ACIH Chronicle of Accomplishments: 2004-2016

2004

The Academic Consortium for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (ACCAHC) began March 2004 as an initiative of the Integrative Health Policy Consortium (IHPC). Shortly after several conventional academic health centers formed the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine (CAHCIM, recently renamed the Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health (ACIMH), ACCAHC was created, via philanthropic investment from Lucy Gonda, to 1) facilitate collaboration between educators from conventional and CAM institutions and 2) advance the shared vision and mission of CAM academic organizations. The National Education Dialogue to Advance Integrated Health Care: Creating Common Ground (NED) initiative was established (with support from Ms. Gonda) to facilitate and engage discussion between integrative academic leaders including CAHCIM, and ACCAHC.

ACCAHC launches and Pamela Snider ND becomes Founding Executive Director Pamela Snider, ND, IHPC Vice Chair, and former Bastyr University Associate Dean becomes ACCAHC Executive Director and Co-Founder.

Academic Leaders and Organizations From Diverse Professions to Build ACCAHC

Executive director Pamela Snider, working with John Weeks, director of IHPC’s NED, began interviewing and conferring with selected representatives of diverse disciplines, focusing on academic leaders from the five licensed integrative health and medicine professions and national academic organizations of chiropractic, acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, naturopathic medicine, massage therapy and direct-entry midwifery, all recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. These five disciplines and representatives from their councils of colleges, accreditation commissions/agencies and certification/testing agencies formed the foundational board members of ACCAHC. From its inception, the ACCAHC Board also included emerging professions and traditional medicines to be inclusive and support professional formation. These interviews form the basis of ACCAHC’s vision, mission, values and strategic goals.

2005

Founding ACCAHC Strategic Meeting was held at Southern California University of Health Sciences, where Dr. Reed Phillips was president. Twenty academic leaders from 7 disciplines and 18 organizations were invited to work on themes for NED and to further explore and plan ongoing collaboration and development of ACCAHC. This was the inaugural meeting of a series of interprofessional face-to-face Board Retreats in which members of these institutions and professions would learn from, about and with each other in a classic interprofessional manner; and engage in organization planning and collaborative initiatives. These retreats have been organized regularly since the first meeting in Feb 2005: May 2006, October 2007, July 2 2008, May 2009, May 2010, June 2011, May 2012, October 2012, June 2013, June 2014 and June 2015. These meetings fuel the growth and activity of the 18 national organizations and by 2015, an additional 41 individual accredited programs, colleges and universities are committed to continuous collaboration as dues-paying members of this shared collaboration.
ACCAHC adopts vision, mission, values, goals, structure and strategic priorities in February 2005; begins two-year organization plan.

Elections held: Founding Executive Committee is Reed Phillips, PhD (Founding Chair), Liza Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, David O’Bryon JD, CAE, Jan Schwartz, MA, LMT, Don Warren ND, Pamela Snider ND (ED), John Weeks.

Interprofessional Definition of Integrative Medicine for CAHCIM/ACIMH. A team of ACCAH Board members collaborates with members of the CAHCIM to change the definition of “integrative medicine” to an interprofessional definition that better respects the integration of not just modalities but also of “healthcare professionals and disciplines.”


National Education Dialogue (NED) ACCAH Board members led multiple projects and task forces, participated extensively in planning for the NED (2004-2006), an initiative that involved over 60 integrative health and medicine educators from 12 disciplines that focused on ACCAH leaders and those of the CAHCIM/ACIMH. These included development of model interprofessional curricula, a Delphi survey, definitions and values, a survey on the extent of interdisciplinary relationships, and reports on best practices published in the NED Progress Report (2005). The NED was funded substantially by Lucy Gonda, directed by Weeks working closely with Snider and ACCAH Task Force leaders Jan Schwartz, MA, LMT, Liza Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, Dan Sietz, MS, and Patricia Benjamin, PhD.

2006

Research Conferences, Ongoing Dialogue with Integrative Medicine Educators established ACCAH was a Participating Organization for CAHCIM’s May 2006 North American Research Conference on Complementary and Integrative Medicine (NARCCIM). ACCAH leaders served on key planning committees, and submitted and delivered multiple programs and posters on ACCAH surveys and initiatives. Co-hosted first ACCAH/CAHCIM face to face gathering between CAHCIM Steering Committee and ACCAH Executive Committee, 20 members gathered and acknowledged the importance of ongoing relationship at this reception.

