We are delighted to inform you that we just launched our new website. The URL speaks to our new identity as an integrative organization: www.integrativehealth.org. The new site is user friendly and easy to navigate. We are also pleased to announce that we have expanded our membership categories. We have three major membership categories: core, individual college and associate members. Please consider becoming an Individual Associate Member of the Collaborative for $75.00 a year. Check the site here. If you have any questions about membership, please write to us at rclugston@integrativehealth.org.

I am pleased to announce two new committees: Governance Committee and the Policy Working Group (PWG). Members of the Governance Committee: Jan Schwartz & Karen Bobak, Co-Chairs; Kory Ward-Cook, John Scaringe, Nichole Redding, Joe Brimhall & Mark McKenzie. Members of the PWG are: David O’Bryon, (interim Chair), Heather Carrie, Rosalina Messina, John Kepner, Stan Dawson, Leena Gupta (PCOM) & Pamela Snider. Thanks to each of these leaders for their service. We have also developed a new Library Special Interest Group (SPIG) to assist in the sharing of resources, information and expertise among our individual college members. See the notice below.
Lastly, we are currently working on a 2-year "**Strategic Goals and Action Item**" document that will outline our work for the next two years. This will be reported in the January 2017 *Collaborator*. As we move into our next phase of growth, we have done a tremendous amount of work in our internal organizational structures and in building financial sustainability. We want to take this opportunity to thank all of you - the ACIH Community - for your on-going support and commitment to our shared vision of a healthcare system that is multidisciplinary and enhances mutual respect and collaboration across all healthcare disciplines.

**From Elizabeth (Liza) Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, ACIH Executive Director**

**Announcements:** I am very pleased to announce that our project with the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental medicine (NCCAOM) entitled: "Credentialing Licensed Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Professionals for Practice in Healthcare Organizations: An Overview and Guidance for Hospital Administrators, Acupuncturists and Educators" is completed! This project took about 18 months. We are confident that that this report will be very helpful to not only the AOM field, but to all of our disciplines. Please look at the [ACIH website under Resources/ACIH Publications](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true) for the full article. The lead author is John Weeks, with Elizabeth A. Goldblatt, Stacy Gomes, Iman Majd and Kory Ward-Cook. A short report on it is below.

**NCIPH:** Our work with the [National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true) continues well. Thus far the feedback from the students, faculty and others who have piloted it is very positive. There is no charge for this course at this time. The 45-hour course is scheduled to be available to institutions October 31 and to individuals late December. Once we have definitive dates we'll send out an email announcement. I am also happy to report that I presented on the National Center for Integrative Primary Healthcare at the University of Minnesota Summit on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice in August 2016 and will also be presenting on it at the upcoming Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine Conference in San Diego.

**Global Forum:** Our next *Collaborator* issue will focus on our work with the National Academy of Science's [Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true). This is our 5th year of involvement in this most important collaboration. Virtually every health professional discipline is a member of the Global Forum. **Liza Goldblatt** and **John Weeks**, representing ACIH, attend the forum meetings and often present there and thus have the opportunity to educate our over 60 national organizational members on the depth and breadth of our disciplines. We continue to advocate strongly for team-based, inclusive, collaborative, patient/person centered care and for more focus on prevention, health and well-being.

Lastly, we are now updating our [Clinicians and Educators Desk Reference (CEDR)](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true) and we expect to have it on the website and available in print in early 2017.

New Individual Membership fee - starts at $75.00. Please consider being an [Individual or Organizational Associate Member of ACIH](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true). And, if you are from an individual college that is from one of our five core disciplines, please join our [Individual Colleges Membership](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1126236254990&format=html&print=true).
category. Thank you for supporting the Collaborative. We are much stronger together.

The Collaborative and NCCAOM Publish Paper on Credentialing AOM Professionals

In 2015, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) granted funds through the ACIH Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim. One goal: create a resource to assist medical delivery organization to credential acupuncture and Oriental medicine (AOM) professionals. In so doing, the document was anticipated to also have some value is gaining a basic sense of strategies that would apply to other professions. The paper has been completed and published on the ACIH site as Credentialing AOM Professionals for Practice in Healthcare Organizations. The lead author is former ACIH executive director, John Weeks. He worked with NCCAOM team of Iman Majd, MD, EAMP (LAc) and CEO Kory Ward Cook, PhD, CAE. The paper was subsequently developed further by the NCCAOM duo and ACIH's Elizabeth Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA and longtime activist and member of the Board of Directors Stacy Gomes, EdD, MAEd.

