

TRENDS

Association of
Schools of
Allied Health
Professions

JOURNAL OF ALLIED HEALTH IN AN ELECTRONIC WORLD

HIGHLIGHTS

**JULY-AUGUST
2004**

President's Message	2
Legislation	3
Institutional Profile Survey	3
Allied Health Grants	4
Workforce Data	5
Allied Health Week	5
2004 Calendar	5
ACE Workshops	6
Committees/Task Forces	6
Available Resources	7
News From The Colleges	8



VANGUARD OF
ALLIED HEALTH EDUCATION

Trends is the official newsletter of the Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (Suite 500, 1730 M St. NW, Washington, D.C., 20036, 202-293-4848) Trends is published monthly and available as a service to Association members. Annual subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$55. For more information and/or subscriptions, contact the editor, Thomas W. Elwood, Dr.PH.

Early last year, an electronic version of the Association's *Journal of Allied Health* came into existence. Since then, each issue published beginning with Spring 2001 has been placed on the World Wide Web through a company based in Oxford, England by the name of Ingenta.

More than 260 publishers, including eight of the top 10 research-based publishers in the world work with Ingenta. Since its launch in May 1998, that company has developed and grown to become the leading Web infomediary empowering the exchange of academic and professional content online. Ingenta supplies access to more than 6,000 full-text online publications and more than 27,000 publications overall. The subscription base encompasses 14,000 academic, research, and corporate libraries and institutions, incorporating 25 million users worldwide.

The advantages for subscribers of having an electronic edition of ASAHP's journal are obvious. It becomes available earlier than the print version. Searching for articles in earlier issues is much easier and quicker. Instead of rummaging through the shelves examining older print copies, a click of a button on the computer can be used to retrieve such information. The Journal is accessible wherever there is a computer to log on. Items cited in the reference sections of articles can be retrieved online if they are in periodicals that are part of the Ingenta portfolio.

The advantages for ASAHP also are worth noting. Authors contributing articles obtain much wider exposure than they would from the printed edition alone. As of the end of July of this year, approximately 5,200 browsers around the world have examined the Table of Contents. More than 9,000 hits were made by individuals who wanted to view abstracts. Articles have been downloaded more than 1,300 times, with the greatest number originating from the University of Northumbria and Sheffield Hallam University in the United Kingdom. Another 4,000 attempts to download articles were unsuccessful because the persons attempting to do so are not paid subscribers.

An additional useful feature is that it is possible to determine which abstracts are being viewed and which articles are the most popular ones downloaded. Information of that nature could be useful in stimulating the production of more papers on a given topic or perhaps even a special issue. Increased worldwide exposure of the Journal also means that the intellectual scope will be broadened in the future as more articles are submitted from other countries.

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

By David D. Gale, ASAHP President



If you read page one of this issue of the newsletter, you can see why I am excited about what is transpiring with our Association's *Journal of Allied Health*. Apart from the fine leadership provided by our Editor, **Kevin J. Lyons** of Thomas Jefferson University, and the terrific articles that are submitted for each issue from contributors at our member institutions as well as from other locations, great strides are being made in attaining increased visibility for this publication. It continues to be the major periodical in the world for allied health as a whole and it will become even more prominent because of its electronic availability.

Elsewhere in the sphere of ASAHP activities, the July-August period may appear to be somewhat quiescent, but a lot of meaningful activity is taking place. The homepage on the Web now includes a section that goes by the name of *CampusAlliedHealth*. This new service was developed in partnership with *CampusAlliedHealth.com*, a firm based in the Greater Boston area, to offer scholarships and an online career center for students enrolled in allied health programs. Beginning in September of this year, scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 will be awarded every two months through this program. Applicants must register online. The career portion of the service includes a searchable database of job vacancies nationwide. As the database grows in coming months, it is expected that thousands of opportunities around the United States will be posted involving several different allied health professions.

You may recall that members of our Board of Directors met on June 25 in Bethesda, MD with representatives from the: Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education, Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education, Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology, and the Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology. Board Member **Gregory H. Frazer** of Duquesne University and ASAHP Accreditation Committee Chairperson **Christopher E. Bork** of the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo led a discussion on the topics of outcomes, cost, and redundancy. Some of us will meet with these same individuals on September 12 immediately prior to the annual meeting of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA) in Indianapolis in order to continue the dialogue.