ACCAHC secures three year ACCAH Membership and Dues commitments from eighteen ACCAH organizations going forward.
Shift to Independence ACCAH leaders, with IHPC’s blessing, chose to begin the process of transforming from being a project of IHPC to an independent 501c3 organization. The step was powered by a $100,000 commitment over four years from ACCAH’s founding philanthropic partner Lucy Gonda.

Presentations and Publications Since 2006, ACCAH’s projects, and research have been the subject of over two dozen papers and presentations in journals and scientific meetings. See the Presentations, Posters and Publications available here.

2007

John Weeks Becomes Executive Director NED director and ACCAH co-founder Weeks, the publisher-editor of the Integrator Blog News & Reports, became ACCAH’s second executive director.

Published Response on “Competencies in Integrative Medicine” Publication of a peer-reviewed paper that underscored the importance of integrating disciplines and practitioners, not just therapies, in “integrative medicine”. (Response to a Proposal for an Integrative Medicine Curriculum, Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine, November 1, 2007, 13(9): 1021-1034)

Researching Competencies for Integration In a grant-funded project from the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM), ACCAH carried out and subsequently reported two surveys on competencies of licensed acupuncturists for practice in MD-dominated settings. This initiated a core engagement of ACCAH around emerging needs of educators and practitioners in integrated settings.

2008

ACCAH Incorporated and Elizabeth Goldblatt Becomes Chair ACCAH incorporated as a separate 501c3 organization. Leading AOM educator Elizabeth A Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, the former president of Oregon College of Oriental Medicine and past chair of the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine became ACCAH’s second chair.

Organized Interprofessional Working Groups ACCAH set policies to maintain balanced interprofessionalism in organizing the three multidisciplinary committees that are a center of ACCAH activity. These are the Education Working Group, the Clinical Working Group, and the Research Working Group. Beth Rosenthal, PhD, MBA, ACCAH Assistant Director, focuses her work supporting these groups.

Organized Interprofessional Special Interest Groups (SPIGs) In order to foster mutual understanding and to enhance the abilities of our distinct organizations, ACCAH convened SPIGs among its members in these interest areas: Councils of Colleges, Accreditation Agencies, Certification and Testing Organizations and Traditional World Medicines/Emerging Professions.
Supporting the Emergence of Yoga Therapists: The leaders of the ACCAHC Traditional World Medicine (TWM) member International Association of Yoga Therapists (IAYT) began a multi-year process of utilizing the skills and experience of numerous ACCAHC personnel and member organizational leaders’ expertise as resources in their campaign to create council of schools, accreditation and certification structures. The IAYT-ACCAHC relationship has exemplified the ACCAHC intent in including emerging integrative health professions that are engaging in self-regulatory and regulatory processes.

2009

Joint ACCAHC Meeting with Executives and Working Groups of ACIMH/CAHCIM: Since its founding, ACCAHC has fostered collegial relationships with CAHCIM/ACIMH. An early highlight post-NED was a May 2009 joint executive committee and working group gathering of roughly 40 people from each organization followed by a reception and dinner. Various ACIMH leaders are on ACCAHC Council of Advisers.

Clarified Priority Projects: ACCAHC board and working groups met in a strategic planning retreat at Northwestern Health Sciences University to identify core, shared, multi-year projects. Three key areas were identified: 1) supporting students, educators, clinicians and other stakeholders in working optimally in integrated environments; 2) supporting educators in developing more evidence-informed education (via a collaboration with schools that received NIH-NCCAM R-25 grants to enhance evidence-based programs); and 3) engaging the national dialogue to foster interprofessional education/care.

Publication of a Critically Needed Educational Tool: ACCAHC, in collaboration with volunteer author teams, mainly from its Council of Colleges member organizations, created the Clinicians’ and Educators’ Desk Reference on the Licensed Complementary and Alternative Health Care Professions to support all practitioners and educators in understanding the value of the whole practices of ACCAHC’s professions. This fundamental interprofessional tool, with a second edition in 2013, has been widely heralded across multiple disciplines.

