

Minutes

APA Global Health Task Force Teleconference

June 7, 2012

Present: Drs Christiana Russ, Chuck Schubert, Nicole St. Clair, Yvonne Vaucher, Ruth Etzel (Chair)

Dr Ruth Etzel asked all the participants on the teleconference to identify themselves and proposed the agenda for the meeting.

Reviewed draft minutes from April 5th teleconference of the Task Force. The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

The GHTF session at the 2012 annual meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies was discussed: The topic of the session was: Faculty development in Global Child Health: The Big Picture. There were brief presentations by members of GHTF and discussion of several topics:

1. What does it mean to be global health faculty?
2. What are the minimum or essential requirements to be competent and successful faculty in global child health?
3. How do we promote scholarship in teaching global health?
4. Should the GHTF focus on activities, which improve faculty skills in GH education or should we also focus on patient care and research competencies in global health (separate from knowledge and skills necessary to implement curriculum and be a competent teacher at home and abroad)?

- Dr Yvonne Vaucher reported that it was a very interactive session; the breakout groups were small, and the presentations and discussions went well.
- Dr Christiana Russ spoke of a common question that arose during the session, which is what can be done to create real partnerships between pediatric training programs in the US and those in the developing countries to which we send US trainees? She felt that was a challenge because the US programs focus on US residents. They do not focus on the low and middle-income country residents. . She also mentioned that when the session finished, there was lack of clarity on what the GHTF will focus on to improve the situation.
- Drs Yvonne Vaucher and Christiana Russ felt that the international speakers were very outspoken and this was helpful. One of the international speakers disclosed that when Americans go to other countries, the host hospital staff “are not sure whether the Americans are there to help us or to improve themselves”. A major theme that emerged from the session was that there is a need for improvement in how the US programs interact with host country programs around the world.
- Dr Christiana Russ mentioned that what she got from the speakers is that US faculty need to listen to the needs of the faculty other countries with whom they have resident placements. We need to change our relationship with the faculty from non-US countries.

- Dr Chuck Schubert went over short report of the GHTF session. He suggested that the session prompted the following list of future directions/next steps::
 1. Continue to encourage and develop bidirectional symposia overseas vs virtual vs in North America, to facilitate bidirectional faculty development;
 2. Workshop looking at North-South/South-South faculty development, including someone from Human Resources for Health (Tim Evans, BRAC, Lincoln Cher, Harvard, Julio Frank, Harvard);
 3. Develop a practical Forum for international and US faculty to discuss these issues; consider working with CUGH;
 4. PAS workshop utilizing faculty from developing countries to present to us what practical ways they envision for symbiotic faculty development;
 5. Send a list of GHTF participants to all of us, so we have names and contact info for everybody;
 6. Develop requirements for training curriculum for individuals from following categories:
 - GH from developed countries;
 - Residents and students from developed countries.
 7. Develop international programs (online) to review and certify research ethics and responsible conduct in research. May include component for in person discussion, with real-life GH examples.
 8. Set standards/competencies for GH educators and researchers to help legitimize efforts and lead to academic productivity for both US and host institutions.
 9. Competencies in research: establish a body to monitor research collaboration, and make it a win-win situation.

The GHTF members discussed these possible next steps.

- Need to clarify what the GHTF should focus on, US resident/fellowship training or training of residents from other countries?
- Dr Chuck Schubert suggested faculty development, preparing our faculty to better interact globally.
- Dr Christiana Russ asked if there is a way to formally listen to what is needed by the pediatric training programs in other countries. She suggested possibly doing a qualitative study on what the faculty does and does not do.
- Dr Yvonne Vaucher mentioned that it is difficult to get feedback/information from international faculty on what is needed without “rocking the boat”. They’re grateful for the help. She asked “how to establish partnership?” a big part is lack of funding for the partner program outside the US.
- Dr Ruth Etzel mentioned that establishing partnerships is a good suggestion, but how would we go about doing this?
- Dr Christiana Russ suggested becoming more of an umbrella organization. Dr. Schubert suggested getting permission from other organizations. He thinks it’s a great idea, but a bit premature. He says we need to pull international colleagues.
- Dr Christiana Russ suggested that research should be a platform for GHTF.
- Dr Nicole St. Clair suggested a mechanism to solicit the perspective of faculty in the low and middle-income countries about how to make partnerships beneficial to both US and

non-US programs. Dr Christiana Russ suggested that we have a clear mission on what this group does and move forward from there.

- Dr Yvonne Vaucher suggested that the group not only focus on our faculty development, but our partners' faculty development as well. What are the expectations from both sides?
- Dr Ruth Etzel asked for suggestions on what can be a starting point for the group moving forward. She suggested starting with #8, from the "future directions/next steps" (Set standards/competencies for GH educators and researchers to help legitimize efforts and lead to academic productivity for both US and host institutions.). She asked if anyone would be willing to take the lead on moving this forward.
- Dr Christiana Russ mentioned that she is already working on research with Dr Margaret Nakakeeto from Uganda and she feels that it will be helpful. She said that GHE was encouraged to do a workshop presentation at the AAP/NCE 2013 meeting. She is working on that workshop and feels it will tie in with what the GHTF is trying to do. Dr Chuck Schubert agrees with this and believes it will work well.
- Dr Yvonne Vaucher mentioned that it seems as though faculty development is the focus, but what part?
- Dr Christiana Russ mentioned that additional clarity on which faculty development, (i.e. faculty in the US or other countries?)

Action Items:

- Dr Russ to send information to the group for the workshop being presented at the 2013 AAP NCE meeting. If anyone would like to contribute, it would be beneficial.
- Dr Etzel to devote the next teleconference call to developing our mission, vision, and focus.
- Volunteers interested in helping with setting standards/competencies for GH educators to help legitimize efforts and lead to academic productivity for both US and host institutions, should contact Dr Etzel.
- Volunteers interested in helping with the workshop for the 2012 AAP NCE meeting, should contact Dr Russ.
- Group to review contact list and the GHTF webpage and submit any changes/edits to Jennifer.