

TRENDS

Association of
Schools of
Allied Health
Professions

ASAHP ELECTION RESULTS 2003 ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 2003

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The ballots have been counted for the Association's 2003 election and the following persons will take office upon completion of the upcoming Annual Conference on October 25:

President-Elect: **Cheryl T. Samuels** (College of Health Sciences, Old Dominion University)

Secretary: **Randall S. Lambrecht** (College of Health Sciences, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee)

Board of Directors: **Gregory H. Frazer** (John G. Rangos, Sr. School of Health Sciences, Duquesne University) and **Gary S. Neiman** (College of Health & Human Services, Ohio University)

Nominations & Election Committee: **Dolores G. Clement** (School of Allied Health Professions, Virginia Commonwealth University), **Edward "Ted" Kelley** (School of Health Related Professions, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey), and **Halcyon St. Hill** (College of Health Professions, Florida Gulf Coast University).



VANGUARD OF
ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION

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Cheryl Samuels



Randall Lambrecht



Gregory Frazer



Gary Neiman

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

By David D. Gale, ASAHP President



A principal function of this organization and one of the most visible services that we offer the ASAHP membership is to provide opportunities to meet one another at the Annual Conference and the Winter Meeting in addition to one or more special events of a similar nature that are arranged each year. Until recently, certain features of these gatherings were a given. We would find a suitable hotel, preferably in an attractive city, outside speakers would make presentations, and opportunities would be provided to learn about new developments in health care and higher education as well as be able to experience a considerable amount of informal interaction with one another.

Now, a new dynamic has entered the picture. The world beyond us has begun to intrude in unforeseen and unpleasant ways. Whereas in the past, another given was that we could count on a stable number of participants at such functions, in recent years we witnessed a steady increase in the number of attendees, especially at the Winter Meeting. Which by the way, that event recently was renamed by the Board of the Directors. From now on, it will be called the *Spring Meeting*.

The tragic occurrences of September 11, 2001 had a huge impact on the Annual Event that occurred in Norfolk, VA less than one month later. Some organizations cancelled their meetings, but we decided to go ahead. A fear of being aboard an airplane resulted in a much lower attendance, when originally we knew that we would have a significantly higher number of individuals participate.

Last February's meeting in Washington, DC was preceded by a weather forecast that predicted snow and the placing of the nation on Orange Alert by the Department of Homeland Security. Certainly, these two factors contributed to a turnout of 55 persons compared to the 130 who attended the meeting in February 2002.

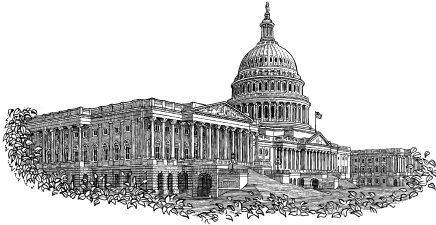
Matters were proceeding nicely with the planning for the upcoming Annual Conference in Toronto, but then something known as SARS began to exert its effect. Many members advised us to cancel having the conference at that site, but in mid-June the Board decided to honor the contract we had established with the Hilton Toronto and to heed requests from our colleagues in that country that we not abandon them.

So, it could be a diseased bird in China that infects a human with a transmissible disease, bad weather, a terrorist threat, or who knows what else which must be taken into consideration in our future planning efforts. Rather than be too dismayed or disheartened by these developments, I prefer to reflect on a theme that is consistent throughout the many great works by the Nobel Prize winning novelist William Faulkner: "We will endure and we will prevail."

COLLEGES IN THE NEWS

Rush University of Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center underwent a name change recently. The new name is Rush University Medical Center. ASAHP Past President **John E. Trufant** is the Dean of the College of Health Sciences at the medical center.

HEALTH APPROPRIATIONS AT A USUAL STANDSTILL



to avoid a government shut-down.

The government's fiscal year ends on September 30, but none of the 13 appropriations bills had been signed into law, including the provision of funds for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education & Related Agencies (the so-called Labor-HHS bill). A stop-gap measure good until the end of October (H J Res 69) was passed on September 25 by both chambers and must be signed by President Bush

A similar situation occurred last year when Congress was unable to complete an appropriations bill for health programs according to a schedule agreed upon earlier. What may happen next is that legislators will do what they have done so often in the past, i.e., combine several of the bills into an omnibus bill, assuming that they cannot reach agreement on individual bills. Instead of passing each bill in a timely manner last year before September 30, they ended up producing an 11-bill omnibus that was enacted in late February of this year.