Impact on IOM’s Summit on Integrative Medicine: ACCAHC secured an invitation from the Institute of Medicine (IOM, now National Academy of Medicine) staff to ensure that the ACCAHC professions linked to 350,000 licensed practitioners would be represented on the Planning Committee for the February 25-27, 2009 Summit on Integrative Medicine and the Health of the Public. The meeting was funded through the Bravewell Collaborative. The ACCAHC nominee appointed, chair Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, was the only person from non-MD/nursing professions on the planning team. The meeting was significantly more multi-disciplinary and inclusive in part through Goldblatt’s representation of patient interest and the full scope of practitioners involved in integrative health and medicine. The ACCAHC participation helped move the focus from “integrative medicine” toward the more inclusive “integrative health.”
Influential Participation in the IOM Pain Committee ACCAH C secured an invitation from the Institute of Medicine to ensure that ACCAH C member organizations would be represented on the IOM Committee on Pain Research, Care and Education. Pain expert Rick Marinelli, ND, MAOM, was nominated by ACCAH C. Marinelli played an important role in placing multiple references to integrative health content in the 2011 Relieving Pain in America: A Blueprint for Transforming, Prevention, Care, Education and Research and for being among the first of the committee members to articulate the need for a "cultural transformation in the way pain is perceived, judged and treated."

Workforce: ACCAH C’s Primary Care Project In a partnership led by UCLA’s Michael Goldstein, PhD and John Weeks, ACCAH C began a collaboration with leaders of its councils of colleges for chiropractic, naturopathic medicine, acupuncture and Oriental medicine and midwifery to explore creating a resource for all stakeholders on the substantial roles of these typically first-access professions in meeting the nation’s primary care needs.

National PAINS Initiative ACCAH C was invited to represent patient interest in integrative care in the Pain Action Alliance to Implement a National Strategy (PAINS) led by the Kansas-based Center for Practical Bioethics. ACCAH C leaders Vince De Bono, DC and then Martha Menard, PhD, LMT represented ACCAH C on the PAINS Steering Committee and participated in regional meetings, focusing attention on the role of non-pharmacological approaches.

Development of the NIH NCCAM 2011-2015 Strategic Plan The ACCAH C Research Working Group (RWG) led by Greg Cramer, DC, PhD (L) and Carlo Calabrese, ND, MPH (R) led ACCAH C into extensive dialogue with the NIH NCCAM (now NCCIH) on the agency’s strategic plan. ACCAH C focused on the “real world research” that is likely to most inform the ability of consumers and other stakeholders considering services from these disciplines. In letters, phone conferences and a face-to-face meeting, ACCAH C underscored the importance of looking at whole practices, at cost issues and in building the capacity of these disciplines to participate in the research endeavor.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Via leadership of the Research Working Group (RWG), ACCAH C provided public comment on the new agency established under the Affordable Care Act. Two ACCAH C leaders were part of a panel on integrative health and medicine at a September 2011 Listening Session for the PCORI Board of Governors. RWG founding co-chair and member emeritus Christine Goertz, DC, PhD, was appointed to serve on the PCORI Board.

Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments ACCAH C engaged an 18-month process involving over 50 professionals from 8 disciplines to create a document entitled Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments.
2011

Meeting with NCCIH Leaders on National Research Strategy An interprofessional ACCAHC team met in February 2011 in a two-hour session at NCCIH headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland with NCCIH director Josephine Briggs, MD and members of her executive team. The focus was the research priorities of ACCAHC professions. ACCAHC has promoted whole system, real world research, cost studies, and research capacity building in the licensed integrative health disciplines. ACCAHC Research Working Group (RWG) Co-Chairs Carlo Calabrese, ND and Greg Cramer, DC attended, along with other RWG members.

Expansion of Philanthropic Investment Fulfillment of ACCAHC’s mission requires continuous expansion of the organization’s base of philanthropic partners. Work during the founding period of 2004-2009 was engaged via multi-year grants from ACCAHC’s founding philanthropic partner, Lucy Gonda. In 2008, parties close to ACCAHC such as National University of Health Sciences, NCMIC Foundation, and Bastyr University began making critically important, multi-year Sustaining Investor grants. Life University began a few years later.

