
Invest Via the ACCAHC Annual Fund

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Goldblatt Builds DC, AOM, ND and DEM Teams to Participate in HRSA Funded Integrative Medicine in Primary Care Competencies Project at University of Arizona

The U.S. Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) selected the University of Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine (AzCIM) as recipient of its $1.7-million grant to create a Center for Integrative Medicine in Primary Care (CIMPC). Now, ACCAHC chair Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA is a member of AzCIM’s CIMPC leadership team and ACCAHC is among the score of partner organizations. This is the first time that ACCAHC has been directly asked into a significant Center project. ACCAHC submitted a support letter for the Center’s proposal.

Goldblatt describes the grant as involving “training primary care practitioners in integrative medicine and healthcare.” She adds that “the excellent news is that we have NDs, DCs and LAc listed as primary care providers as well as entry-level midwives for home births, along with MD’s, DO’s, nurse practitioners” and many other health care providers. Some of the group's first work was to “develop Integrative Healthcare and Medicine meta-competencies for primary care providers.” At the present moment, they are working on a draft set of “specific competencies for each discipline, using the meta-competencies as the template.” These will guide the curriculum development process and ultimately result in a 20-50 hour online course for primary care providers.

To engage the disciplines, Goldblatt took the lead for the University of setting the following teams:

- Acupuncture and Oriental medicine: Steve Given DAOM, LAc; Belinda Anderson, PhD, LAc, Mark McKenzie, LAc, MAOM and Stacy Gomes, EdD
- Chiropractic: Joseph Brimhall, DC; Bill Meeker, DC, MPH, John Scaringe, DC, EdD; Vince De Bono, DC; and Mike Wiles, DC, MEd
- Naturopathic medicine: Marcia Prenguber, ND; Rita Bettenburg, ND, Paul Mittman, ND, EDD, JoAnn Yanez ND, MPH and (likely) Christa Louise, PhD.
- Direct Entry Midwives team will be led by Nicole Redding, MA, CPM, LDM

Goldblatt selected the teams largely from individuals who had been recommended in the past by their Councils of College to serve on the writing teams for either the Primary Care
The AzCIM ambitions are significant for the project. Patricia Lebensohn, MD, principal investigator, notes that "we are so pleased to be validated by this award as an authority that will ultimately affect how primary care is delivered." She adds: "Our ultimate goal in establishing the CIMPC is to create effective interprofessional teams that will use integrative medicine to help eliminate health disparities in primary care and promote healthy communities." It's good to be imbedded in this work, with Goldblatt opening doors.

**Integrating the Integrators: ACCAHC "Mothership" (IHPC) and Collaborating Partner (AIHM) Sign Transformative Agreement for Integrative Health and Medicine Policy**

In what was felt by long-time policy activists to be a transformative moment for policy in integrative health and medicine, the Integrative Health Policy Consortium (IHPC) and the Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine (AIHM) have formed a partnership. IHPC, a 501c4 policy/lobbying organization, will become the policy arm for the still MD/DO dominant yet actively interprofessional AIHM. The relationship has been in deep exploration since a June 2014 two-day retreat between leaders of the two organizations. The agreement will immediately lead to a doubling of IHPC's current core budget. Plans to hire a Washington, D.C.-based lobbyist are in discussion.

Ties between ACCAHC and the two organizations are deep. IHPC birthed ACCAHC as a project in 2004. Chair Len Wisneski, MD is on ACCAHC’s Council of Advisers and vice-chair Pamela Snider, ND is ACCAHC’s founding executive director and current Executive Committee member. IHPC treasurer Gerry Clum, DC is in on the Advisory Team to the ACCAHC Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim and IHPC’s other Board of Directors include ACCAHC Board members Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT (ASCP), CAE and until recently, Bill Meeker, DC, MPH. Notably, seven of IHPC’s 15 Partners for Health are members of ACCAHC.