The Senate FY 2004 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education & Related Agencies appropriations bill was passed on the evening of September 10 by a 94-0 vote. One feature was inclusion of an amendment on a voice vote to add \$50 million to the Title VIII nursing programs. Meanwhile, the Senate-passed provision decreases Title VII funding by 93 percent. The House-passed FY 2004 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill would provide \$278.4 million for the various Title VII programs, including the *Section 755 Allied Health & Other Disciplines* category, a 9.7 percent cut below last year. Any decreases are viewed as having the potential to hamper the ability of these programs to train health professionals to care for the neediest populations in the United States.



FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR OF DOUBLE-DIGIT HEALTH CARE COST INCREASES PROJECTED IN 2004

Employers are facing yet another grim year of double-digit increases in health care costs and their employees are facing the harsh prospect of paying even higher out-of-pocket costs, according to Towers Perrin, a global human resource consulting and administration firm. Based on an analysis of early responses to *Towers Perrin's 2004 Health Care Cost Survey*, while the size of the cost increase in 2004 is expected to be lower than it was in 2003 (12% versus 16%), the cumulative effect of five years of double-digit increases will have a dramatic toll on employers.

The survey found that the average reported 2004 cost of medical coverage for all types of health plans combined is \$314 per month (\$3,768 on an annual basis) for employee-only coverage; \$627 per month (\$7,524 annually) for employee-plus-one dependent coverage and \$888 per month (\$10,656 annually) for family coverage. The percentage increase for employer-sponsored medical plans is higher for retirees than for active employees -- a trend that has persisted since 1999, which is of particular concern to employers who have large post-retirement medical obligations.

ALLIED HEALTH GRANTS

The September 4, 2003 issue of the Federal Register contains a listing of various grants, including the *Section 755 Allied Health Grants Program* under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act, from the Health Resources and Services Administration. The Application Availability Date for Section 755 is September 29, 2003 and the deadline for submitting applications is **January 13, 2004**. The Projected Award Date is July 1, 2004.

This program and several other programs are not included in the President's budget for FY 2004. Potential applicants for funds should consider the announcement provisional until final Congressional action on appropriations is taken. Updated information on Congressional action on appropriations will be reported in future issues of the *ASAHP UPDATE*.

REHABILITATION RESEARCH GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), published a notice in the September 25 issue of the Federal Register inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004 under the Field-Initiated (FI) Projects and Advanced Rehabilitation Research Training (ARRT) Projects of NIDRR's Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project and Centers Program. The information is located on pages 55377-55380 and may be accessed by clicking <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/pdf/03-24299.pdf>.

PEW SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Pew Scholars Program in the Biomedical Sciences is designed to support young investigators of outstanding promise in the basic and clinical sciences relevant to the advancement of human health. The funding of the awards is provided by The Pew Charitable Trusts. The award is intended to provide assured support, during their earlier years, for junior members of the faculty as they establish their laboratories.

For the 20th series of awards, to be made in 2004, one nomination will be invited from the presidents of each of a limited number of institutions selected on the basis of the scope of their work in biomedical research and which will have been recommended to The Pew Trusts by the National Advisory Committee of the Program. A list of institutions may be obtained by clicking <http://www.futurehealth.ucsf.edu/biomed/institutions.html>.

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The *Community Health Scholars Program (CHSP)* is a post-doctoral fellowship opportunity designed to meet the growing needs of schools of public health and other health professions for faculty with community competency. It enables scholars to develop and enhance skills in working with communities and engaging in participatory community-based research at institutions where these skills are present. For more information, click <http://www.sph.umich.edu/chsp/index.shtml>.

COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is making available a Fellowship Program in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Research. Applicants must possess an M.D., D.O., Ph.D., D.C., D.M.D., N.D., D.V.M., or other equivalent degree, and have a record of excellence and promise in clinical and/or laboratory-based research - preferably related to CAM. The fellowship includes full salary, benefits, professional travel, and research support for 2-3 years. The deadline for receipt of applications is **November 24, 2003**.

For more information, contact: Christopher Baron in the Office of Human Resources-NIH at the following e-mail address: Baronch@mail.nih.gov

PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE GRANTS

The pending availability of appropriated fiscal year (FY) 2004 funds for a grant program for *Public Health Conference Support* was announced in the August 28 edition of the *Federal Register*. This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus areas of arthritis, osteoporosis and chronic back conditions, disability and secondary conditions, educational and community--

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2003 ASAHP Annual Conference on October 22-25 in Toronto, Canada will feature several excellent presentations in a series of concurrent sessions and in a poster session in addition to workshops involving both research and leadership development. The members of the planning committee responsible for making these fine arrangements are:

Edward “Ted” Kelley (University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey), *Chairperson*

Hugh Bonner (State University of New York Upstate University), *Board Liaison*

Dale Fish (University at Buffalo, the State University of New York)