Ruth Westreich

The Chicago-based Leo S. Guthman Fund made annual commitments beginning in 2008 through 2015. The Lia Fund provided five years of critical resources. In 2011, philanthropist and integrative health activist Ruth Westreich (pictured) launched ACCAHC further. She began advising ACCAHC in multiple ways while also providing grant support via the Westreich Foundation.

Collaboration Across Borders III Via a philanthropic investment from Lucy Gonda, ACCAHC created a significant presence for the integrative health and medicine professions and movement at the most significant North American interprofessional education gathering. ACCAHC presented on its Competencies, sponsored a booth and distributed 700 copies of the ACCAHC Desk Reference.

2012

Institute of Medicine (IOM) Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education In January 2012, the ACCAHC Board of Directors chose to become a founding co-sponsor of the Institute of Medicine Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education. ACCAHC is the sole integrative health-focused sponsor of the forum, joining over 30 councils of colleges and professional associations from medicine, nursing, public health, pharmacy and other disciplines.

Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, ACCAHC’s Chair is the representative to the Global Forum; John Weeks is her alternate. ACCAHC’s priority is to collaborate with the other forum members to explore innovations associated with graduating students who are expert in assisting individuals and communities toward wellness, self-care, personal empowerment, prevention and health promotion. ACCAHC’s participation from 2012-2017 is made possible via a generous philanthropic investment from a foundation that chooses to remain anonymous.
Recognized as Supporting Member by IPEC When ACCAHC leaders learned in 2011 of the Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice published by the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC), ACCAHC leaders Mike Wiles, DC, MEd and Jan Schwartz, MA led an effort that merged the ACCAHC Competencies with this document. ACCAHC then secured endorsement of the new Competencies from the ACCAHC council of college members. This led to IPEC recognition of ACCAHC as a supporting member of its national interprofessional initiative.

International Congress for Educators in Complementary and Integrative Medicine Following an invitation from long-time adviser and promoter of interprofessional action Adi Haramati, PhD(F in photo along with ACCAHC’s Education Working Group Co-Chair Mike Wiles, DC and Shelley Adler, PhD, ACIMH/CAHCIM), ACCAHC engaged a co-sponsorship with ACIMH/CAHCIM and Georgetown University for the first International Congress for Educators in Complementary and Integrative Medicine October 24-26, 2012. The Congress drew over 350 educators, researchers and clinicians. Multiple ACCAHC presentations were the subject of papers subsequently included in a report on the conference. Education and Clinical Working Group members were involved in a variety of presentations including: “Competencies for Public Health and Interprofessional Education (IPE) in the Accreditation Standards for the Licensed CAM Disciplines,” “Naturopathic Residencies: Creating Interdisciplinary Education for Integrative Health Care,” “Hospital Based Massage Therapy: Competencies and Standards of Practice,” “Interprofessional Education (IPE) in the Complementary, Alternative, and Integrative Practice Programs: A Composite Portrait from Two Surveys, and an IPE Product Marketing Campaign,” and “Integrated Clinical Services at Accredited Complementary and Alternative Health Care Academic Institutions.”

Organized Participation in the National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education (NCIPE) With the announcement the HRSA and foundation-funded NCIPE, ACCAHC organized its communities to sign-up and participate, posted resources and began routinely promoting webinars and other NCIPE resources to ACCAHC’s growing list of participants. NCIPE director Barbara Brandt, PhD refers to ACCAHC’s work in the IPE environment this way; “ACCAHC’s work in interprofessional education is impressive, timely, a model to shine a light on.”

Partner and Steering Committee of HRSA-Funded IMPriME ACCAHC was invited to serve as a partner organization of the HRSA-funded Integrative Medicine in Preventive Medicine (IMPriME) project of the American College of Preventive Medicine. Two ACCAHC executive committee members served on the IMPriME Steering Committee that developed competencies and a community of learners.

2013

Advancing the Role of ACCAH C Professions in *Meeting the Nation’s Primary Care Needs* In a culmination of a partnership that began in 2010, ACCAH C produced the 80-page white paper entitled *Meeting the Nation’s Primary Care Needs: Current and Prospective Roles of Doctors of Chiropractic and Naturopathic Medicine, Practitioners of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine and Direct-Entry Midwives* Presentations on the content have been made in multiple environments including International Congress for Educators in Complementary and Integrative Medicine (2012), UCLA (2013), and the Association of American Medical Colleges (2014). This project was led by Michael Goldstein, PhD, MPH and John Weeks, ACCAH C executive director.

