MeTRIC Membership Agreement

Student Version

1 Objective of MeTRIC
The consortium hinges on a multidisciplinary, multi-level scientific framework to intervene with factors that contribute to DC’s health disparities. Simply put, MeTRIC is a group of researchers from local institutions working collaboratively to target tobacco control issues within the DC metro area with a specific focus on underserved populations affected disproportionately by tobacco. MeTRIC has a unique opportunity to conduct research that will have real-life impact on the health and well-being of metro Washington DC residents and their communities. The objective of this Agreement of Membership is to foster commitment, collaboration, and synergy among scientists, practitioners, community members, and learners of all types so that MeTRIC achieves the highest possible impact on tobacco control in DC, and beyond.

2 Principles
Central to the rationale for MeTRIC is that racial and ethnic minorities generally, and in the DC metro area specifically, have been under involved and underrepresented in tobacco control research, reducing the overall translation of research into meaningful policy and practice that could improve health. Contributing to this deficit is an insufficient cadre of researchers intensively and systematically focused on tobacco control research at the community level. Consistent with the recommendations of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO),1 MeTRIC aims to address tobacco use from a social justice perspective, using principles associated with health equity to target the root causes of tobacco use, integrating interventions into communities so that tobacco control efforts are sustained, and encouraging community input across all research phases.

3 Agreement
Upon signing this Agreement, I agree to:

● Have an active voice in MeTRIC implementation through participating in MeTRIC meetings, engaging in list-serv discussions, and other interactive opportunities presented through the consortium.

● Attend at least 4 MeTRIC meetings per year.

● Not accept research funding from the tobacco industry for professional or educational purposes, or personal gain.

● Communicate or distribute relevant opportunities to the members (e.g., funding resources, conferences, publication opportunities, etc.).

● Be a ‘connector’ of people, places, and resources for other members.

● Engage with MeTRIC members in the development and conduct of tobacco control

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research and research proposals consistent with the MeTRIC mission when possible or appropriate.

- Assist MeTRIC leadership and other partners in fostering partnerships with medical, public health, and community partners in the DC metro area. Serve as an advocate of community engagement in MeTRIC.

4 Benefits
Membership in MeTRIC is a function of this Agreement. As a student member, I understand that the benefits listed below may enhance the quantity, excellence, and impact of my educational experience:

- Taking part in MeTRIC’s initiatives to train the next generation of tobacco control researchers—this may involve special seminars, being engaged in applied research experiences, or being mentored.

- Interacting with and being a part of a multidisciplinary team of tobacco control scientists, most of whom are well known locally, nationally, and globally.

- Having opportunities to be trained, mentored, and engaged by researchers from multiple disciplines and institutions in research.

- Having access to resources (e.g., listservs, funding alerts, and current information) that keep me connected with tobacco control researchers with common interests in the DC Metro area.

- Being affiliated with MeTRIC, an officially chartered entity, may be viewed favorably in grant proposals and other professional/scholarly pursuits.

- Having access to facilities across member organizations that may not otherwise be available or easily accessible to host meetings and educational endeavors. In some cases, laboratory or other types of facilities or equipment and software may be available.

- Having opportunities for receiving mentoring and/or other professional reviews or feedback (e.g., on grant proposals or other educational products) from other MeTRIC members.

- Having opportunity to compete for special sources of funding for dissertation or individual research which may not be otherwise available to students or individual researchers outside MeTRIC.

- Trusting relationships and connections with DC-based agencies, other universities, and community members.
5 Duration of the Agreement
This Agreement will be reviewed annually by the directors, and will continue unless otherwise notified.

Either party may cancel this Agreement by giving the other party not less than one month written notice. This Agreement shall lapse if both parties indicate an intention to discontinue membership.

Signed:      Dated:
Member Name    Title/Institution/Agency

Signed:      Dated:
MeTRIC Director, Kimberly Horn, EdD, George Washington University,
Milken Institute School of Public Health

CC: Kenneth Tercyak, PhD, Co-Director, Georgetown University; Ray Niaura, Co-Director, Schroeder Institute; Lorien Abroms, Co-Director, George Washington University