Meantime, AIHM is an ACCAHC Associate Member and ACCAHC is a formal collaborator with AIHM on a significant education and certification initiatives funded through ACCAHC Council of Advisers member Ruth Westreich. (Westreich also has a long-standing relationship with AIHM through AIHM president Mimi Guarneri, MD.) Snider, Weeks and Meeker are each on AIHM’s Board of Directors. Adding to this mix, IHPC, AIHM and ACCAHC are each collaborating partners on tracks of the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine’s 2016 International Congress for Integrative Medicine and Health for policy, clinical and education, respectively. We are integrating the integrators!
Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation in Second Grant ($35,000) for PERL Project

The Josiah Macy Junior Foundation raised to $65,000 its total support to date for the ACCAHC Project to Enhance Research Literacy (PERL) at the Center for Optimal Integration. The PERL project, managed by Deborah Hill, MS, has had a significant impact on efforts of multiple ACCAHC disciplines in advancing strategies to promote evidence informed practice. Work in 2015, as Hill reported to the Board at its January 20, 2015 meeting, will "promote and support a standardized competency in EIP for all ACCAHC institutions."

To do this, Hill plans to "build out PERL resources to support each subpart of ACCAHC EIP competency 5 and provide a consolidated approach toward implementing EIP in workable format." Competency 5 of the ACCAHC Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments is "Evidence Based Medicine and Evidence Informed Practice." The Competencies have been endorsed by all four ACCAHC Council of Colleges members, and by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council. Congratulations to Deb, her many organizational collaborators and her terrific Advisory Team that leveraged this project into a second year of funding.

Stepping Up: Louise, Dawson and Yanez join Ward-Cook, Scaringe, Goldblatt and Weeks on ACCAHC's Strengthened Finance Team

As ACCAHC wrestled last fall with the downside of a late 2013 influx of over $150,000 in "soft money" philanthropic investment, the ACCAHC Finance Committee, led by treasurer Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT (ASCP), CAE and including John Scaringe, DC, EdD, Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA and John Weeks, received a welcome influx of new blood. Stan Dawson, DC, CMT, Christa Louise, PhD and JoAnn Yanez, ND, MPH each stepped up to participate in a series of extraordinary Finance Committee meetings in December and January. The expanded team shaped the more conservative 2015 ACCAHC Budget, recently passed by the ACCAHC Board. (The budget anticipates $250,000 of revenue rather than the $353,000 projected for 2014.) In addition, Louise volunteered to take a lead in forming a new chart of accounts in a format that will allow more facile reporting to the Finance Committee and Board. The plan is to have a new system in place by the time the new ACCAHC executive director comes on in June 2015.

Board Elections: Lauttamas Replaces Tomasko as Traditional World Medicine/Emerging Professions Member
The January Board meeting witnessed a significant transition in Board representation for the now four organizations that are from Traditional World Medicines or Emerging Professions (TWM/EP) fields. By ACCAHC bylaws, together these nominate one member to the Board. Since ACCAHC’s founding, this has been Felicia Tomasko, RN, from the National Ayurvedic Medical Association. In her seven years at the helm, the TWM/EP Special Interest Group has met dozens of time to both shape the place of these organizations in ACCAHC and to take advantage of ACCAHC core member expertise in such area as accreditation and certification. TWM/EP members have also been placed on ACCAHC Working Groups. In late 2014, Tomasko chose to not run for re-election. She tells us she doesn't plan to disappear. Thank you for so much, Felicia!

Elected was Mary Partlow Lauttamas, MSW, e-RYT 200, RYT 500. Lauttamas is the founding director of the Master of Science in Yoga Therapy program at ACCAHC President’s Level member Maryland University of Integrative Health. This is the first program of its kind at an accredited university in the United States. She is also a professional yoga teacher and yoga therapist with over 2500 hours teaching classes. Lauttamas' background includes extensive work in communications and in the international arena. Welcome, Mary!

Other Board Election News: Re-Elections, Officers, Treasurer

In other Board election news, four members were elected to new three-year terms. These, and the core organizations through which they were nominated, are below. Thank you each for stepping up to serve again.

