



**Meeting of the Board of Directors  
March 26, 2014**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Quality Forum (NQF) was held on March 26, 2014, at NQF's offices.

**Participants**

**Board Members Attending:** Helen Darling (Chair); Lawrence Becker (Treasurer); Peter Briss (CDC Designee); Christine Cassel (President & CEO); Jim Chase; Maureen Corry; Carol Cronin; Leonardo Cuello; Joyce Dubow; Bob Galvin; Marge Ginsburg; Kate Goodrich (CMS Designee); Deborah Parham Hopson (HRSA Designee); Ardis Hoven; Karen Ignagni; Don Kemper; Bill Kramer; Harold Miller; Dolores Mitchell; Elizabeth Mitchell (by phone); Mary Naylor; Debra Ness; Marc Overhage; Louise Probst; David Shahian; Bruce Siegel; Rich Umbdenstock (Vice Chair); Nancy Wilson (AHRQ Designee)

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Board Members Attending:** Frank Opelka (CSAC Chair); Paul Tang (HITAC Chair)

**Board Members Not Attending:** Jack Cochran; Elizabeth Fowler; Bill Roper; John Tooker

**NQF Staff:** Karen Adams; Helen Burstin; Neal Comstock; Ann Greiner; Ann Hammersmith (General Counsel and Corporation Secretary); Brendan Mullen; Nicole Silverman; Kyle Vickers

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board met in executive session at 8:30 a.m., EST.

**ACTION:** The Board approved the minutes from February 26, 2014 Executive Session of the Board.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board met in closed session and heard the Finance and Audit Committee report; discussed an approach to revise and update NQF's Bylaws; and discussed the Measure Incubator project. The Board took the following actions:

**ACTION:** Ratified the Executive Committee's appointment of Jack Cochran and Ardis Hove to NQF's Compensation Committee.

**ACTION:** Approved the Membership Strategic Plan.

**ACTION:** Approved the Sponsorship Policy.

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Board began its open session at 11:53 a.m.

### **Welcome and Approval of Minutes**

Helen Darling, Chair, welcomed new Board members Louise Probst and Debra Parham Hopson. Ms. Darling also reported the actions taken by the Board during its closed session.

**ACTION:** The Board approved the minutes of the December 6, 2013 Board meeting.

### **Oral Disclosures of Interest**

Ann Hammersmith, General Counsel and Corporation Secretary, explained the disclosure of interest process to the Board. Board members orally disclosed interests they believed relevant to their service on NQF's Board.

### **Sponsorship Policy Discussion**

NQF's new Sponsorship Policy was approved by the Board in its closed session and would appear on NQF's website by the end of March 2014. Dr. Cassel stated that the policy clarifies when NQF will accept support and that only philanthropic or government support will be accepted in connection with NQF's endorsement process.

### **Incubator Proposal Discussion**

Dr. Cassel summarized NQF's work on developing a Measure Incubator. Dr. Cassel noted that we live in a world of many measures, but measure development is difficult for organizations that do not have the expertise, data sources, and financial resources to develop measures. The goal of the Measure Incubator is to facilitate the development of measures by bringing together people with ideas and people with resources to bring the ideas to fruition.

### **Public Affairs Update**

Ann Greiner, Vice President for Public Affairs, updated the Board on NQF's activities on Capitol Hill. Ms. Greiner noted that NQF is included in the comprehensive SGR legislation and is comfortable with the level of support for NQF. Ms. Greiner also pointed out that NQF has provided a great deal of technical

assistance and input to the Hill as they develop policies related to physician payment reform and post-acute reform, among other things.

Ms. Greiner reported that NQF was on the Hill following the release of draft report on socio-economic status and whether performance measures should be adjusted based on those factors. NQF did this because Hill staff is working on policies that may be affected by this work.

Ms. Greiner introduced Patty Green, Senior Director for Communications, who is spearheading the redesign of NQF's website. The website is now focused on results rather than process and the home page is designed to give more visibility to the Board, Dr. Cassel, and some of the senior staff. Ms. Greiner also noted that NQF has an opportunity to highlight its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the new homepage.

Ms. Green then led the Board through the changes to NQF's homepage, plans for further innovation, and plans for NQF's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Kyle Vickers, Chief Information Officer, demonstrated improved navigation and presentation of information for the website.

#### **Briefing on Inclusion of Socioeconomic Status in Risk Adjustment for Outcome and Resource Use Performance Measures**

Dr. Helen Burstin, Senior Vice President for Performance Measurement, briefed the Board on a draft report regarding inclusion of socioeconomic status in risk adjustment for outcome and resource use performance measures. Dr. Burstin introduced David Nerenz and Kevin Fiscella, co-chairs of the committee oversaw this effort. The Board discussed the draft report in detail.

#### **Briefing on the Population Health Framework Committee**

Karen Adams, Vice President, introduced the Board to the work of the Population Health Framework Committee. Dr. Bruce Siegel, Co-Chair of the Framework Committee, summarized the Committee's work. Dr. Siegel stated that a draft guide would go out for public comment at the beginning of April. The guide will support implementation of a population health framework.

There was no comment from the public regarding any items on the Board agenda.

The Board considered no other business and the meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann F. Hammersmith  
Corporation Secretary



**Meeting of the Board of Directors  
May 29, 2014**

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Quality Forum (NQF) was held by conference call on May 29, 2014.

**Participants**

**Board Members Attending:** Helen Darling (Chair); Lawrence Becker (Treasurer); Peter Briss (CDC Designee); Christine Cassel (President & CEO); Jim Chase; Jack Cochran; Maureen Corry; Leonardo Cuello; Elizabeth Fowler; Don Kemper; Bill Kramer; Harold Miller; Dolores Mitchell; Elizabeth Mitchell; Mary Naylor; Debra Ness; Louise Probst; Bill Roper; David Shahian; Bruce Siegel; John Tooker; Nancy Wilson (AHRQ Designee)

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Board Members Attending:** Frank Opelka (CSAC Chair)

**Board Members Not Attending:** Patrick Conway (CMS); Carol Cronin; Joyce Dubow; Bob Galvin; Marge Ginsburg; Deborah Parham Hopson (HRSA Designee); Ardis Hoven; Karen Ignagni; Marc Overhage; Rich Umbdenstock (Vice Chair);

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Board Members Not Attending:** Paul Tang (HITAC Chair)

**NQF Staff:** Karen Adams; Helen Burstin; Neal Comstock; Tim Gannon; Ann Greiner; Ann Hammersmith (General Counsel and Corporation Secretary); Brendan Mullen; Nicole Silverman; Kyle Vickers

**CSAC Slate**

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board approved the following slate to fill vacancies on the CSAC: Cristie Upshaw Travis; Lee Fleisher; David Kelley; Carolyn Pare; Lee Partridge; and Philip Mehler. All are reappointments with the exception of David Kelley.

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board appointed Cristie Upshaw Travis as CSAC Chair and Lee Fleisher as CSAC Vice Chair.

**Addition to the Nominating Committee**

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board approved Louise Probst to fill a vacant Board seat on the Nominating Committee.

**2013 Audit**

**ACTION TAKEN:** The Board approved NQF's 2013 audit and met with the auditors in executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann F. Hammersmith  
Corporation Secretary