**Introducing Health and Wellbeing at the IOM Global Forum** Through leadership of ACCAH C’s Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education member Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, ACCAH C’s core message in transitioning the workforce into one focused on health creation was introduced in a forum workshop on *Establishing Transdisciplinary Professionalism for Health*. ACCAH C invited integrative nursing leader Mary Jo Kreitzer, PhD, RN, FAAN as a presenter and discussion leader. ACCAH C has had a continuing role in promoting dialogue on the theme of self-care, resilience, health and wellbeing in health professional education theme of health.

**The Project to Enhance Research Literacy (PERL)** The PERL initiative is a collaboration between ACCAH C and the seven ACCAH C member institutions that received NIH R-25 education grants on evidence-informed practice and subsequently with multiple ACCAH C member organizations. PERL provides a huge body of resources and webinars to support ACCAH C educators and clinicians in engaging evidence issues more significantly in their education and practice. PERL corresponds to Competency #5, “Evidence-Based Medicine and Evidence-Informed Practice” of ACCAH C’s *Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments*. A key initiative in this project, funded significantly in 2014-2015 through successive one-year grants from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, has been a webinar series on evidence informed practices. Project manager is Deb Hill, MS.

**Working Group Series: Recorded Webinar Presentations** ACCAH C’s Research, Clinical and Education Working groups began regularly recording presentations in their meetings and then posting them here for public use. The breadth of topics below show the collaboratively prioritized themes across the ACCAH C professions:

**Clinical Working Group** – “Integrative Medicine as a Team Service,” November 2013 (Tague); “Inter-Institutional Collaboration: Palmer College of Chiropractic and Local MT Institution,” December 2013 (Boesch); “Inter-Institutional Collaboration: Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine and Brampton Teaching Clinic,” January 2014 (Zeifman & De Groot); “The State of Residencies in Integrative Disciplines: Panel Presentation,” February 2014 (Panel: Naturopathic medicine: Melanie Henriksen, ND, LAc, CNM, Natural College of Natural Medicine, Marcia Prengerub, ND, University of Bridgeport); Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; Chiropractic: Ron Boesch, DC, DACNB (Palmer College of Chiropractic); Ian McLean DC, DACBR (Palmer College of Chiropractic); Massage Therapy: Pete Whitridge, LMT (Florida School of Massage); Direct entry Midwifery: Mary Yglesia (Bastyr University); “Clinical Integration at Bastyr University,” April 2015 (Johnson); “Southern California University of Health Sciences experience at the Interprofessional Education Collaboration,” October 2014 (Sackett & Kadar); with the Project to Enhance Research Literacy, “Evidence Informed Practice (EIP) Panel,” November 2014 (Facilitated by Deb Hill, MS with Henriksen, Dion, Rodgers, Sackett & Zeifman); “Preparing Students to be Practice Ready,” May 2015 (Lauttamus); “CAM in Military Community,” June 2015 (Crowder-Moger)

Education Working Group – “Interprofessional Education at National Health Sciences University,” February 2014 (Cohen); “National Center for Interprofessional Education and IPE at Northwestern Health Sciences University,” September 2014 (Healey & Wiles); “Clinical Integration,” April 2015 (Johnson); “Interprofessional Student Education: Exchange Program between Albert Einstein College of Medicine and PCOM,” June 2015 (Gomes & Anderson)

2014

Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim (PIHTA) ACCAHC began a significant project to support all stakeholders in seeking the best uses of the values, practices and disciplines associated with integrative health and medicine amidst the emerging values-based healthcare movement. The Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim corresponds to the focus of Competency #6 (Institutional Healthcare Culture and Practices) of ACCAHC’s Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments. Project Manager is Jennifer Olejownik, PhD.

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Conference Executive director John Weeks was invited by the AAMC to present on ACCAHC’s disciplines in a plenary panel at the AAMC’s 10th Annual Workforce Research Conference. Via a grant from the NCMIC Foundation, ACCAHC presented a poster on the PIHTA initiative, and provided copies of ACCAHC’s white paper Meeting the Nation’s Primary Care Needs to all 200 workforce experts in attendance.