The paper includes inputs from 27 AOM professionals and delivery organization administrators who have been responsible for credentialing members of this profession who were identified as experts on the topic. The appendices include three documents provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health for their credentialing processes. ACIH thanks Rick McKinney, MD for his help in providing these resources. ACIH staff Jennifer Olejownik, PhD and Beth Rosenthal, PhD, MBA, MPH each assisted in early interviews. ACIH thanks Ward-Cook for her leadership in forming the project.

ACIH Calls for FDA to Extend Comment Period on New Dietary Ingredient Guidance

On October 25, 2016, the Collaborative sent a letter, over the name of David O'Bryon, JD, chair, to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The issue was a controversial "guidance" from the FDA on industry procedures regarding New Dietary Ingredients (NDIs). The letter described ACIH's membership, adding: "Safely formulated dietary supplements are an important part of the treatment protocol of thousands of integrative licensed health professionals. Such supplements have a very important role in promoting health and well-being. Our members of the integrative health professions provide an essential role in guiding their patients toward the appropriate supplements selected from reputable, high quality brands." The ACIH letter continues: "FDA's new draft guidance is in effect a reinterpretation of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. The FDA's new draft guidance appears to us that it would add substantial cost and complexity to routine dietary ingredient manufacturing processes. This, in turn, could well affect our health professional's ability to direct their patients toward safe and effective nutritional interventions." The letter spoke to the need for "more time to review and understand the implications" of this new proposed guidance. It concluded with a
In response to letters such as this, the FDA has extended comment period until December 12, 2016. An article on the situation is available here. Note that an FAQ from friend of ACIH Michael Levin on key issues in this complex arena will be made public to subscribers to The Integrator Blog, from former ACIH executive director John Weeks in mid-November. Natural products executive and consultant Levin, who attended the 2013 ACIH Biennial Meeting at University of Western States, has been the "Paul Revere" driving action from practitioners, professional organizations and academic institutions on this issue.

Presence at the Global Forum
How many ACIH members are taking advantage of the Global Forum webinars to connect with some of the most significant collaborative thinking among academics? A friend of ACIH sent the following thoughtful note of concern. He had read the April 2016 workshop report Exploring the Role of Accreditation in Enhancing Quality and Innovation in Health Professions Education: Proceedings of a Workshop: "I read the proceedings and found much of interest from my perspective as a chiropractic education accreditor. Liza looked like the only integrative health person in the mix, yourself excepted. Wonder how or why CCE, CNME, etc were not in evidence." It would be excellent for more of our individual disciplines to have representatives there.

ACIH Task Force to Examine New IPEC Competencies

The seminal development in the modern movement for interprofessional education and collaborative practice was the publication of the Core Competencies for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice. ACIH's team that was involved in a parallel process that produced ACIH's Competencies for Optimal Practice in Integrated Environments re-worked that document to align with the IPEC document. IPEC announced in July that it is releasing updated competencies. ACIH responded by creating a new Task Force to review the new IPEC competencies together with the two additional competencies ACIH developed. The ACIH Competency Review Task Force consists of Liza Goldblatt, PhD, MPA/HA, Dale Healey, DC, PhD, Marcia Prenguber, ND, MK Brennan, RN, LMT, John S. Finnelli, ND, MPH, Lac, and Michael Wiles, DC, MEd, MS who represents the massage discipline.

New ACIH Library Special Interest Group:
Join and/or Inform Your Librarians!
ACIH staffer Deb Hill, MS reports: "The Academic Collaborative for Integrative Health (formerly ACCAHC) is forming an ACIH based Special Interest Group (SPIG) to connect our library community around issues in evidence informed practice. SPIGs are established to foster a regular pattern of interdisciplinary networking activity between members. Meetings are held on-line, typically twice a year, and enable participants to learn from each other, sharing information or ideas. This new networking group is open to library staff from all ACIH member institutions and programs as an additional membership benefit. Please help up spread the word to library staff at your university/college/program." Interested parties...
New RWG Co-Chair: First, big news. ACIH thanks Cheryl Hawk, DC, PhD for her service as co-chair of the Research Working Group. She will remain on the WG as James (Jim) Whedon, DC, MS takes over as chair. Thank you for your service, Cheryl, and you for stepping up, Jim! The following are links to the webinars developed through the ACIH working groups, managed by Beth Rosenthal, PhD, MBA, MPH.

