

## **Council on Community-Based Partnerships Meeting – March 22, 2018**

In Attendance: Jackie Brodsky, Megan Carlton, Dee Cook, Thometta Cozart, George Daniels, Amy Dillon, Paige Ferguson, Elizabeth Hartley, Peter Hlebowitsh, Candace Johnson, CeeCee Johnson, Diane Kennedy-Jackson, Billy Kirkpatrick, Amanda Lightsey, James E. McLean, Jasmine Merritt, Holly Morgan, Jane Newman, Nicole Prewitt, Samory T. Pruitt, Whitney Sewell, Chas Shipman, Chris Spencer, Daniela Susnara, Matthew Wisla

Following is an outline of items discussed at the March 22, 2018,  
Council on Community-Based Partnerships meeting.

Additional information is available online at  
<http://ccbp.ua.edu/council-on-community-based-partnerships-meeting-march-22-2018/>

### **Welcome and Highlights**

Dr. Peter Hlebowitsh welcomed those present and called the meeting to order.

### **Council Executive Committee Updates**

#### **Dr. Peter Hlebowitsh – Council Chair**

- Dr. Hlebowitsh gave an update on the Promise Neighborhood Grant.
  - This grant is for the purpose of updating/renewal to an area of the country that needs it.
  - This grant would benefit the Black Belt region of Alabama, as well as west Tuscaloosa.
  - He and Dr. Nicole Prewitt have designed a prototype in advance of putting together a proposal.
  - They have identified community partners that could help make this a successful grant.

#### **Ms. Amanda Lightsey – Community Partner Support Committee Chair**

- Ms. Lightsey gave an overview of the Prison Re-entry into Society Program.
  - Ms. Lightsey, Dr. Prewitt and the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama have partnered to look at a model to help prisoners re-enter the community so that they will be workforce ready and able to maintain stable employment.
  - Area manufacturers have thousands of jobs that need to be filled, so the success of this program has great implications, not only for prisoners re-entering society but also for area businesses.
  - Eight to 10 percent of prisoners in the state of Alabama are veterans. Accordingly, this partnership is also looking at subsections within the prison population to be certain that the curriculum developed meets the needs of all prisoners.

#### **Dr. George Daniels – Excellence in Community Engagement Recognition Committee Chair**

- Dr. Daniels gave an update on the upcoming Council on Community-Based Partnerships Excellence Awards Luncheon, set for Wednesday, April 18, at the Bryant Conference Center.
  - Dr. Daniels discussed the importance of recognizing partnership development in community engagement among community partners, students, and faculty/staff, noting that there were open calls for award submissions in each of these areas.
  - The program will also recognize individuals receiving travel awards and seed funds.

- There will be a poster presentation in conjunction with the SCOPE student presentations, which will provide an opportunity for individuals to share their work.
- Those planning to attend the awards luncheon should RSVP to their email invitation by Wednesday, April 11.

#### **Ms. CeeCee Johnson – Student Involvement and Support Committee Co-Chair**

- Ms. Johnson:
  - Gave an overview of what to expect at the SCOPE Student Showcase.
  - Shared that submissions to present at the showcase will be open through Friday, March 23.
  - Shared that the SCOPE students would welcome feedback from faculty members who attend and who work in the area of community engagement.

#### **Community Engagement in Action**

##### **Dr. Karl Hamner**

Dr. Hamner spoke to the group about Operation Deep Dive, a project on which he and his team are working — with the benefit of a grant from Bristol Myers-Squibb — that is essentially a deep dive into the problem of veteran suicide in the community.

- Dr. Hamner reported that:
  - 20 veterans a day kill themselves (more than 7,000 veterans each year).
  - The question he and his team are trying to answer is: “What role does community engagement play in reducing or isolating suicide?”
  - They have developed a proposal with six other communities across the nation to perform a retrospect of every veteran suicide that they can.
  - They will have access to VA data and service history.
  - They are looking at all veterans, not just those who qualify for VA benefits.
  - The team will partner with medical examiners, coroners and community entities.
  - They are calling this a “social-cultural autopsy.”
  - The Department of Defense is also sharing their data.
  - The Centers for Disease Control and other entities are also coming to the table and showing interest in this project.
  - Site visits will begin summer 2018.

