

2018 ASAHP AWARD RECIPIENTS

The October 1, 2018 issue of the ASAHP UPDATE listed the names of recipients of awards to be presented at a dinner at the 2018 Annual Conference on October 10. Occasionally, as in past conferences, the name of one recipient of a highly prestigious honor is withheld until the event itself occurs as a means of making the presentation a total surprise.

That evening, ASAHP Past President and current Treasurer **Gregory Frazer** (Dean, University of South Alabama) was chosen for the *President's Award* for his many highly valuable services that include: serving as the Association's chief financial officer, performing site selection duties for upcoming annual conferences, being the liaison from the Board of Directors to the *Journal of Allied Health* Editorial Board, and managing the selection and transition of the annual *Institutional Profile Survey* to be under the direction of a new vendor.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY

During the Business and Town Hall Meeting on October 10, ASAHP President **Susan Hanrahan** furnished information about the upcoming survey that will be conducted. The study initially was developed at the University of Mississippi Medical Center under the direction of ASAHP Past President and Dean **Thomas Freeland**. Over the decades, management shifted to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (Dean **Ronald Winters**) and Creighton University (Dean **Christopher Bradberry**).

Along with the change to a new vendor for the upcoming investigation, some exciting refinements will occur in the kinds of information gathered. A centerpiece in the past was essential data on salaries of faculty and staff. The new version will include focuses on interprofessional activities, clinical instruction, and trends in student enrollment by profession. A key element will be the assignment of an individual at each school to oversee coordination of the data collection process. Deans and directors should begin thinking today about whom to select.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NOTES

The ancient Greek historian Herodotus (484-430 BCE) informs readers in Volume 4 of *The Persian Wars*, Book 8, Paragraph 8 that neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night could stay mounted postal couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds. Not quite as dramatically, but somewhat similarly, despite the threats posed by Hurricane Michael, an intrepid band of more than 200 conference goers made their way to St. Petersburg, FL for last week's ASAHP Annual Conference.

They were not disappointed for having done so. The event featured outstanding presentations in plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, and a poster session. Other components of the program lent themselves to significant opportunities for networking, collegiality, and information sharing.

A tremendous amount of emphasis is placed today on making it possible for members of minority and underserved groups to enroll in health science education programs at ASAHP member institutions and in figuring out to retain them to the point that they are successful in ultimately graduating.

Timothy Renick, Vice President for Enrollment Services and Student Success, and Vice Provost at Georgia State University, made a presentation at a plenary session on October 11 on "Eliminating Equity Gaps Through Data and Analytics." He explained the kinds of steps being implemented at his institution that are achieving monumental results. Slides that he used, along with slides displayed in other plenary session presentations can be obtained from the ASAHP website at <https://asahp.squarespace.com/conferences>.

Originally, **Brandon Busteded**, Senior Partner and Global Head of Public Sector Gallup, Inc. was scheduled to provide a Plenary Session address on October 10. Instead, **Stephanie Marken** from that firm presented a new version for higher education in the context of a merger of employment and education. Her slides also can be obtained at that site.

CORRIGENDUM

The October 1, 2018 issue of the *ASAHP UPDATE* contained a list of members of the Nominations and Election Committee who prepared the slate for the Association's 2018 election. The name of the following individual should have been included:

Andrew Butler (Georgia State University)

CONFERENCE POSTER SESSION WINNER

The winning poster for the session on the evening of October 11 at the Annual Conference was on the topic of "Concussion History of Campers & Staff at Philmont Scout Ranch." It was developed by **Jeff Radel, Will Retz, Tanya Filardi, and David Naylor** of the Kansas University Medical Center.

HEALTH, UNITED STATES, 2017

Health, United States, 2017 is the 41st report on the health status of the nation. It was submitted by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to the President and the Congress of the United States in compliance with Section 308 of the Public Health Service Act. This document was compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). The *Health, United States* series presents an annual overview of national trends in health statistics. The report contains a Chartbook that presents trends and current information on selected measures of morbidity, mortality, health care utilization and access, health risk factors, prevention, health insurance, and personal health care expenditures. The Chartbook includes a Special Feature section, which examines a topic of public health interest and policy relevance. The complete document and related data products can be obtained at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/abus/abus17.pdf>.

AMAZON.COM

Given that health care rapidly is approaching 20 percent of GDP of the largest economy in the world, it is not too surprising that U.S. industry giants in other fields have elected to exert their influence in the health care domain. Amazon.com is a recent example of a new entry in this regard. Along with the opinions that readers of the *ASAHP UPDATE* already may have formed about Amazon's latest venture, there may be interest in learning about the opinions of some other observers. Their views can be obtained at https://www.lek.com/sites/default/files/insights/pdf-attachments/2021-Amazon-Healthcare_R1.pdf.

STATE HIGHER ED SUPPORT

In the decade since the Great Recession occurred, state spending on public colleges and universities remains well below historical levels. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, overall state funding for public two- and four-year colleges in the school year ending in 2018 was more than \$7 billion below its 2008 level, after adjusting for inflation. Colleges have responded to declining state support by increasing tuition, reducing faculty, limiting course offerings, and in some extreme cases closing campuses.

Funding has rebounded slightly since then, but costs remain high and services in some places have not returned. The vast majority of states are spending less on higher education than they were a decade ago. Per-student funding in Alabama, Arizona, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and South Carolina has plummeted by more than 30 percent since 2008. Arizona leads the group, spending nearly 56 percent less per student than it did a decade ago.

Only four states are spending more now than in 2008: California, Hawaii, North Dakota, and Wyoming. The average state spent \$1,502, or 16 percent, less per student in 2018 than in 2008, according to the report. The result is that tuition at four-year public colleges has far outpaced income. Annual published tuition at four-year public colleges has risen by a 36 percent increase (\$2,651) since the 2008 school year. In Louisiana, published tuition at four-year schools has doubled, while in the states of Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia and Hawaii published tuition is more than 60 percent higher.

The report can be obtained at <https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/10-4-18sfp.pdf>.

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS FORUM

The *National Academies' Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education* on January 11, 2019 in Irvine, California will focus on past work on stress, burnout, and well-being of health professionals; and look ahead to 2019 when the forum will explore the role of education and the health professions in addressing social determinants of mental health and mental health disparities. Additional information about this event and the opportunity to register are at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dissemination-and-information-gathering-event-on-provider-wellbeing-and-the-social-determinants-tickets-50529829079>.