Hello ACCAHC Leaders, Members, Participants, Advisers, Donors & Friends - A prime reason for publishing every two weeks is to share the Opportunities and Announcements. If you read no more, open for these. For feedback or news: jweeks@accahc.org - John Weeks, Executive Director

Opportunities & Announcements

IOM Global Forum attendance or webinar May 14-15, 2013: Mark these dates to listen in via exceptional webinar (or to attend) the IOM Global Forum Establishing Transdisciplinary Professionalism for Health Care: A Workshop.

Webinar: Developing a Culture for Interprofessional Education: A Case Study Free via the American Interprofessional Health Collaborative. April 2, 2013, 12:00-1:00 CDT. Information is here.

CAM Symposium at American Pain Society This May 8, 2013 pre-conference meeting in New Orleans is a breakthrough for that conservative organization. Information is here.

Submission deadline April 26th for International Congress for Clinicians in Complementary and Integrative Medicine This meeting is sponsored by CAHCIM. Information is here.

Call for Speakers: Integrative Medicine for the Underserved (IM4US) Deadline is May 1, 2013 for a conference to be held August 9-11, 2013 at Santa Clara University. Information is here.

Submissions due April 30th: European Congress for Integrative Medicine October 4-5, 2013, Berlin, Germany. Information is here.

The MEDEd portal of the Association of American Medical Colleges is open to all. A monthly newsletter update is available here. The portal hosts interprofessional education content.

Reviewer(s) of CAM section in health law text book request ACCAHC Associate Member Dan Lappin has created an opportunity for CAM presence in a health law book and is seeking reviewers. Information is here.

Congressional Academic Medicine Caucus has been re-launched The Association of American Medical Colleges announced this re-launch. Looks like a good place for an ACCAHC Ambassador to be linked in and tracking, no? Interested? jweeks@accahc.org

Reminder to educators from the Global Consensus on Social Accountability ACCAHC founding executive director Pamela Snider, ND sends a reminder of the finding that physicians, regardless of their specialty, must be "explicitly active in population health and its coordination with individual health, in health promotion as well as risk and disease prevention and rehabilitation for patients and entire communities" (Global Consensus for Social Accountability of Medical Schools, p. 7).
Sarita Verma, MD, Co-Director of International Project to Identify Leadership Traits in Health Professions Education to Keynote ACCAHC Biennial Meeting

One focus of the IOM Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education, for which ACCAHC is a sponsor, is on developing leadership among educators and clinicians. The IOM separately funded a linked project through a broad Canadian group that is focused on identifying leadership qualities and competencies required for educators and clinicians in the 21st Century. We are pleased to announce that the director of this global exploration, Sarita Verma, MD, will be participating with us throughout the 3-day ACCAHC Biennial Meeting, June 26-28, 2013. Verma is a family physician and lawyer and an energetic, straight-shooting presenter with a strong interest in complementary and alternative medicine. More details on the Biennial Meeting will be sent within the week.

Hotel Information for the Biennial Meeting: June 26-28, 2013, Portland, Oregon: We have blocked rooms at the Country Inn & Suites for the ACCAHC Biennial Meeting. To book an ACCAHC room call the Country Inn & Suites (503) 255-2700 and tell them you are with ACCAHC. Do not book through the website! $79 for a double-queen or standard king room, a full breakfast is included. Contract Renée with questions: rclugston@accahc.org

Goldblatt Named to 2013 IOM Global Forum Workshop Planning Team: Themes Announced for 2013 Workshops

Of the over 50 members of the IOM Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education, ACCAHC’S member Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA was selected as one of just seven to serve on the planning committee for the 2013 workshops scheduled for May 14-15 and October 8-9. The first will be entitled Establishing Transdisciplinary Professionalism for Health Care: A Workshop. The second will be Assessing Health Professional Education: A Workshop. Goldblatt is slated to head up a breakout session at the May meeting. Please note that webinar hosting quality is exceptional for those interested.

