Minutes for 01/13/23 Virtual Collaborative Collision

MEETING DETAILS:

The ISL Collaborative Collision meeting was held virtually via Zoom, it was scheduled for Friday, January 13th, 2023, to begin at 11:00am and was allotted 1.5 hours for meeting time. The meeting started on time and ended early at 11:50am.

ATTENDEES:

Neil Charness

Bill Edmonds

Victoria Simon

Zilong Xie

Joe Watso

Bob Hickner

Antonio Terracciano

Mia-Newlin Bradner

Yasmeen Hamza

OPENING AND MEETING OVERVIEW

* Neil Charness opened the meeting with a brief self-introduction and the meeting purpose: to form interdisciplinary teams of at least two people with similar research interests to come up with ideas to apply for a Planning Grant of $25,000. The goal is to provide a rich opportunity to collect data and form teams who are competing for the larger federally-funded grants and supporting the mission here at ISL which can be found on our website homepage.

INTRODUCTIONS

* Each attendee came on and gave a brief introduction and an overview of what kind of collaboration they would be interested in finding:
  + Zilong Xie- from the school of communicative science and disorders; his work focuses mainly on aging and how it impacts our ability to understand speech. His work takes a close look at how the brain interprets sounds and how it will be impacted by aging. He is looking for different methods to look at how the brain processes sounds as well as ways to train cognitive function or other assistive technology that can help people engage in conversations. Neil Charness noted that Caterina Gratton’s work might be of interest to him.
  + Mia Newlin-Bradner- from the college of nursing. Her research interests are in lifestyle medicine and behavioral interventions with people of various populations. She has a background in cardiac nursing and works with those types of patients which by proxy are in the geriatric population. She also has an exercise physiology background, so being able to incorporate nutrition and behavior change also interest her. She would be interested in collaborating with someone who would help create a more comprehensive and educational behavioral intervention type program to help impact aging population.
  + Joe Watso- dept of nutrition and integrative physiology in the college of health and human science. Interested in cardio health across the lifespan and within different populations: adults with hypertension, focusing on blood pressure regulation. Trying to build upon different interventions, has a study with adults with obesity, respiratory muscle training but also open to other interventions and psychological aspects.
  + Bob Hickman- dept of Nutrition and Integrative Physiology in the college of Health and Human science is interested in cardiac metabolic disease risk and mitigation through exercise training and nutritional interventions. Current ongoing study is post-menopausal women and the affects of exercise training on them. More of a metabolic slant. Also, direct cardio studies, one being muscle blood flow regulation by nitrous oxide and the effects of exercise training in obese individuals.
  + Yasmeen Hamza– Assistant professor at the School of Communication, Science and Disorders. She is an MD by training and her clinical experience would kick in here. Works with auditory processing and cognition; hearing loss is number one modifiable risk factor for dementia. Hearing loss in aging population is so high researchers might want to control for it as a covariate. She would do the hearing screenings. She is hoping to develop a biomarker for cognition, so if you want to measure outcome of an intervention, she might be able to help. MCI or borderline dementia are populations where this type of biomarker would provide neural response information.
  + Antonio-Terracciano Department of Geriatrics in the College of Medicine. His research is related to dementia and how psychological traits are a risk factor. He wants to look at change in psychological traits especially personality with dementia. Does very little intervention research but would like to do more.

FURTHER DISCUSSIONS

* We usually break out into smaller groups but since there wasn’t a huge group we could keep the discussion to one group, team to discuss ideas and whether they have thoughts on any interdisciplinary pilot projects.
* Bob came on to say that with Mia, he was wondering about pre-habilitation and if she has any interest in that? His team has a lot of undergrads looking for research to help with in addition to plenty of expertise in nutrition and exercise. He would be there more as support; however, he would be happy to have people integrate into his menopausal study to take advantage of the 100 post-menopausal women coming in. Mia asked how they were doing the recruitment process for his intervention study. It has been difficult for her to get participants for clinical studies. He answered that yes this is an area of difficulty, sending out efforts via the press, taking the traditional root as well as social media. They agreed this is a challenge for all!
* Neil reminded team of the ISL registry of 2600 seniors aged 60+ available to use for all ISL Affiliates with IRB clearance. It is not categorized yet but we might try for an infrastructure grant to not only beef up but characterize the registry.
* Neil also noted that there is a faculty affiliates page on the ISL website where you can find all your affiliates and their fields of study listed; you might be able to find someone you can team up with that way. Victoria sent the link into the chat.
* Long came on to discuss writing papers of interest to him, how respiration can relate to brain oscillation and how it may affect the sensory processing of sounds and other things. How does the body process sound in terms of respiration and how it can associate with the brain? Have client do task, interested in multi-tasking, driving while listening to the radio. How does the body and brain interact during this process? Neil noted we have a driving simulator here on campus. John Sobanjo is running a simulator and has done behavioral studies so he could be a potential person to team up with.
* Bob asked Antonio if he had any interest in their study of exercise training in older women? He replied that he is interested but that they don’t do too much intervention research but. Bob said that they could add in a simple test or questionnaire to relate it to Antonio’s work. They will exchange emails.
* Bob pointed out something he saw to Yasmeen. He saw that tinnitus is affecting cognition in the hearing impaired which was of interest to him. She said she is looking more into the aiding at this point in time. She would be able to help with measurements and questionnaires as it pertains to the tinnitus study, and this is where she could also work with Antonio the personality traits. She has some intervention studies lined up but that is at a later stage.
* Bob asked if you receive the planning grant if you could still apply for the CRC. Neil answered he is not sure. He said to check with them and the wording of the individual grant mechanism.
* Neil noted that federal funding does not let you to take that assistance and use it to pilot for a new idea or proposal. If your idea is unrelated to your current funded project, it can get funded by either ISL or CRC. For example, Brad Schmidt who had federal funding but had an idea for research based on aging, which he in turn got an NIH grant for that research. This is only true if the idea is sufficiently different from one in which you are already receiving funding on.
* Neil thanked all for joining and asked again to please reach out to other affiliates to team up or get with Victoria to schedule a meeting with another affiliate.