Approach of NORA 2

- Develop industry sector-specific research agendas to help bring research to practice in the workplace

Adapted from Dr. Bernie Kuchinski’s Presentation to the NIOSH-sponsored Educational Research Center's Occupational Health Nurse Directors at the AAOHN’s Symposium & Expo, Marriott Hotel, Minneapolis, Minnesota, May 2, 2005

Dr. Marilyn Fingerhut provided her overview of the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) to faculty and students of the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety in May of 2004. One year later NIOSH was promoting a new agenda for NORA-2, specifically a research agenda that was organized by industry sector. Dr. Bernie Kuchinski, the NIOSH project officer for the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety training grant, was in Minneapolis in May 2005 to talk with occupational health nursing faculty from across the country. In her presentation she discussed some of the specifics of NORA-2 as detailed in these additional slides.
Why a sector-specific approach?

- Employers and workers are organized by sector and can be more extensively and cohesively engaged by sector groupings.

- Many research needs and priorities differ by sector.

- Facilitates partnering between stakeholders such as employers, labor, OSHA and occupational health and safety professionals for:
  - Conducting research
  - Changing practice in the workplace
  - Evaluating outcomes of occupational health & safety policies and programs
  - Advocating for change

- Efficient approach to eliminate worst Occupational Safety & Health problems.

Dr. Kuchinski reported that there is broad consensus among the current NIOSH administration that the most efficient way to eliminate occupational health and safety hazards was by using an industry-specific approach since employers needs differ by their exposures. Additionally, it is easier to engage employers and workers in collective problem solving when they are organized by industry.
The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) has replaced the U.S. Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system. NAICS is designed to reshape the way we view our changing economy (www.census.gov/epcd/www/naics.html). NAICS was developed jointly by the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to provide new comparability in statistics about business activity across North America. NOISH will apply the NAICS codes to establish industry sector groupings.
What is a sector approach?

What does it mean to have a sector approach to NORA? In general it means that there will be a research agenda established for each of the 8 sector groups. In addition, one group will cut across sectors to examine broad topics, such as injuries, hearing loss, or musculoskeletal disorders that span multiple sectors.
NIOSH will be establishing a cross-cutting research council to assist NIOSH personnel in connecting with external partners such as academics, health agencies, employers and unions and in establishing timely and needed research opportunities. To keep abreast of changes in NORA be sure to log onto the NORA home page http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/NORA/.