- Stan Dawson, DC, CMT (Alliance for Massage Therapy Education)
- Nichole Reding, MA, CPM, LDM (Midwifery Education Accreditation Council)
- Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT (ASCP), CAE (National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine)
- Martin Kollasch, DC, MBA, PhD(c) (National Board of Chiropractic Examiners)

In addition, Marcia Prenguber, ND (Council on Naturopathic Medical Education) and Pamela Snider, ND (Founding Member) were re-elected to one-year terms as members of the Board’s Executive Committee. Finally, Ward-Cook was re-elected to a 3-year term as ACCAHC Treasurer.
ACCAHC in the Media: Natural Medicine Journal, GAHMJ, CoverMyCare

An article on recent ACCAHC developments by Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, ACCAHC chair, and David O’Bryon, JD is featured here on the website of Global Advances in Health and Medicine Journal (GAHMJ) ... Also in the GAHMJ is a column by John Weeks featuring the work of the ACCAHC Task Force on Integrative Pain Care, entitled "Never Only Opioids" and the Joint Commission: Toward a Conservative, Whole-system Treatment Standard for Pain ... ACCAHC’s white paper from its Primary Care Project is prominently featured in a recent article on primary care in the Natural Medicine Journal, the official journal of the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians ...

While not precisely media, a January 8, 2015 e-mailing from the director of the Institute of Medicine Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education shared information about Never Only Opioids to all 60 members - which includes leaders of virtually all health professions disciplines ... Also on the Never Only Opioids front, that policy brief is currently featured on the website of the Cover My Care campaign to make the most of the Non-Discrimination in Health Care Section 2706 of the Affordable Care Act ... ACCAHC was mentioned here as a collaborator in this blog-post by the co-directors of the Academy for Integrative Health and Medicine ...

Working Group Updates: Lowe, Guiltinan, plus Multidisciplinary CWG Webinar on EIP Strategies in ACCAHC Schools

The Education Working Group will miss the constant, professional, creative and committed presence of founding member Whitney Lowe, CMT, who is stepping down after 7 years of significant involvement in multiple EWG projects. You will be missed, Whitney ... One of the two remaining members of the National Advisory Council on Complementary and Integrative Medicine Jane Guiltinan, ND, will meet with the ACCAHC Research Working Group on February 2, 2015 to discuss issues under discussion at the February 5 NACCAM meeting. Guiltinan is dean of naturopathic medicine at ACCAHC Sustaining Investor member Bastyr University ...

Webinar on the Status of EIP in Our Schools: Deb Hill, MS, project manager for the Project to Enhance Research literacy (PERL) organized a panel discussion with Clinical Working Group (CWG) members in November 2014 about Evidence Informed Practice (EIP). The panelists were: Melanie Henriksen, ND, LAc, CNM, Dean, Naturopathic Medicine, National
College of Natural Medicine; Liza Dion, MT, NCTMB, Certified Massage Therapist, Dept. of Internal Medicine/Integrative Medicine, Mayo Clinic; Nancy Rodgers, MT, NCTMB, Certified Massage Therapist, Dept. of Internal Medicine/Integrative Medicine, Mayo Clinic; Michael Sackett, DC, Dean, Los Angeles College of Chiropractic; and Mitchell Zeifman, BSc, ND, Associate Dean, Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine. The 14-slide presentation can be accessed here and the 44 minute webinar can be accessed here.

Brief Notes on ACCAHC Activities

Thanks to Elizabeth Sommers, PhD, MPH, LAc, ACCAHC Ambassador to the Traditional, Complementary and Integrative Medicine section of the American Public Health Association for promoting ACCAHC webinars to the 450 members of that group ... Sommers is also using a part of her regular column in Acupuncture Today to teach readers about ACCAHC's work ... Welcome the Cleveland College of Chiropractic as a new President's Level Individual College member. Thank you Carl Cleveland, III, DC, president ... ACCAHC has donated a copy of the Clinicians and Educators Desk Reference to the silent auction fundraiser for Traditional World Medicines member National Ayurvedic Medical Association ...