On another front in an effort led by Board Member **Gary S. Neiman** of Ohio University, a group of ASAHP members and representatives from several professional organizations have met on two occasions to discuss topics such as recruitment of best students for doctoral programs, assurance of best research training, methods for influencing funding agencies, and development of a model for achieving such aims. The next step will be to submit a grant proposal to a federal agency to obtain funding for a conference to explore such matters in greater depth. In a related vein, led by Research Committee Chairperson **Mark S. Sothmann** of Indiana University, that group will conduct another workshop at the upcoming ASAHP Annual Conference. The offering is part of a series of excellent presentations made available in recent years.

The next Annual Conference promises to be exceptionally good. In addition to concurrent sessions where papers will be presented and a combined poster session/reception, this year's program features a dinner cruise that is being planned in conjunction with the National Network of Health Career Programs in Two-Year Colleges (NN2). I invite TRENDS readers to go to the ASAHP website to register for the conference.



LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY AT A CRAWL PACE

Little in the way of legislation is expected to move on Capitol Hill before the 2nd Session of the 108th Congress draws to a close. Election year lassitude does not bode well for the passage of an *Allied Health Reinvestment Act*. That reality makes it necessary to begin thinking about having a bill reintroduced in each chamber early next year when the 109th Congress begins.

The pace this year on Capitol Hill is similar to what occurs whenever a major election looms on the horizon. Both major political parties will continue to jockey for position right up until the final day of this Congressional session. The temptation is to do nothing. Members of one party occasionally try to lure the other party into voting for a controversial piece of legislation such as flag burning, gay marriage, or stem cell research. The opposing side then is tagged with the label obstructionist and accused of not being interested in the welfare of the citizenry.

A good example is provided by President Bush's decision to nominate Rep. Porter Goss (R-FL) to be the next director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Senate hearings must be conducted to confirm the appointment. The proverbial ball now is in the Democrat's court. If they decide to Bork him (a strange Washington-style verb that was created following the refusal to approve the nomination of Robert Bork to the Supreme Court), the Republicans will tout the rejection as proof that the Democrats are soft on doing something about terrorism. In addition, a contentious hearing draws Presidential candidate Senator John Kerry (D-MA) into the heart of the controversy. Many Republicans believe that would work to their advantage for a similar reason.

Still, there is no hiding the fact that appropriations legislation must be passed and enacted. The chances of completing a spending package on time for fiscal year 2005, which begins on October 1 of this year, for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education & Related Agencies does not look too promising. Hence, the usual bromides will be resorted to in the form of one or more Continuing Resolutions (CRs) that enable the government to continue functioning for stated periods of time at FY 2004 funding levels. In recent years, it has taken as long as five months after September 30 to complete spending legislation. The year 2004 is unlikely to prove an exception.

The next page of this newsletter lists member institutions that received funding under the *Section 755 Allied Health Grants Program*. Until an appropriations bill is enacted, it is not clear whether funds will be available to finance another cycle of awards next year.

INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY

Data collection for the 2004 ASAHP *Institutional Profile Survey* will begin on **September 13** and end on November 5. Deans and directors at member institutions must submit data in order to obtain access to the final report. This year, for the first time, there will be an optional component to the survey that, assuming there are enough participants, will yield a wealth of additional benchmarking data involving scholarship and research.

ALLIED HEALTH GRANTS AWARDED IN 2004

The Bureau of Health Professions (BHPr) in the U.S. Public Health Service recently funded 34 projects nationwide in fiscal year 2004 for a total of \$4.4 million under the *Section 755 Allied Health Grants Program*. The distribution consisted of 20 continuation grants and 14 new grants. Of the 46 applications that were sent to the Bureau, seven were returned for not meeting interdisciplinary requirements, which left a total of 39 applications that were reviewed.

A technical peer review panel was convened during the week of March 30, 2004 to evaluate the merits of each application. The group included representatives from various allied health disciplines, both from academia and private practice.

