Early Intervention/Preservice Consortium
Relationships, Communication, Preparation

9-21-26 Agenda and Meeting Notes

Attendance: Cori Hill, Corey Cassidy, Sonia Khurana, Danika Pfeiffer, Christian Pankiewicz, Shiree Harbick, Sara Germansky, Samita Arora, Yaoying Xu, Erin Geiger, Kendall Lee, Audrey Kane, Sara Miller, Terri Nelligan, Minelva Holove, Muff Perry, Dana Childress, Serra De Arment

Last meeting was 5-13-26. Meeting notes here.

Notetaker for today's meeting: Danika

Present:

- **Celebrations/Announcements**
    - Welcome back to Sara Germansky from JMU!
    - Welcome Minelva Holove, OT, from Shenandoah University!
- **Upcoming Meetings with Notetaker**
    - Fall 2026 meetings; **Third Mondays 2:00-3:30**

9/21/26	Danika Pfeiffer
10/19/26 ?LSM Collaborative Meeting?	Corey Cassidy
11/16/26 ?LSM Collaborative Meeting?	
**12/21/26 (probably need to change)	

- **Updates from members' programs**
    - VEIPD-If you've not seen are (fairly) new product, check the playlist out. All topics supporting social-emotional development. HeartWired
    - Dana: VDOE- add on endorsement for early childhood special ed (coming in 1-1.5 years), is there some way it could help us with recruitment? There's a practicum requirement that will be in EI or early childhood special education.
    - Christan: opportunity to think about how we might filter feedback related to add-on in the Consortium, collaborate and provide voice, make sure our voices are being heard in workgroups, etc., students w/ different experiences and coursework, slides from Dana-thinking about training/experiences people will need
        - 37 students in behavior analyst program, trying to manage the size of the group w/ experiences offered, thinking about how to enhance EI opportunities, submitted an OSEP grant for EI in rural communities
- **Updates from ITCVA (Terri)**
    - Shared information about the endorsement for early childhood special education.
    - Focus is on monitoring (called POSM- Periodic Oversight of Systems and Methods) right now to make sure all early intervention systems are using the finances (Part C) money appropriately and providing services as outlined on IFSPs-OSEP is monitoring the states. Office moved to Health and Human Services.
        - Webpage (itcvaonline)-general supervision and monitoring section has this outlined with evidence that these things are happening
        - All systems will be monitored through this process over the next ~6 years
            - Kendall: will go through the process in April 2027

        - Muff: scheduled for February 2027, getting back to pre-COVID procedures

    - ITCVA Practice Manual is a good resource for "all things EI in VA." Chapter 12, Table C provides info of all of the types of practitioner VA allows.

    - Focus on social-emotional development, training and PD plans in place, Hannah Hudson-infant mental health

    - Making public comments as a group would be really meaningful on policy issues (e.g., SLPA legislation)

- **Agenda**

- **Action Plan** (ITEMS HIGHLIGHTED IN BLUE ARE TODAY'S PRIORITIES)

    - Need to review and update Action Plan as a lot of work took place over the summer. Notice reorganization of activities and folders.

    - Reorganized workgroups by goals in the folder

    - **Goal One: Increase number of students graduating from all recognized disciplines who get EI certified and become Virginia EI practitioners** (Check each activity for members)

        - **Activity 1.1: Develop field placement documents, rubrics, etc. (Muff, Dana,** Kendall, Erin, Cori)

            - Met a couple times, trying to gather examples of documents that they can create a template for that they share with their students about EI field placements, goal: pull information together to create a shared folder for Consortium w/ template examples of agreement samples, observation forms, practicum projects, evaluations, etc., still recruiting documents from system managers

            - Minelva: how can we help programs place more students in EI for field placements? Difficult when professionals work part-time and can't take students.

            -

- *ACTION ITEM: This group needs representation from other disciplines besides education and EI. Anyone want to join them? Will need more activities? Move things around?*
    - Sara Germansky

- **Goal Two: Establish an infrastructure to collaborate across universities and systems to enhance high-quality research-to-practice partnerships** (Check each activity for members)
    - **Activity 2.1: Develop an infrastructure proposal to identify "Who We Are" within our mission, vision, and goals** (Notes)
        - Commitment/Recommitment Form *Shiree*
        - Defines who we are, mission and vision of the group, the google drive link has the form where you can preview the whole form and the responses, includes qualifiers to participate (useful for new members to make sure they meet the criteria for the Consortium), asks members to list relevant experiences, asks folks to choose a working group, examples of what it looks like to be a contributing member
        - All Recommitment responses are visible on the form hyperlink above
    - **Activity 2.2: Conduct AI in EI research to support research-to-practice initiatives**
        - Update from Yaoying
        - Workgroup members; Sara M., Terri, Dana, Allison, Sonia, AI researcher at VCU, doc students, meet monthly
        - Since 2025-2026, presented at EI conference (CCSS), CRIEI in San Diego and CCSS on the conceptual framework and preliminary findings of AI in EI
        - Two more accepted presentations to share this research: VPTA (Sonia leading), DEC, going to share quantitative and qualitative data, AERA conference-submitted abstract (April 2027)
        - One book chapter in print with other workgroup members, will be shared, anything in writing they are careful that it doesn't represent the views of the Consortium
        - Two more manuscripts-one qual, one quant.

