

## **CORE Quarterly Meeting Minutes July 25, 2014**

### **Guest speaker: John Tschida, Director for NIDRR**

The conference call began with the guest speaker. Below is a brief summary of his talk:

John Tschida (rhymes with cheetah), Director for NIDRR (National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research) was the invited speaker. John began by pointing out that as a result of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA), NIDRR has moved from OSERS in the Department of Education to the Department of Health and Human Services and been renamed the National Institute of Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). John indicated that this will not change the fundamental mission of the Institute. As a result of this change they are now involved in long-range planning for NIDILRR. NIDILRR is planning to focus on the areas of community living, employment, and health & functioning. They are seeking a balance in disability populations under these focus areas. John noted that the Institute has provided strong investments in their mission over the past three years and that they hope to continue this trend, but he did point out that they are operating in a time of fiscal austerity. The Institute will continue to collaborate with the Administration for Community Living (ACL), also within the Department of Health and Human Services.

From a research perspective they are going to move to a field directed competition that they will fund. With this they hope to bring new ideas and new researchers into NIDILRR. They also seek to increase the rigor of research funded and to improve the peer review process. John discussed the 3 R's that will be the focus of research: rigor, relevance, and responsiveness. Rigor is research quality. Relevance is that the research is responsive to current issues and political contexts. Relevance also focuses on knowledge and technology transfer. Responsiveness is the engagement of all relevant constituencies in the research process. He is working on the establishing a strong culture of research in the organization.

John took some questions and asked some questions of the participants.

We thank John for his willingness to meet with CORE and to discuss the priorities for NIDILRR.

For more information on the WIOA see the summary by AUCD:

[http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news\\_id=10316&parent=574&parent\\_title=Employment&url=/template/page.cfm?id%3D574](http://www.aucd.org/template/news.cfm?news_id=10316&parent=574&parent_title=Employment&url=/template/page.cfm?id%3D574)

### **CORE Updates**

1. Mark Innocenti will be conducting the 3<sup>rd</sup> webinar on Telling Your Story. This has been scheduled for September 23 at 3:00 EST. More information will be coming on this activity.
2. Kylie Hutchinson is confirmed for the annual conference: When an Executive Summary is Not Enough: Effective Reporting for Evaluators workshop: Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-11:30am EST. We need about 60 people to break even so please register and attend.

For more information:

[http://www.aucd.org/conference/detail/session\\_event.cfm?session\\_event\\_id=609&showday=1](http://www.aucd.org/conference/detail/session_event.cfm?session_event_id=609&showday=1)

3. CORE Council Meeting at annual conference: scheduled for Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:30-3:00pm