Of the 39 applications that were reviewed, 22 of them were recommended for approval and 17 were recommended for disapproval. Of those applications that were approved, the highest merit score was 101 and the lowest was 56, based on a numerical range of 100 (high) and 1 (low). It is possible to get a score of 105 if an application meets the "Funding Priority" worth 5 additional points. All disapproved applications automatically receive a score of zero. ASAHP member institutions that received new awards are as follows:

University of Nebraska Medical Center (2)	\$117,170	\$178,282
The Ohio State University	\$126,060	
Rush University	\$156,691	
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey	\$173,138	
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	\$123,465	
University of Kentucky	\$181,999	

The expectation is that each project will obtain funding for a three-year period, subject to availability of funds. The deadline for submitting applications for the next cycle of awards is **February 13, 2005**. Additional information may be obtained on the Web at <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/interdisciplinary/allhlth.html>.

Compared to other kinds of funding, applicants stand a relatively strong chance of receiving a grant. The latest round of awards involves projects in professions such as physical therapy, clinical nutrition, dietetics, social work, rehabilitation counseling, occupational therapy, medical technology, health systems management, genetic counseling, respiratory care, radiologic technology/imaging technology, audiology, speech-language pathology, dental hygiene, and human movement science.

Awardees in 2004 are located in 10 different states. Since the program first was funded in 1990, there have been 177 proposals awarded money. Preference is made for applications that provide community-based training experiences designed to improve access to health care services in underserved areas. Such applicants include Asian-American and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions, Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges, and Universities serving American Indians and Alaska Natives, or an institution that collaborates with one or more of the aforementioned institutions. Another preference is educating/training professionals experiencing shortages in medical technology, cytotechnology, genetic counseling, and emergency preparedness.

NORTH CAROLINA WORKFORCE DATA ON RESPIRATORY THERAPY

The Council for Allied Health in North Carolina (Council), the North Carolina Area Health Education Centers Program, and the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Sheps Center) recently produced *The State of Allied Health in North Carolina: A Focus on the Respiratory Therapy Workforce*.

The report is a snapshot of respiratory therapists - practitioners who evaluate, treat, and manage patients with respiratory illnesses and other cardiopulmonary disorders. The publication includes a discussion on the supply, distribution, and demographic characteristics of respiratory therapists and examines North Carolina's respiratory therapy educational programs. The document is available on the Web at <http://www.shepscenter.unc.edu/hp>.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON SCHOLARS PROGRAM AVAILABLE

The *Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholars Program* is designed to build the nation's capacity for research, leadership, and action to address the broad range of factors affecting the health of populations. Each year, the program supports as many as 18 outstanding individuals who have completed doctoral training to engage in an intensive two-year interdisciplinary program in population health at one of six nationally prominent universities.

Eligibility criteria, information about the application process, along with related resources and program contact information may be viewed on the Web at <http://www.healthandsocietyscholars.org/>.

2004 ALLIED HEALTH WEEK CELEBRATED ON NOVEMBER 7-13

National Allied Health Week will be observed this year on **November 7-13**. The occasion can be marked by conducting the following kinds of activities: setting up a display table about allied health in a prominent location on campus, having articles in the campus newspaper, inviting prominent speakers to present special lectures, inviting local high school students to "shadow" allied health professionals, having a luncheon for high school counselors, and organizing events such as health screening or a campus walkathon.

Each year, ASAHP contributes funds to support a collaborative undertaking with other organizations to highlight *National Allied Health Week*. Merchandise is available for purchase from a firm known as Broadway Marketing. Items can be viewed at http://www.healthpronet.org/prog_resources/shop.html on the Web. Another five items will be added by the end of August.

ASAHP members are invited to submit photographs and stories pertaining to how *National Allied Health Week* is celebrated in 2004. This information can appear in upcoming issues of TRENDS.

2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2004 - INSTITUTIONAL PROFILE SURVEY - [HTTP://ASAHP.UAMS.EDU](http://asahp.uams.edu)

SEPTEMBER 14-18, 2004 - SESSION II LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

OCTOBER 20-23, 2004-ASAHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN TAMPA, FL

TEN YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN TRENDS

The National Commission on Allied Health had its first meeting in Washington, DC. **Leopold G. Selker** (University of Illinois at Chicago) was appointed Chairperson of the Commission. ASAHP President **Judith T. Barr** (Northeastern University) was chosen to be Chairperson of the Research Committee. She will be joined on the committee by ASAHP members **Harry E. Douglas** (Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science) and **Deborah Bailey McFall** (University of Colorado).

