University Child Care Committee Meeting Notes
September 23, 2014
Approved November 18, 2014

Present: Phillip Braithwaite, Chris Bruhn, Carol Noreen, Lindsey Stoddard Cameron, Lynn Edlefson, Jen Dittrich-Templin, Abbi Kruse, Jill Riley, Cara Streekstra, Darrin Smith, Katie Austin, Valyncia Rapheal, Roseanne Clark.

I. Announcements and welcome

• Phillip welcomed the new and returning committee members and all were introduced. Several new members expressed interest in affordability and access, support for single parents, and understanding the quality aspects of early childhood education.

• Phillip asked for changes or additions to the April 2014 minutes; none were noted and the minutes were approved. They will be posted to the UCCC website.

• Lynn informed the committee that Vanika Mock is taking a position outside of the university and will no longer serve. Paula Gates has asked for a one year respite from the committee but hope to be back next year.

• Lynn announced that the Jazzin’ receipts from the May 2014 event yielded $23,000 that would be granted back directly to the centers utilizing a grant format. Teachers and directors are encouraged to write requests for amounts between $500 and $5,000 for program improvements, professional development and or classroom curriculum/equipment. To date, five grants have been received including three requests to attend the full week of training in Scotland next summer with Claire Warden.

II. Review of facility moves and current capacity--

• Lynn provided a hand out of current campus capacity noting the increase in infant care and the decrease in care for preschooler aged children, consistent with the campus master plan. The committee was reminded that at the November meeting, a review of the Little Chicks expansion will be provided in response to questions from members about the facility, services and quality of programming.
  o We reviewed the potential for greater infant care; Eagle's Wing is considering the addition of infant care in fall 2015 and Waismann also has begun discussions. No clear proposals to review at this time.

• Workforce Challenges--a brief discussion on the low salaries, especially in the contracted sites that provide infant care, due to the high cost of providing the service. In November meeting, we will study this issue more fully with a review of salaries across campus. The committee continues to seek means to increase access and affordability across campus sites. This has been a long time issue and concern.
• Care. Com, a web based child care and elder care company that matches families with care providers was discussed. Lynn noted that this type of service may be attractive to our families on campus given the apparent ease in obtaining child care services. She also reports that Michigan State uses this service for their faculty, staff and students.

Today, the committee held a brief discussion on the various issues associated with this kind of service, namely the potential risks involved in web based services. The committee’s general response pertains to ensuring the quality of services provided on or sponsored by campus and there was agreement that should additional information be available, or a large number of families request this type of service, we will evaluate more carefully.

III. Director’s report-

• Abbi Kruse (Abbi is new director at Preschool Lab Mineral Point) was introduced and shared her prior work experience. Abbi has extensive experience with Head Start, as a consultant in Oklahoma, and with a variety of issues and topics important to the campus children’s center system such as accreditation and professional development. Abbi is a sought after trainer and brings a wealth of experience, expertise and commitment to our campus.

• Professional Development-- Renowned cartoon artist and author Lynda Barry from the Wisconsin Institute of Discovery, will be working with 12 graduate students within the Preschool Lab Linde, Eagle's Wing and Waisman Center throughout this entire fall semester with a project called DrawBridge (article attached). The project involves pairing graduate students with 4 year olds in campus centers to explore and wonder using art and stories to increase problem solving and creativity. A spring event will be planned to show the results of the projects results. (We are thrilled!)

• Accreditation--Briefly, it was noted that the federal grant (CCAMPIS) is now requiring a national accreditation which makes our City of Madison accreditation invalid. The directors (both system wide and at Madison) are evaluating a variety of national accreditations. The OCCFR is providing assistance with infrastructure and possible funding for software programs that will ease this process of documentation. Our time line for completion of national accreditation is by the end of 2016. More to come on this.

• Bumblebee Review- Jen Dittrich-Templin. Jen reports that since the start of Bumblebee in January, a total of >300 applications have been received of which 60% are for infants, 30% for toddlers. These numbers support our campus wide effort (and campus master plan) to increase care for younger children. Feedback from parents has been very positive due to the ease of use; and the fees charged are now charged consistently across sites. The OCCFR is tracking utilization and financials on a monthly basis.

• Student Services Support Review (CCTAP and AIM)--Jen Dittrich-Templin
Jen reports that both CCTAP and AIM are fully utilized. She provided an overview of the students using CCTAP and a constant contact email that was sent
to campus about AIM results. As a reminder, AIM and CCTAP are both programs designed to increase enrollment, persistence and graduation of student parents. This academic year, we have three graduate students from the La Follette Institute evaluating the CCTAP program. We will share their results with the committee.

IV. OCCFR Program Review. Lynn asked the committee what should be included in a program review for the office. Suggestions include:

- Bring in Elaine Klein to help design
- Distribution of families in campus child care programs
- Vendor review—are sites meeting contract requirements?
- Responsiveness of OCCFR to stated mission and objectives—are we doing our job?
- Overall quality of programming.

The committee was encouraged to provide further advising on this issue as questions or issues occur. Please send suggestions to Lynn Edlefson or Phillip Braithwaite.

Notes by Lynn Edlefson Contact ledlefson@provost.wisc.edu for corrections or additions.