Interprofessional Action: All Together Better Health #7 At this significant international conference on interprofessionalism, ACCAHC presented outcomes of an ACCAHC survey on the extent of interprofessional education in ACCAHC fields, its priorities as a functioning interprofessional collaborative, and a poster on the PIHTA initiative.

Publication of PAINS Never Only Opioids Policy Brief and Pain Recommendations Members of ACCAHC’s Task Force on Integrative Pain Care, created a policy brief for the 40-organization coalition PAINS entitled Never Only Opioids: The Case for Early Use of Non-Pharmacological Approaches and Practitioners in the Treatment of Patients with Pain. The influential paper also included a two-page set of Recommendations for Policy Makers.

Special Project: IHM definitions, IPE in Clinical Education in ACCAHC Professions In 2013, the Leo S. Guthman Fund began a multi-year commitment to a special Clinical Working Group project focusing on interprofessionalism in the ACCAHC disciplines. The project led to a series of presentation and publications, including “A Qualitative Analysis of Various Definitions of Integrative Medicine and Health” and “The Extent of Interprofessional Education in the Clinical Training of Integrated Health and Medicine Students: A Survey of Educational Institutions,” each published in Topics for Integrative Health Care. In the former, the authors reported the usage and context of terms occurring in IHM definitions by groups hypothesized to have the greatest current impact on the evolving field, concluding, among other things: “Leaving disciplines and health professionals out of the definition effectively leaves out the rich experience and context of the discipline, and devalues interprofessionalism.” Beth Rosenthal, PhD, MPH, MBA and Anthony Lisi, DC led this project.
2015

Addressing the NIH NCCAM Advisory Council Imbalance ACCAHC responded to the decreasing number of members from its professions on the Advisory Council of the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH). A Research Working Group team created a letter and board chair Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA and vice-chair David O’Bryon, JD co-signed the letter and met with the NCCIH director. The request included submission of 15 CVs of experienced researchers from ACCAHC fields. ACCAHC strongly supports the NCCIH’s statement that skilled clinicians are critical to NCCIH fulfilling its public health agenda.

Opportunities for Integrative Health under the Triple Aim ACCAHC’s Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim published survey results that showed leaders of integrative medicine programs associated with academic health centers are finding more inclusion from their parent health systems with shifts toward a values-based delivery system, under the Affordable Care Act. Results were reported in a commentary in Global Advances in Health and Medicine and in a posting of the patient experience research and advocacy organization The Beryl Institute.

Partnership with the Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine Following a full-day meeting between ACCAHC Executive Committee members and leaders of the Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine (AIHM), an ACCAHC team led by Stacy Gomes, EdD, partnered with AIHM’s educators to develop educational content that will be used as part of multiple AIHM programs. The Westreich Foundation supported this work.

Partnership on the Education Track for the 2016 International Congress ACCAHC was invited by Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health (ACIMH), representing over 60 medical schools, to serve as its partner on the educational track for the May 2016 International Congress for Integrative Medicine and Health. Michael Wiles, DC, MEd is serving as ACCAHC’s co-chair for the education content of the program with Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, Mitchell Haas, DC, MA and Melanie Henriksen, ND, LAc, APRN on the Program Committee.

Project for Inter-Institutional Education Relationships (PIERs) Members of the ACCAHC Clinical and Education Working groups compiled descriptions of what their institutions are doing related to inter-institutional education relationships. The reports are written to a standard template. The goal is to foster optimal inter-institutional and interprofessional relationships that bridge the gaps in education and practice between diverse integrative health and medicine (IHM) academic institutions, and between these institutions and other healthcare institutions and organizations.

Participation in the National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare (NCIPH) The University of Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine (AzCIM), in collaboration with the Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health received a HRSA grant to establish the National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare (NCIPH). ACCAHC Co-Executive Director, Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA is a member of the NCIPH leadership team. The ultimate goal of the NCIPH is education of interprofessional, patient/person centered teams that will utilize the principles of IH in delivering primary care. The NCIPH supports the incorporation of competency- and evidence-based Integrative Health Care (IH) curricula into educational programs in a
movement toward integrative interprofessional patient care. The NCIPH is developing competencies, curricula and best practices taking into consideration the determinants of health including physical and social environment, individual health behaviors and health services as they relate to the practice of IH to affect health outcomes. Please see the center website for more information www.nciph.org.