#### **Center for Community-Based Partnerships (CCBP)/Community Affairs Updates**

##### **Ms. Whitney Sewell – Program Coordinator**

- Ms. Sewell shared information about the upcoming New Faculty Community Engagement Tour.
  - The tour will take place Wednesday through Friday, May 9 through 11, from approximately 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. daily.
  - The tour will include three site visits with panel discussions each day.
  - Participants can sign up for one, two, or all three days.
  - There is no fee to attend.
  - Sign-up will begin during the first week of April and is open to faculty, staff and graduate students.

- The tour through Alabama's Black Belt region will provide participants with an opportunity to see new parts of the state and to meet people that they might not normally have the opportunity to meet.

**Dr. Nicole Prewitt – Director of Programs and Partnerships for Community Engagement, CCBP**

- Dr. Prewitt provided an update on the Saving Lives Academy, a pilot to train church health advocates in areas of physical activity, nutrition, and health education and promotion.
  - The pilot program was launched this week and Dr. Prewitt's team has already received feedback.
  - They hope to use that feedback to establish the inaugural academy in September.
  - They are enthusiastic about contributing to the public health infrastructure by providing church advocates information for their congregants.
  - They have partnered with the VA and with Shelton State Community College for future sessions.

**Dr. Holly Morgan – Director of Community Engagement, CCBP**

- Dr. Holly Morgan discussed both Swim to the Top and the STEM Entrepreneurship Academy, two summer program offerings. Planning is underway for both.
  - Swim to the TOP is a partnership with the Benjamin Barnes YMCA, First Tee of Tuscaloosa, both Tuscaloosa City and County and the UA College of Education.
    - The program is housed at the Benjamin Barnes Branch YMCA.
    - Instructors provide swimming instruction, physical fitness instruction and academic enrichment opportunities.
    - A final showcase to include parents will be presented at the end of the month-long program, which will take place during the month of June.
    - Dr. Morgan and her team want to be certain there are measurable assessments across the board to use in the future and to help measure growth across the program.
  - The STEM Entrepreneurship Academy is a week-long residential camp that is hosted on the UA campus, in partnership with multiple campus entities.
    - Forty rising 10th and 11th graders from Alabama's Black Belt region will be recruited.
    - The camp's focus is on the STEM fields and the area of entrepreneurship.
    - Partners include the UA College of Arts & Sciences, UA Student Life, the UA College of Engineering and the UA College of Business.
    - The program receives contributions from The Edge and The Tuscaloosa Gateway program.
    - This opportunity also operates through the Google classroom platform to provide outreach to schools when students and teachers are not on campus.

**Dr. James E. McLean – Executive Director, Center for Community-Based Partnerships**

- Dr. James E. McLean gave an update on ongoing grant-writing workshops, noting that we are currently in the second round of the program.
  - Teams from the first round were successful in finding funding for a number of community initiatives, including textbook, veterans', HIV, and Head Start programs.
  - A conservative estimate is that the 10 teams participating in round one have raised more than \$30 million.

- It is too early to have estimates on projects from the second round, as those teams will complete the program in June.
- A third round of workshops has been funded for 2018–2019.
  - The call for participation will be coming out in about two weeks.
  - The third round will begin in mid-August and will conclude in early June, 2019.
  - There will be up to eight UA/community teams, as well as individual slots for participation.
  - Teams must have a minimum of two people — one from UA and one from the community — and be willing to work toward improving the quality of life in some way for the community.
  - Workshops will again be led by David G. Bauer, who will also conduct the individual grant-coaching programs for the teams.
  - The tentative deadline for applications for round three is May 19.

#### **National Engagement Scholarship Update**

- Dr. Samory T. Pruitt, vice president for Community Affairs, concluded the meeting with a brief update on the 2018 Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC) Conference.
  - The conference is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 30 through Wednesday, Oct. 3, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
  - This conference will be significantly different from previous ESC conferences, as it will be the first one under the new ESC 20/20 strategic plan.
    - For the first time, there will be an awards program during the conference, the categories of which will be similar to the Excellence Awards program here on campus.
    - There will also be a panel of tenured faculty members who will be part of a workshop on best practices and literature on the subject of leadership in community engagement.
    - UA faculty members and students are encouraged to attend the conference.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.