        - Workplan- changing strategy for family perspective survey, not been successful to get parents' responses so they are going to reach out to parent groups (of children who receive EI) to get their perspective, conduct a follow-up study with EI providers by recruiting focus group/individual interviews after preliminary survey findings, will submit IRB amendment for focus group/individual interviews to interview EI providers (stage 2 of survey study)

- **Activity 2.3: Coordinate ITCVA and VEIPD websites with shared faculty/future EI resources to promote public awareness and EI career path** (Terri and Cori)
    - Website is still undergoing changes, working with someone at Part C office for naming criteria, linking to resources, more of website will be ready around November
- **Activity 2.4: Develop interactive map to support collaborative fieldwork opportunities**
    - Seth has created the map prototype. Goal to have at least a good draft launched by 10/31/26.
    - Cori will share at the next meeting.
    - *ACTION ITEM: Need several members to work with Cori to develop a jotform or Google form to collect information from each faculty member. Identify criteria, help us think about what to collect*
        - Corey and Audrey will help
- **Activity 2.5: Host Collaborative meeting with LSM/leadership 2x per year**
    - Opportunity to talk with local system managers
    - *ACTION ITEM: This group needs members and facilitator(s) to set agenda, plan two meetings for October and April (or we change that)- come up with questions, decide how to organize the meeting*
    -

- **Goal Three: Embed high-quality Part C EI resources in university coursework** (Check each activity for members)
    - **Activity 3.1: Explore and develop EI badging or microcredential**
        - Notes here

- Alison: a way to get students in preservice programs additional information on EI so they can get additional training outside of their coursework, VCU already has the EI modules in their coursework, Longwood does too, students in many different disciplines who may be interested in EI
- Microcredential split in three badges for all disciplines: get background about EI
- Tier 1 (this year):
  - First badge (assessment): Alison worked with Longwood to develop over summer, got feedback and revised, credited to the Consortium, then other universities can decide if they want to use it, consists of EI modules and case studies, more than what is within coursework
  - Second and third badges will be developed through other universities, looks the same and is a work product of Consortium
- Tier 2 (next year): develop a microcredential for interdisciplinary collaboration, goes deeper
- Tier 3 (following year): discipline/program specific, members of the consortium will work together in the same disciplines
- Universities can decide which parts they need/don't need
- ACTION ITEM: Will elicit interest in working on Tier 1 second and third badges
  - Dana, Corey, Minelva, and Audrey may be interested

- **Activity 3.2: Develop an interactive Speakers' Bureau to incorporate early interventionist perspectives and voices in coursework**
  - Identify people to talk about their disciplines in classes, don't have a mechanism yet for people to add their names if interested
  - On hold until Seth gets Faculty Map completed

- **Goal Four: Promote and share the unique strengths of the EI/Preservice Consortium, including professional knowledge,**

experience, and interprofessional collaboration (Check each activity for members)

- **Activity 4.1: Share Consortium interprofessional collaboration via interprofessional presentations, symposia, and consultations statewide, nationally, and internationally**
    - DEC Conference *Christan*
        - Small group headed to Omaha, Cori will lead the session and will reach out to folks who plan to go, let Christan/Cori know if your plans have changed, group will meet 9/28/26 to plan presentation, register for the conference if you are attending and haven't yet
        - DEC 2027 will be in Virginia Beach-good time to get larger Consortium group together
    - VA APTA Fall Conference Summit *Sonia*
        - 2 presentations: AI in EI, shaping the future of EI about the Consortium's work, conference at Marymount University
    - Others?
- **Activity 4.2: Leadership/Interprofessional journal article**
    - 8 Consortium members submitted to the Journal of Interprofessional Practice and Education (7/31), under review and haven't heard an update yet after emailing the Editor
- **To Do for Next Meeting:**
    - Change December meeting as it falls during winter holidays
    - Activity 1.1-field placement materials and resources still needs non-ECSE member
    - No volunteers for LSM Collaborative meeting. Do we cancel? Tell them no volunteers?
    - Need notetaker volunteers for Nov. meeting

Next Meeting: 10/19/26

Notetaker: Corey