

ABSTRACT: 2017 ELAM Institutional Action Project Symposium

Project Title: The University of Rochester Aging Institute: Transforming the Health of an Aging Society

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Collaborators and Mentors: Mark Taubman MD, Paul Levy MD, Yeates Conwell MD and Robert McCann MD

Background & Significance: Expert care of vulnerable older adults is integral to health care transformation and the strategic plan of an academic medical center. The University of Rochester (UR) has a rich network of aging and geriatrics expertise in clinical care, research and education across multiple departments and schools. The time is now for UR to unify its existing aging resources into a single entity – The UR Aging Institute – to address the health of our region’s ever growing aging population and to lead regional and national efforts in education, research and health care delivery innovation.

Objective: To create the UR Aging Institute, which will serve as the hub for the entire geriatrics & aging enterprise in research, education and clinical care and promote University-wide collaborative partnerships with all aging-related disciplines, specialties, departments and schools. The UR Aging Institute will:

- Utilize a biopsychosocial approach to address the complex intersection of aging, health and health care delivery at both an individual and societal level
- Support an interprofessional community of outstanding investigators, teachers and clinicians
- Define and deliver state of the art, high quality care congruent with patient values & goals
- Expand geriatric knowledge, skill set and workforce through collaborative research and education
- Foster development of local, regional & national systems of geriatrics care that impact cost & quality and promote successful aging

Methods

- Identify all potential UR stakeholders in Geriatrics, Gerontology and Aging
- Embark on listening and advocacy tour with stakeholders
- Create inventory of all university-wide aging programs & resources
- Benchmark national Aging Centers / Institutes via national meetings & conference calls with directors
- Develop logic model for Aging Institute
- Leverage existing resources - Office for Aging Research and Health Services Advisory Board & Rochester Aging Research Center to vet ideas and identify Institute themes
- Organize and host retreat to bring potential Institute members and stakeholders together
- Finalize themes that embody current resources & strengths and identify future areas for potential integration of research, education and clinical resources
- Develop organization chart & infrastructure
- Recruit for leadership roles and Board of Directors
- Develop short-term and long-term strategic and sustainment plans for funding & philanthropy

Outcomes & Evaluation Strategy: Short-term outcomes include creating an organization chart and infrastructure with identified themes and strategic plan for presentation to medical center leadership; recruiting a Board of Directors and obtaining funding for pilot grants and mentorship awards to promote early collaboration and cohesion. The long-term outcome is for the UR Aging Institute to be self-sustaining and a source of scholarly productivity with national and international recognition. The evaluation strategy will include metrics assessing Institute productivity and national visibility including faculty mentorship & career development, publications, presentations, new team science collaborations, extramural funding (T-32 & Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center), regional workforce education training and philanthropy.

Conclusion & Impact: The University of Rochester Medical Center strives to provide “Medicine of the Highest Order” following our University motto of *Meliora* or “Ever Better”. The UR Aging Institute will transform the health and quality of life of older adults across the care continuum in Rochester, our surrounding region and the world through innovation in research, education, work-force development and patient-centered, goal-based care.

The University of Rochester Aging Institute



Transforming the Health of an Aging Society

Annette Medina-Walpole MD



Collaborators & Mentors: Mark Taubman MD, Paul Levy MD, Yeates Conwell MD & Robert McCann MD

Background

- University of Rochester (UR) strives to provide “Medicine of the Highest Order” based on our motto of Meliora or “Ever Better”.
- Expert care of vulnerable older adults is integral to health care transformation and the strategic plan of an academic medical center.
- UR has a rich network of aging and geriatrics expertise in clinical care, research and education across multiple departments & schools.
- The time is now to unify existing aging resources into a single entity:

The UR Aging Institute

Objective

To create the UR Aging Institute, which will serve as the hub for the entire geriatrics & aging enterprise in research, education and clinical care and promote University-wide collaborative partnerships with all aging-related disciplines, specialties, departments and schools

The UR Aging Institute will:

- Support an interprofessional community of outstanding investigators, teachers and clinicians
- Define and deliver state of the art, high quality care congruent with patient values & goals
- Expand geriatric knowledge, skill set and workforce through education & collaborative research
- Develop local, regional & national systems of care that impact cost & quality and promote the health and well-being of older adults



Medicine of the Highest Order

Methods

- Identify all stakeholders in Geriatrics, Gerontology and Aging
- Embark on listening and advocacy tour
- Create inventory of all UR aging programs & resources
- Benchmark national Aging Centers / Institutes via national meetings & conference calls with directors
- Develop logic model
- Leverage existing resources to vet ideas and identify themes
- Complete needs assessment of stakeholders
- Organize and host retreat for stakeholders
- Finalize themes and identify future areas for potential integration of research, education & clinical resources
- Develop organization chart & infrastructure
- Recruit Core Leaders and Board of Directors
- Develop short-term and long-term strategic and sustainment plans for funding & philanthropy

Outcomes

Strategic & Business Plan	Work-Force Education & Training
Core Leadership & Board of Directors	Extramural Funding (T-32 and Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center)
Pilot Grants & Mentorship Awards	National and International Recognition
Collaborative Partnerships	Philanthropy
Career Development of Members	Self-Sustainment
Pipeline of Clinicians, Educators & Investigators	Age-Informed Health System

Discussion

Development of the University of Rochester Aging Institute will transform the health and quality of life of older adults across the care continuum in Rochester, our surrounding region and the world through innovation in research, education, work-force development, community outreach and patient-centered, goal-based care.

Conclusion

Next Steps

- Institute stakeholders needs assessment and retreat
- Finalize themes, identify leadership & recruit Board of Directors
- Develop strategic and sustainment plans for funding & philanthropy

Conclusion

A vision for the University of Rochester Aging Institute has been created and future development plans are underway.

Ultimately, the UR Aging Institute will provide ‘Medicine of the Highest Order’ through a biopsychosocial approach to address the complex intersection of aging, health & health care delivery at both an individual and societal level.



Presented at the 2017 ELAM® Leaders Forum