Elizabeth Sommers

Dr. Elizabeth Goldblatt PhD, MPA/HA has been selected as a plenary speaker on interprofessionalism for the March 2015 meeting of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges. The theme of the conference is "Interprofessional Collaboration: Working Together for a Better Future" ... ACCAHC responded to a query for a quality, academic-based integrative center from a member of a group seeking to launch an integrative medicine center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for data on quality academics ... In addition, a diverse group of ACCAHC participants responded to an S.O.S. call funneled through ACCAHC's Deb Hill, MS from a person charged with creating a credentialing strategy for bringing acupuncturists into a health system ...

Brief Notes on Activities of ACCAHC Participants and Member Organizations

The Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine has chosen to change its name. The new name is Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health. The change has re-stimulated dialogue in the ACCAHC Board about changing the ACCAHC name ... Veronica Zador, BSc, E-RYT 500, P-RYT, former president of the International Association of Yoga Therapists when ACCAHC was founded, has been hired as a staff yoga therapist in the Beaumont Hospital system ... ACCAHC treasurer Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT (ASCP), CAE is a new member of the Board of the Integrative Healthcare Policy Consortium via the decision of the National Certification Commission on Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine to join IHPC's increasingly robust Partners for Health ... Council of Advisers member Anne Nedrow, MD, MBA is now an associate professor at the University of Colorado ...

Opportunities, Announcements & Resources
February 15, 2015 Abstract deadline for Mindfulness and Compassion Conference, June 3-7, 2015, at San Francisco State University. Organized by former EWG member Adam Burke, PhD, LAc, MPH. Speakers include Josephine Briggs, MD and Robert Thurman, PhD.

March 19-21, 2015 Association of Chiropractic Colleges-Research Agenda Conference, Las Vegas. ACCAHC chair Liza Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA is among plenary presenters.

July 9-11, 2015 Process of Integrating Evidence (PIE) for CAM Educators, Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. Speakers and facilitators include some of the brightest minds in CAM EIP." ACCAHC is directly involved via Deb Hill, MS and the PERL project.

May 18-20, 2016 International Congress for Integrative Medicine and Health, Las Vegas; sponsored the Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health (formerly CAHCIM). IHPC, AIHM and ACCAHC are track partners.

Previously Posted:

IPE in Primary Care: The Patient Centered Primary Care Collaborative has created a "publication that will serve as a learning resource on interprofessional education and provide a framework for educating the next generation of health professionals in team-based primary care models."

April 29-May 1, 2015 and October 7-9, 2015 The Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) Institute invites all interested health professions’ faculty to consider organizing teams to attend the upcoming 2015 faculty development institutes. The spring session focusing on a new theme of population health in interprofessional education. The fall session focuses on building a framework for IPE. ACCAHC is a Supporting Member of IPEC. Southern California University has participated in a past institute. See Southern California University of Health Sciences experience at the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (October 2014)

June 15-19, 2015 A Certificate Course for Health Professionals, Educators & Leaders, sponsored by the Centre for Interprofessional Education at the University of Toronto. "Course will enhance your natural leadership abilities to teach excellence in Interprofessional Education (IPE), helping to build an IPE community of leaders in healthcare."

July 3, 2015 Call for papers: The Evidence Based CAM journal has issued a call for papers for a special issue guest edited by Research Working Group co-chair Cheryl Hawk, DC, PhD, entitled "The Role of CAM in Public Health, Disease Prevention, and Health Promotion."

July 21-28, 2015, with exhibitors July 25-28 Alliance for Massage Therapy Education and Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation are co-sponsoring with involvement of seven of organizations, including ACCAHC, in Minneapolis. Information here.

Have you ordered your CEDR?

The second edition of the ACCAHC Clinicians’ and Educators’ Desk Reference is now on sale! For more information, just click the image to the right!

All proceeds, beyond printing and handling costs, support the work of ACCAHC, a 501c3 charitable organization.
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