"Amazing work" - ACCAHC Primary Care Project White Paper Update: Individual Discipline PDFs Available

We liked it when a key policy leader for the naturopathic profession thanked us for the “amazing work” in this white paper. Discipline-specific chapter PDFs for each of the 4 participating fields have been developed. These and the full white paper are now highlighted via www.accahc.org and posted on our site. We’ve directly informed leaders of the involved professions. In addition, we have begun contact with US Health and Human Service personnel for assistance in making the paper known and available to key decision makers. Hope to have some good news there shortly. A media webinar with ACCAHC chair Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, and project co-leads Michael Goldstein, PhD of the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research and John Weeks is planned for April 9, 2013. A release will be sent out on April 2 and April 8. In addition, we have directly reached out to some workforce leaders to urge them to write on the topic. Finally, Renée Clugston is arranging to ship hard copies for our member organization board members. Let us know your ideas for dissemination.

ACCAHC Ambassador Dan Cherkin, PhD Reports from the PCORI Back Pain Working Group March 21, 2013

The CEO of the Patient Center Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) asked ACCAHC to name a representative to the Treatment Options for Back Pain Targeted PCORI Funding Announcements (Targeted PFAs) meeting on March 21, 2013. Dan Cherkin, PhD, director of the Bastyr University Research Institute and one of the nation’s leading back pain researchers, was selected to serve as ACCAHC’s ambassador. Cherkin will report back to the ACCAHC Research Working Group on April 1, 2013.
Here is his brief e-account sent the day after the meeting.

"I think the PCORI meeting yesterday went well. There was a large (18-20) number of workgroup members representing very diverse experts and stakeholders (including Janet Kahn). Although some participants didn’t know much about the realities of back pain and the associated problems with medical care, they were fairly broad thinkers and open to a broad range of ideas about how care might be improved through comparative effectiveness research.

"We discussed a wide variety of research topics suggested by the participants and persons submitting questions to the PCORI website and identified several very broad areas that seemed important to highlight in the RFA. Two of the patient representatives and I mentioned the importance of care from CAM practitioners for back pain and the others in the group seemed to agree--definitely no antipathy to CAM.

"PCORI staff will now take the information from the meeting and craft a PFA that will then go to the Board for approval. They will have no further communications with the workgroup to avoid providing them with "inside" information that would give us an advantage in competing for funding. My best guess is that the PFA will identify several broad areas (e.g., methods for classifying patients for treatment planning, effectiveness of treatment options, health care system innovations, relapse prevention and self-management) and then list some examples of the types of studies they would be interested in funding. I expect that some of these specific examples will mention CAM.

"I look forward to debriefing the RWG on April 1. Thank you again for asking me to represent ACCAHC at this meeting. I am extremely glad I was able to participate in this historic event."

Backbone of Our Work: Sustaining Donors NCMIC Foundation, NUHS and Leo S. Guthman Fund

Last issue we noted the members that made their dues payments as of late February. This issue we give brief thanks to a few entities that have, over multiple years, made donations of $10,000. The NCMIC Foundation and National University of Health Sciences are each in the 3rd year of $30,000 pledges to support the Center for Optimal Integration. In addition, the Leo Guthman Fund renewed its Sustaining Donor Group commitment of $10,000 per year plus added a second $10,000 to a Clinical Working Group survey project - an early product of which is posted here. Each of these entities has contributed between $40,000 and $80,000 to support our work. One cannot overstate how huge these donations are for us.

Clement Bezold, PhD of the Institute for Alternative Futures Joins ACCAHC Council of Advisers

Clement Bezold, PhD, the co-founder with Future Shock author Alvin Toffler of the Institute for Alternative Futures (IAF), has joined the ACCAHC Council of Advisers. Bezold, IAF’s board chair, has led futures work with many significant national and international organizations including WHO and PAHO, Fortune 500 corporations, and not-for-profit entities as well as for several Federal government agencies, including VA, HHS, CDC, NIH, GSA, DoD, and DoJ. Bezold is known to many in the ACCAHC community via his work, sponsored by the NCMIC Foundation, on the future of chiropractic and of CAM practices. He also facilitated the influential National Policy Dialogue to Advance Integrated Care in 2001. As an indication of his foresight as a futurist, Bezold highlighted the emergence of "alternative medicine" at a Congressional Briefing session in the Rayburn House Office Building in the late 1970s. Bezold and his spouse are also effectively in-kind donors to ACCAHC by providing a room in his home for John Weeks during some of Weeks’ D.C. visits. Welcome Clem!

