ldeo.columbia.edu; zuzana@uky.edu; 'katryn_eske@yahoo.com'; 'Sarah Allan'

Cakir, Janet (NIH/NIEHS) [E]; Anderson, Beth (NIH/NIEHS) [E]; McReynolds, Rebecca (NIH/NIEHS) [C]; Avakian, Maureen (NIH/NIEHS) [C]; 'Tanguay, Robert'; 'Segna, Sandy'; Henry, Heather F (NIH/NIEHS) [E]; Crane, Justin (NIH/NIEHS) [C]