FIVE YEARS AGO THIS MONTH IN TRENDS

The ASAHP Board of Directors approved a contract to conduct a pilot study on the *Development of a Methodology for Assessing the Financial Condition of Schools of the Allied Health Professions*. The study will involve 10 schools evenly divided between institutions at academic health centers and institutions located elsewhere.

The Board approved a motion to allocate funds for the presentation of a workshop bearing the title, "Overcoming Silos of the Organizational Mind." This offering will be presented as part of the 2000 Winter Meeting that will be held in Scottsdale, AZ.

ACE WORKSHOPS ON DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP

The American Council on Education (ACE) is sponsoring workshops designed to focus on departmental leadership. Department, division, and program chairpersons are the target audience as well as deans interested in developing leadership skills of their department chairpersons. Sessions are in: San Antonio, TX (November 3-6, 2004), San Diego, CA (February 16-19, 2005), and Washington, DC (June 15-18, 2005). More information may be obtained on the Web at <http://www.acenet.edu/programs/dlp/content.cfm>.

ASAHP COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

Members who plan to attend the 2004 ASAHP Annual Conference in Tampa, FL on October 20-23 can go on the Web at www.asahp.org to add their names to belong to a committee or task force or change from a present assignment to a new one. Two exceptions exist, however. Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are selected by the overall membership in the general election each year. The Editor of the *Journal of Allied Health* recommends the names of editorial Board Members to the Association's Board of Directors. Members of all the committees and task forces groups conduct much vital work for ASAHP. Funds are available to assist their efforts. Both the Accreditation Committee and the Research Committee have received funding in the past six months.

ADOPTION OF INNOVATIONS

Translating evidence-based quality innovations into clinical practice is a challenge in today's cost-conscious health care environment. A new Commonwealth Fund issue brief entitled *Translating Research into Practice: Speeding the Adoption of Innovative Health Care Programs*, is on the Web at: http://www.cmwf.org/programs/elders/bradley_translating_research_724.pdf.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING MINORITY HEALTHCARE QUALITY

Little is known about strategies with potential to improve the quality of healthcare for ethnic minority populations. A report by the agency for healthcare research and quality (ahrq) systematically reviews the evidence to determine the effectiveness of interventions designed to improve the quality of healthcare and/or to reduce disparities for ethnic minorities. The report may be accessed <http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/epcsums/minqsum.htm> on the Web.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Recruitment Specialists Focus On Allied Health

A newsletter by the Bernard Hodes Group contains an article on allied health and ASAHP's efforts to have an Allied Health Reinvestment Act passed by Congress. Bernard Hodes Group is the largest network of full service agencies dedicated to recruitment advertising and communications, with over 80 offices in more than 30 countries. The company has fully-owned market-leading offices in the USA, Canada, Asia Pacific, UK, and France. Strategic partnerships have been formed with resourcing businesses around the world, an alliance known as the Bernard Hodes Global Network. The August issue of the Hodes newsletter may be accessed on the Web at: http://www.hodes.com/HRCCommunities/pdfs/healthcarematters_aug04.pdf.

Fact Sheets On Faculty, Students, And Earnings

The American Council on Education (ACE) has released its latest fact sheets providing the most recent data on faculty, undergraduate and graduate enrollment, and average earnings by educational attainment. The fact sheets are on the Web at: <http://www.acenet.edu/hena/readArticle.cfm?articleID=1009>.

Health Outcomes Core Library Project

The Health Outcomes Core Library Module Project consists of compilations of selected books, journals, Web sites, and bibliographic databases related to health outcomes. Produced by AcademyHealth at the request of the National Library of Medicine's National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology (NICHSR), the project focused on developing the core and desired sets of resources for health libraries. Ranked lists of the following resources were developed in the project: core health outcomes books and journals (includes classics), desired health outcomes books and journals and a listing of alert services, core and desired health outcomes bibliographic databases, and health outcomes Web sites. The material may be obtained at <http://www.academyhealth.org/publications/healthoutcomesreport.pdf> on the Web.

