

ABSTRACT: 2018 ELAM Institutional Action Project

Project Title: Faculty Grant Development Program in Patient Centered Outcomes Research

Name and Institution: Richelle J. Koopman MD, MS, University of Missouri School of Medicine

Collaborators and Mentors: Patrice Delafontaine MD, Steven C. Zweig MD MSPH, David R. Mehr MD MS, Robin L. Kruse PhD, Michael Hosokawa EdD, Jerry Parker PhD, Cynthia Haydon

Topic Category: Research

Background, Significance of project:

Patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) is a natural area of research interest for clinicians. However, junior faculty in many SOM departments lack skills and mentors to be successful in this type of research. Fortunately, the Department of Family and Community Medicine has appropriate skills and mentors, and is willing to assist other departments in developing these junior faculty members. Since this would detract from department faculty time to pursue funded research, some remuneration is needed to make this feasible.

Purpose/Objectives:

To build the infrastructure for a 9-month faculty grant development program in Patient Centered Outcomes Research ready for implementation in September 2018.

Methods/Approach/Evaluation Strategy:

- Define need and interest – introduce program to department Chairs
- Define best practices – search literature, interviews with key informants
- Define needed resources – faculty instructors and mentors, staff, biostatistician
- Define cost to cover resources (consider fixed and variable expenses)
- Design curriculum with consideration of existing offerings

Outcomes/Results:

- SOM Leadership and Department Chairs have expressed enthusiasm for the program.
- Key informant interviews emphasized the value of junior faculty group learning as peer mentors, mock reviews of grants, and Chair investment in faculty time for the fellowship.
- We have defined needed resources, including faculty instructors and mentors, staff, biostatisticians. We have also determined the overall cost for the program and have secured buy-in for needed resources. The remaining cost will be paid by participants/departments.
- Curriculum framework is in place and we are refining. We are on target to begin in fall 2018.
- Long-term outcomes to be measured include number of junior faculty enrollees, enrollee satisfaction, enrollee program completion, enrollee/alumni grant submission, grants funded, alumni promotion and tenure.

Discussion/Conclusion with Statement of Impact/Potential Impact:

A successful faculty grant development program in Patient Centered Outcomes Research will develop PCOR skills in junior faculty through formal coursework and mentoring to produce a personal grant proposal, increase research funding for junior faculty, assist faculty in their promotion and tenure journey, and increase cross-disciplinary collaboration in research. Creating this research infrastructure for my institution has helped me develop skills in project planning, identifying and securing needed resources, and facilitating the work of fellow faculty. Our process and results could provide a framework and structure for instituting best practices in faculty development for research, including cross-disciplinary collaboration and mentorship.