Milestone: All North American ND Schools are Individual Members of ACCAHC

In recent weeks, Paul Mittman, ND, president of Southwest College of
Naturopathic Medicine, announced that SCNM will join ACCAHC. Mittman was an early ACCAHC participant. Then Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine president Bob Bernhardt let us know via CWG member Mitchell Zelfman, BS, ND that CCNM would join ACCAHC at the President's Level! This makes it a full house for the seven accredited North American institutions with ND programs. Excellent! Side-note: over 60% of institutions with doctor of chiropractic programs have individually joined. We have yet to begin a direct push to the AOM, massage or midwifery communities.

Brief Notes on ACCAHC Activity

The Chief Academic Officers group of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges has formally endorsed the Competencies for Optimal Practices in Integrated Environments. All 5 core disciplines have now endorsed. Credit EWG co-chair Mike Wiles, DC, MEd with moving this along to endorsement .... The ACCAHC Facebook page, developed by EWG co-chair Jan Schwartz, MA now has over 810 friends. Check it out! ... Via ACCAHC's Integrative Pain Task Force, the PAINS website includes notice of a CAM/IM session, supported by NCCAM, that will be part of the conservative American Pain Society meeting May 8, 2013 ... Thanks to Palmer West and IM4US ambassador Greg Snow, DC, the college's dean of clinics, for making their syllabus for an integrative medicine course available. A half dozen of ACCAHC leaders requested it. If interested, let me know ...

New ACCAHC Council of Advisers member Bezold (see above) and John Weeks provided the bookend plenary sessions at the March 15-16, 2013 ACC-RAC conference. Weeks touched on ACCAHC Ambassadors' activities in many dialogues. Weeks' slides are available on request jweeks@accahc.org Thanks to ACCAHC board vice-chair David O'Bryon for the invite ... While in D.C., Weeks presented on the ACCAHC RWG-developed recommendations to NCCAM for the Georgetown CAM Masters program co-directed by Council of Advisers member Adi Haramati, PhD ... A special note of thanks to Nathaniel H. Crocker, spouse of ACCAHC leader under multiple ambassadorial hats, Martha Menard, PhD, CMT, for supporting much of her activity, including partial support of her participation in the next Steering Committee of the Pain Action Alliance to Implement a National Strategy ...

Notes on Activities of ACCAHC Activists and Member Organizations

Teri Powers, LAc is the new director of the College of AOM at individual member institution Northwestern Health Sciences University ... RWG member Ryan Bradley, ND, MPH is a headliner sharing his expertise in integrative diabetes care at an upcoming Global Health Awareness day at USC ... Supporting Donor Group member Bastyr University has taken the unusual step of helping develop a line of "Wellness teas" with Choice Organics. A portion of sales will benefit student scholarships ... The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced that it will create a chiropractic residency program. ACCAHC core member organization Association of Chiropractic Colleges and its executive director David O’Bryon played a key role in bringing this about ...

Lou Sportelli, DC, president of Center for Optimal Integration sponsor NCMIC Foundation, was honored by the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) as its Humanitarian of the Year for 2013 ... Notably, the new 10-year vision statement of the ACA highlights "collaboration with other healthcare disciplines and integration into all health care delivery models that enhance individual health, public health, wellness and safety ... Board member and RWG member Bill Meeker, DC, MPH, president of Palmer West, an ACCAHC individual college member, has been elected to the board of the Foundation for Chiropractic Progress ...

Have you ordered your CEDR?
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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