

**BOARD REPORT - INFORMATIONAL**  
**Association of State Public Health Nutritionists**

**Board Meeting Month/Year:** January 27, 2020

**Committee/Liaison/Member:** University of Tennessee, Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Education and Leadership Training Program National Advisory Committee liaison report

**Report Prepared by:** K. Probert

**Date Prepared:** January 17, 2020

**Status Report:**

Karen Probert represents ASPHN on the National Advisory committee (NAC) for the University of Tennessee Maternal and Child Health Nutrition Education and Leadership Training Program

Members of the NAC include Alexandra Alford, Betsy Anderson-Steeves, Julianne Evans, Eriko Robinson, Rachel Klenzman, Peggy Lewis, Sarah Messiah, Karen Probert, Lee Wallace, Carole Garner, Parinda Khatri, Marissa McElrone, Robin McRoberts, Bonnie Spear, Marsha Spence, Margaret Tate, and Kristin Williams

The NAC met on December 10, 2019. Agenda items with notes:

**Healthy Weight Colloquia**

Review of Fall 2019 Colloquium. Veronica provided a brief overview of the Fall 2019 Colloquia.

Future Colloquia. The next colloquium will be held on Friday, March 27, 2020. Rachel presented the topic of infant feeding and informed the NAC members of potential and confirmed presenters, including Gerri Henchy from FRAC. Dr. Anderson-Steeves explained that Gerri will focus on the WIC population, specifically talking about FRAC's Making WIC Work Better report. The NAC members suggested topics for future colloquia: social determinants of health and their impact on childhood weight, infant feeding with a focus on transition feeding, including timing and the type, pregnancy/breastfeeding and marijuana use, adverse childhood experiences (Eriko Robinson and Karen Probert), infant/toddlers GERD, culturally appropriate transition foods, and health equity in breastfeeding.

**Diversity Recruitment Strategies**

Future Education Model. Dr. Anderson-Steeves provided an overview of the new model of education and acceptance of UT's application for the FEM. The FEM will focus on integrated coursework and practice experiences over a five-year period that includes Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Students would also complete their dietetic internship to become registered dietitians through FEM. Karen Probert asked clarifying questions about the five-year program and about what this means for the Public Health Nutrition Master's program. Dr. Anderson-Steeves confirmed that the current PHN Master's program will remain in place, with a few changes to the current curriculum; however, new recruitment

strategies will be needed for the program now that the dietetic internship will no longer be a part of the Public Health Nutrition MS degree program.

Recruitment Strategies for Public Health Nutrition. Dr. Anderson-Steeves asked for suggestions on what this transition might mean for the PHN Master's degree and what this means for diversity recruitment as well. For diversity recruitment, Karen discussed what AND has done to be more inclusive and stated that we need a "breakthrough" in this area because most things focus on those who are already RDs rather than recruiting to those who have yet to become RDs. For the PHN Master's degree, Karen suggested recruiting DTRs. Peggy discussed that WIC nutrition educators do not require Master's Degrees or RD credentials; however, high-risk populations at WIC are seen by an RDN. Peggy mentioned that AND is focused on the clinical RDs, which is what the FEM is based on. Dr. Anderson- Steeves and others on the call affirmed the importance of preparing public health nutrition professionals.

**Next Steps:**

Promote March 27, 2020 Healthy Weight Colloquium

Attend next NAC