Diane Herbst (British Columbia Institute of Technology)

Renate Krakauer (Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences, Toronto)

Randall Lambrecht (University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee)

Janet Pisaneschi (Western Michigan University)

Beverly Schmoll (Wayne State University)

Jerome Sullivan (The University of Toledo)



NEW MEMBER

The Association's newest Institutional Member is the College of Health and Human Services at Western Kentucky University. The Dean is **John A. Bonaguro**, a former Associate Dean and Acting Dean at the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance at Ithaca College. His Ph.D. is from the University of Oregon and he has both a masters and a baccalaureate degree from the University of Southern Illinois. He has served as Chairperson of ASAHP's Substance Abuse Task Force since 2001.

The College at WKU was established in August 2002 and is the newest one on campus. It consists of the departments of Dental Hygiene, Communication Disorders, Consumer and Family Sciences, Nursing, Physical Education and Recreation, Public Health, and Social Work. Associate, baccalaureate and masters degree level programs are offered, along with a collaborative doctorate in Rehabilitation Science with the University of Kentucky. The College also oversees the South-Central Kentucky Area Health Education Center, the Kentucky Emergency Medical Services Academy, and the Institute for Rural Health Development and Research.

ASAHP AWARD WINNERS SELECTED

Award presentations will be made to the following persons at the *Awards Luncheon* on October 24 during the ASAHP Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada:

Distinguished Service and Achievement Award

John R. Snyder (Dean and Director, Ohio State University at Lima)

Cultural Pluralism Award

James D. Blagg, Jr. (Dean, College of Health Professions at Northern Arizona University)

Legacy of Excellence Award

J. Warren Perry (ASAHP Past President)

Fellows Award

Julie Sullivan Maillet (Associate Dean, School of Health Related Professions at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey)

Shirley A. Richmond (Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences at Northern Illinois University)

Mark S. Sothmann (Dean, School of Allied Health Sciences at Indiana University)

Peggy Valentine (Associate Dean, Division of allied Health at Howard University)

The names of *Scholarship of Excellence Award* recipients also will be announced during the luncheon.



2004 ASAHP SPRING MEETING

Planning is underway for the 2004 ASAHP Spring Meeting that will be held in Washington, DC on March 18-20. A central thrust of the meeting will be government relations with a focus on securing passage of the proposed Allied Health Reinvestment Act.

In addition, discussions are underway with staff at CASE, the Council for Support and Advancement of Education, regarding an all-day workshop on fund development that also will be offered on either March 18 or March 19.

Readers are requested to mark **March 18-20, 2004** on personal calendars and plan on being in Washington, DC on those dates. Since 2004 is a major election year, the dynamics on Capitol Hill will change considerably as each political party maneuvers to enhance its attractiveness to the electorate. The Association will need a large cohort of its members to visit legislative offices to make sure that the message about the need for allied health legislation achieves optimal recognition.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

North Carolina Health Workforce Data

The Council for Allied Health in North Carolina, the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers (NC AHEC) Program, and the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill recently released, "Scanning the Radiologic Sciences Workforce in North Carolina." A copy of the report can be accessed from the World Wide Web at <http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/hp/>. The 2002 electronic edition of the North Carolina Health Professions Data System Annual Data also is available at that site.

Massage Therapists

During the 1990s, 18 percent of visits to complementary and alternative health care providers were to massage therapists. Consumers and traditional health providers increasingly view massage as a health-related practice, yet little is known about this portion of the workforce. A recent publication from the Center for the Health Professions at the University of California at San Francisco describes this practitioner group and identifies key policy challenges. It may be found on the Web at http://futurehealth.ucsf.edu/pdf_files/massage_therapists.pdf.

Useful Health Information

The August 2003 issue of *The NIH Word on Health* has been posted on the Web at <http://www.nih.gov/news/WordonHealth/>. Some of this information may be useful free of charge for incorporation in campus publications.

Allied Health Week

ASAHP is responsible for having National Allied Health Week listed in *2003 National Health Observances*, which is published by the National Health Information Center at the Department of Health and Human Services. The occasion marks the first time that this event has been listed. It may be viewed on the World Wide Web at <http://www.healthfinder.gov/library/nho/nhoyear.asp>

Once again, ASAHP has supplied financial support for the preparation of materials that can be used by individuals who wish to publicize Allied Health Week and arrange various activities in conjunction with it. This year, the week will be observed on **November 2-8**.

Members are requested to notify ASAHP staff of any endeavors undertaken to celebrate the event. This information will be conveyed in TRENDS. Photos are especially welcome.

Check the homepage at <http://www.asahp.org> regarding how to celebrate "Allied Health Week" this year.

