Arnold School of Public Health Reaccreditation Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 12th, 2023
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Attendees: Katie Annan, Kollette Clark, Alan Decho, Ella Ducato, Katherine DeVivo, Bridget Miller, Lee Pearson (co-chair), Myriam Torres, Toni Torres-McGehee, Lisa Waddell and Megan Weis

Excused: Daniela Friedman, James Hardin (co-chair) and Julie Smithwick

MINUTES

Dr. Pearson called the meeting to order at 1:00. He then welcomed Dr. Lisa Waddell as the newest member of the Reaccreditation Steering Committee. Dr. Waddell brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her role. She was the long-time deputy commissioner for the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control and has since held senior leadership positions with national organizations such as the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and the March of Dimes. She retired earlier this year as the chief medical officer for the CDC Foundation. Dr. Waddell has a long history of collaboration with the Arnold School and is filling the seat of an external stakeholder on the steering committee.

Dr. Pearson then moved into the substance of the meeting by presenting an updated timeline to the group and reminding them that the CEPH site visit is less than a year away on October 7-9th of 2024. He shared with the group that 84% of the requisite criteria are underway and that the school is on track to have all sections in draft form by the end of December. That will allow the focus in the spring to be on refining the narrative sections of the self-study report and preparing the preliminary draft for submission on May 7th of 2024.

The focus of the steering committee meeting then moved to updates on the status of the many criteria in process including reports from two subcommittees. Individual reports were offered by five members of the committee. Dr. Pearson provided updates on criteria A4, B1, B2, C5, E2, E3, E5 and F1. (Several of those updates were delivered on behalf of the co-chair, Dr. Hardin, who was unable to attend the meeting.) Ms. Clark then provided updates on criteria C2, C3, E1, and H3-5. The next two reports were provided by Dr. Torres and Dr. Miller who offered updates on the MPH and undergraduate subcommittees, respectively. Dr. Torres-McGehee then closed out the reports by discussing criteria G1. Of special note, she reminded the group that the Arnold School is currently implementing its 2023 climate survey which builds upon the previous survey conducted just prior to the pandemic. Questions were fielded by each of the presenters throughout their reports. As a part of his remarks, Dr. Pearson also shared that the school’s Website Review Committee is now up and running in support of the reaccreditation process.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:29. The steering committee will meet next on November 9th.