

Working Groups for MPS/EHR Collaboration

Charge

On March 22, 2005, senior staff of MPS and EHR met in joint session to discuss past and current collaborative activities and possibilities for future activities. Based on subsequent discussions, the Assistant Directors for EHR and MPS are forming three working groups and a steering committee to move forward on enhancing collaboration between the two directorates. The purpose of the collaboration is to improve education and broaden participation in MPS disciplines in service of NSF's PEOPLE goal.

The Working Groups and Their Charge

The three working groups will address:

- Evaluation and Education Research;
- Interplay of Research-Embedded Activities with Curriculum and Informal Science Education; and
- Broadening Participation.

Each working group will have three members from each directorate, including a co-chair from each directorate. Each working group is charged to:

- Identify current mechanisms and areas of collaboration, both formal and informal.
- Explore possible areas for future collaboration, focusing on areas that leverage existing programs and activities of the two Directorates, rather than on creation of new programs that would require significant commitment of funds.
- Describe alternative mechanisms for enhancing collaboration, including possible structures for building upon or facilitating *ad hoc* cooperation.
- Associate possible outcomes and related measures with the most attractive areas for future cooperation and mechanisms/structures.
- Recommend specific opportunities for joint action.

The Steering Committee and Its Charge

The topical areas covered by the three working groups will provide focus for the continuing planning efforts of the two directorates. However, the three topics are interdependent – for example, one issue is how to evaluate progress of NSF activities aimed at broadening participation in MPS disciplines. The steering committee is charged to provide coordination among the three working groups so that common issues are properly addressed. It will also prepare progress and final reports for presentation to the MPS and EHR ADs and senior staff. The steering committee will be formed from the co-chairs of each working group plus OAD staff from each directorate.

Timetable

June 15, 2005	Working Groups Formed
July 13, 2005	Working Group Progress Report to Steering Committee
July 19, 2005	Steering Committee Progress Report to MPS/EHR Senior Staff
August 15, 2005	Preliminary reports from Working Groups
September 1, 2005	Steering Committee Report submitted to ADs

Working Group Details

- **Evaluation and Education Research**

Examples of topics include project, program, and portfolio evaluation, mechanisms for evaluating efforts proposed or carried out under NSF criterion 2, research that informs education in the MPS disciplines (including research on learning), and use of MPS discipline environments as platforms for education research.

<u>EHR</u>	<u>MPS</u>
Bernice Anderson*	Art Ellis*
Janice Earle	Lloyd Douglas
David McArthur	Randy Ruchti

- **Interplay of Research-Embedded Activities with Curriculum and Informal Science Education**

Collaboration will promote the interplay between research in MPS disciplines and both curriculum and informal science education. In the area of curriculum, the Working Group is requested to focus on the undergraduate level, with particular emphasis on the early college years, exploring elements of curricula that support student engagement in research and how research-like activities might enrich the curriculum.

<u>EHR</u>	<u>MPS</u>
Rosemary Haggett*	Eileen Friel*
Sylvia James	Beverly Berger
Harry Ungar	Wendy Fuller-Mora
Lee Zia (Designee for Rosemary)	

- **Broadening Participation**

This Working Group will focus on strategies for linking the research-embedded activities of MPS with the EHR managed programs, including, but not restricted to, targeted programs such as LSAMP, HBCU-UP, AGEP, TCUP, CREST.

<u>EHR</u>	<u>MPS</u>
Victor Santiago*	Jack Lightbody*
Julio Lopez-Ferrao	Joan Frye
Ruta Sevo	Carmen Huber

* Denotes Working Group Co-Chair