Advocating for NIH Investment in CIM Institutions Members of ACCAHC’s Research Working Group, led by Co-Executive Director Martha Menard, PhD, LMT, co-authored a study of NIH investment in CIM institutions from 2010-2014. Based on data taken from the NIH RePORT database, RWG members made recommendations to the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health for their 2016-2020 strategic plan regarding the need for continued investment in CIM institutions to build research capacity and create research infrastructure. The study and its recommendations were published in the July 2015 issue of the Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine. The full open access article can be found here.

Leadership Transitions In July, Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA and Martha Menard, PhD, LMT became co-executive directors. David O’Bryon, JD, CAE, the president of the Association of Chiropractic Colleges was elected interim chair of ACCAHC. Mr. O’Bryon is a founding member of ACCAHC and served as vice-chair since ACCAHC’s inception. Dr. Goldblatt is also one of the founding board members of ACCAHC and served as the organization’s chair from 2008 to 2015. She is an educator, past president of the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM), and previous president of an AOM college. Dr. Menard is a clinician, researcher and educator who has held multiple leadership positions with the massage therapy community and several volunteer roles with ACCAHC since 2008. Since its inception in 2004, ACCAHC has developed into an independent, interprofessional, collaborative organization that now includes 58 member organizations and institutions from the integrative health and medicine professions and is involved in multiple collaborative projects throughout the country.

Further Philanthropic Investment The NCMIC Foundation pledged an annual $10,000 donation for 2016-2018. With this $30,000 award, the foundation’s investment in ACCAHC since 2008 now totals over $100,000. Louis Sportelli, DC, guides the Foundation. Dr. Sportelli has been President of NCMIC Group, Inc. since 1995. Dr. Sportelli served as President of the World Federation of Chiropractic (WFC) from 1998 to 2000 and served as chair of the board of the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) from 1989 to 1990. The Foundation sponsored ACCAHC leaders and the potential primary care contributions of chiropractors, naturopathic doctors, acupuncture and Oriental medicine professionals, and direct entry midwives at the Association of American Medical College’s 2010 workforce meeting. The Foundation also provided support for the printing and distribution of ACCAHC’s influential Never Only Opioids policy paper.
New Executive Committee and Officers Elected During its October meeting, the ACCAH C Board of Directors named new members to its Executive Committee and elected officers. New EC members include Stacy Gomes, EdD, MAEd; Dale Healey, DC, PhD; John Scaringe, DC, EdD; and JoAnn Yanez, ND, MPH. Officers elected are David O’Byron, Chair; JoAnn Yanez, Vice-Chair; Kory Ward-Cook, PhD, MT (ASCP), CAE, Treasurer; and John Scaringe, Secretary. Stacy Gomes and Dale Healey will serve as members at large with Pamela Snider, ND, founding board member and former executive director. The new Executive Committee and officers will begin their terms in January 2016. Outgoing EC members Jan Schwartz, MA, BCTMB, Secretary, and Marcia Prengerbrug, ND, are founding members of ACCAH C and will remain on the board. The ACCAH C community is delighted that they will remain active members of the ACCAH C Board.

2016

Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health

A New Name – The Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health The Board of Directors at its January 2016 meeting voted to change its name from the Academic Consortium for Complementary & Alternative Health Care (ACCAHC) to the Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health (ACIH or “The Collaborative”). The Board and staff, with input from the ACIH community, had been discussing a name change for the last year. The new name evokes the essence of the disciplines ACIH represents, which includes a focus on health and well-being as well as the treatment of a wide variety of diseases and conditions that are approached from a collaborative, team-based patient/person-centered care. In addition, the organization is a functioning collaborative, as the core membership includes 18 national organizations representing councils of colleges, accreditation organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, and certification/testing agencies, as well as emerging disciplines and traditional world medicines and individual college/program members. The new name – the Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health – reflects the organization’s purpose and vision.