Salary Gains By Radiologic Technologists

The *Wage and Salary Survey 2004* of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) shows that radiologic technologists nationwide earn an average hourly wage of \$24.16 and an annual salary of \$65,401, representing increases of 19.7 percent and 26.5 percent respectively since 2001. The survey, conducted by the American Society of Radiologic Technologists and the ASRT Education and Research Foundation, discovered that 44 percent of R.T.s are satisfied with their current salaries or wages, while 31 percent indicate that they are not satisfied. The survey may be obtained at http://www.asrt.org/media/pdf/WSS2004_FullRept.pdf on the Web.

Creation Of An Advanced Dental Hygiene Credential

The future and advancement of the dental hygiene profession was at the forefront of discussion topics throughout the annual session of the American Dental Hygienists' Association (ADHA) that was held in Dallas, TX on June 23–30 as educators, association leaders, and dental hygienist members from across the country addressed the creation of an advanced dental hygiene credential. ADHA adopted policy supporting the creation of an advanced dental hygiene practitioner, including a definition and the development of a standardized educational curriculum for such professionals. For additional information, go to the Web at: <http://www.adha.org/news/071204-adhp.htm> .

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGES

Richard E. Oliver, Dean of the School of Health Professions at the University of Missouri at Columbia, recently was elected Chairperson of the Midwest Association of Allied Health Deans in Academic Health Centers. Deans and directors from 22 Midwestern universities, including the University of Kansas, The Ohio State University, and the Mayo Foundation in Minnesota, comprise the association, which was established to foster an exchange of ideas and expertise among leaders of health-professions schools.

James B. Erdmann, Dean of the Jefferson College of Health Professions, Thomas Jefferson University, has been named an Honorary Professor at the Universidad del Salvador in Buenos Aires, Argentina. During several visits to Argentina in the past ten years, he has consulted with the Universidad del Salvador regarding evaluation of its medical school. In response to his ongoing support, that institution conferred the designation of Honorary Professor on March 4, 2004.

The Association's newest Institutional Member is the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences at Texas Southern University, which is located in Houston. The representative to ASAHP will be **Barbara E. Hayes**. More information about the college and its programs will appear in an upcoming issue of the ASAHP newsletter TRENDS.

Cynthia Goody, Assistant Professor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences at the University of Cincinnati, is the winner of this year's *ASAHP New Investigators Award*. In addition to receiving \$5,000 to conduct research, the award carries with it \$500 to support travel to the 2005 ASAHP Annual Conference.

2004 ASAHP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2004 ASAHP Annual Conference will be held in Tampa, FL on October 20-23. In addition to the high quality of the program that has been developed, the Tampa area has much to offer. Nothing about Tampa Bay is typical. From the dramatic design of the minarets at the historic Tampa Bay Hotel to the brilliant sunsets that electrify the night sky, this West Coast community is tropical and always alluring. Lush, exotic foliage flourishes throughout the area, filling the surrounding scenery with brilliant colors and intoxicating scents. Glistening waterways wrap around the region's miles of coastline, providing scenic lookouts and passageways for dolphins, manatees, and other aquatic creatures. Architectural highlights and delights add a visual dimension to the local landscape that is highly vibrant.

Tampa Bay has all the attributes that make Florida one of the world's favorite destinations. The area has major theme parks and attractions. Three of this country's 10 best beaches are just minutes away. Dramatic productions from opera to orchestras at the performing arts center and other cultural venues are exceptionally popular. From flambé to flan, Tampa Bay's multi-national kitchen magicians work wonders with fresh seafood and locally grown produce. In addition, cruises are available to Cozumel, Key West, and the Caymans. Indeed, no other place in Florida comes close to equaling the combination of Tampa Bay's natural beauty and man-made wonders.

Information about the program can be found on the ASAHP website at www.asahp.org. Early registrations have arrived at the National Office at an unprecedented rate. This year's conference promises to be one of the best ever conducted by the Association. Plan to join allied health colleagues then by registering now!