ACIH Nominees Patricia Herman and Cynthia Price Chosen for NIH Advisory Council

ACIH through its Research Working Group is delighted to announce two new members on the Advisory Council to the NIH National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health. ACIH submitted CVs of 15 top-quality candidates. Congratulations to RWG members Patricia Herman, ND, PhD and Cynthia Price, PhD, LMP!
National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare (NCIPH) Publishes Competencies
The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) funded the National Center for Integrative Primary Health (NCIPH; www.nciph.org) has published competencies to support their mission. ACIH is involved through Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA’s participation as a member of the $1.8-million project’s Interprofessional Leadership Team, pictured. She has brought in ACIH teams of chiropractors, naturopathic doctors, acupuncture and Oriental medicine practitioners to inform the process. Their contributions can be access by clicking through here. The project is sponsored by the University of Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine and the Academic Consortium of Integrative Medicine and Health. The 45-hour pilot course for all primary care providers in Integrative Health started in January 2016 and will be available to the larger community after June 2016.

Elevated Role for Health, Self-care, Wellbeing and Resilience - and ACIH! - at the Global Forum for Innovations in Health Professional Education
The April 20-22, 2016 sessions at the National Academy of Sciences of the Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education showed significantly more attention to the themes that the ACIH board prioritized for its now 4.5 years of work. ACIH’s membership in the Forum, sponsored by the Health and Medicine Division (formerly the Institute of Medicine), is represented by the team of executive director Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA and former executive director John Weeks.

The April gathering included significant informal and formal engagement with health, wellbeing, and resilience - some in the context of the significant stress, burnout and suicide concerns in health professional education, and practice. JoAnn Yanez, ND, MPH, ACIH vice chair and executive director of the Association of Accredited Naturopathic Medical Colleges was present as was Beth Pimentel, ND, representing president’s level member Maryland University of Integrative Health.

Is Self-care and Wellbeing in ACIH Member Accreditation Guidelines? As part of the preparation for the meeting, the ACIH team engaged a survey of accrediting agency document to see whether ACIH fields, and some others, included any reference to the importance of self-care. Both the Commission on Massage Therapy Accreditation and Council on Naturopathic Medical Education have some requirements on these most important areas.

ACIH at the 2016 International Congress for Integrative Medicine and Health
ACIH was a partner organization for the May 17-20, 2016 International Congress for Integrative Medicine and Health in Las Vegas. The Congress was sponsored by our colleagues at the Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health (ACIMH). The ACIH Board met in Las Vegas on Monday, May 16th and
focused on strategic planning as well as heard reports from the Samueli Institute, the ACIMH (with whom we are doing three collaborative projects moving forward) and from representatives from the University of Arizona National Center for Integrative Primary Care (www.ncipc.org). Several from the ACHI community presented at the Congress including Gerry Clum, DC, on the "The History of Discrimination in Integrative Health Care and What to Do About It;" ACHI Research Working Group RWG member James Whedon, DC on "Unwarranted Variation in Coverage for Integrative Healthcare Services". The ACHI Executive Director was part of a pre-Congress workshop on the National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare - Enhancing Interprofessional Integrative Health Education. RWG member Patricia Herman, ND, PhD, co-led a discussion on "Policy and the Economics of Integrative Medicine" and Meg Jordan, PhD with ACHI Associate Member California Institute of Integral Students was part of the panel "Mindfulness and Relational Neuroscience: The Real Foundation for Health Coaching." Belinda (Beau) Anderson, RWG member, Liza Goldblatt, Stacy Gomes, ACHI Executive Committee member and Ben Kligler, ACHI Council of Advisors presented on the “Application of ACCAH Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments: Lessons.” ACHI Hospital Based Massage Therapy (HBMT) "Hospital Based Massage Therapy: Competencies and Standards of Practice" was presented by Dale Healey, MK Brennan, Carolyn Tague and ACHI Assistant Director Beth Rosenthal. Liza Goldblatt chaired plenary session 05 and introduced the plenary speaker Dr. Barbara Brandt, a national leader in IPE/CP. John Weeks, former ACHI Executive Director presented on “The Movement toward Values-Based Medicine and the Triple Aim: Is it Increasing Interest in Integrative Health Services?” Patricia Herman also presented on "Determining Appropriateness of Manipulation and Mobilization for Chronic Low Back and Cervical Pain in the Patient Centered Care Era" and James Whedon on "Who Needs Quality Measurement for Integrative Healthcare? Lastly, ACHI was invited to be part of the Final Plenary Session "Future Directions: Looking Forward Together." This was the first time ACIMH included four areas – education, clinical, research and policy at one Congress.