Hospital Based Massage Therapy (HBMT) (September 2016), ACIH Clinical & Education Working Group presentation and discussion Dale Healey, DC, PhD and MK Brennan, RN, LMT presented on work and accomplishments to date. HBMT task force member Carolyn Tague, MA, CMT was not able to be on the call. The 7 slide presentation available here.

Case Reporting Guidelines (September 2016), ACIH Research Working Group presentation and discussion David Riley, MD and RWG member Martha Menard, PhD, LMT presented about case reports and facilitated discussion. The 11 slide presentation is available here.

LifeLong Ashby Health Center (June 2016), ACIH Clinical Working Group presentation and discussion Bonney Lynch, LAc, CMT gave a brief presentation about integrating acupuncture and related services and primary care at LAHC and stimulated an active discussion about how to gather patient outcome data via EHR and other issues involved in integrative clinics.

PIHTA and Integrative Clinics Presentations (June 2016), ACIH Clinical Working Group presentation and discussion Jennifer Olejownik, PhD, MS Project Manager for the Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim at the Center for Optimal Integration spoke about a possible Integrative Clinic Webinar series held within the Working Groups and asked members what areas they might be interested in exploring.

History, Context, Politics of Opioid Guidelines: Arya Nielsen (June 2016), ACIH Research Working Group presentation and discussion Arya Nielsen, PhD, Director, Acupuncture Fellowship for Inpatient Care, Mount Sinai Beth Israel gave a terrific presentation stimulated by the lack of reference to integrative disciplines in the CDC Opioid Guidelines. References: References for talk on opioids and national policy re evidence informed nonpharm therapies for pain, Clarification of the Pain ManagementStandard and MMWR: CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain

Report from the Project for Integrative Health and the Triple Aim (PIHTA)

The project manager for PIHTA, Jennifer Olejownik, PhD, MS, shares this update: "As part of the North American Board of Naturopathic Examiners (NABNE)-funded project on integrative Patient-Centered Medical Homes, two clinic profiles have been completed. These reports detail findings from conversations held with providers at The Center for Natural Medicine and The National University of Natural Medicine. After these documents have been reviewed internally, they..."
will be sent to participating clinics for another round of editing. The last profile covering Mountain View Natural Medicine is expected to be completed early in the 4th quarter.

Olejownik continues: "In collaboration with the Clinical Working Group (CWG), a webinar on integrative clinics is scheduled to be held on November 9th. This webinar will feature a panel discussion from leaders of integrative clinics on collaboration and referrals; hiring practices; the use of EHRs; the role of the patient within the clinic (patient satisfaction surveys, advisory panels); billing, insurance and sustainability; and credentialing."

Save-the-Date! Upcoming ACIH-Involved Conferences

May 3-5, 2017. World Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health, Berlin, Germany. This conference is co-sponsored by ACIH’s sibling-organization, Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health. The Collaborative is a supporting organization of this meeting, as are the Integrative Health Policy Consortium and the Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine. Former ACIH executive director and current ACIH Global Forum alternate member John Weeks serves on the organizing committee. The website is here.

July 13-15, 2017 The Process of Integrating Evidence (PIE) for Complementary and Integrative Health (CIH) Educators 3-day evidence-informed practice (EIP) conference will be held at Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, MN on July 13-15, 2017. The conference website is here. ACIH’s Deb Hill, MS, is on the conference planning committee. Details will be posted as they are finalized. Similar to last year’s conference (linked on conference website) two tracks will be available; a teaching track for classroom and clinic educators, and an administrative/curriculum development track.

New Statement Released on Planned Home Birth by the American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

ACIH Board of Directors member Courtney L. Everson, PhD, Board member, Association of Midwifery Educators and Medical Anthropologist and Dean of Graduate Studies, Midwives College of Utah, reports this breakthrough news: "The American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists (ACOG) released a new statement on planned home birth in August 2016. This revised statement includes recognition of a patient's right to make a "medically informed decision about delivery" including birth location, as well as recognizes midwives "whose education and licensure meet International Confederation of Midwives’ Global Standards for Midwifery Education". This is an important step toward recognition of home birth, direct-entry midwifery, and the Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) credential. We hope the revised statement will help further interprofessional collaboration & education while also advancing physiologic birth practices that support core integrative health values. Please read John Week’s column in the Integrative Practitioner regarding this revised statement and what it means for integrative health and medicine. The full ACOG Committee Opinion # 669 can be found here.
Other News from Members of the Collaborative

ACIH welcomes new supporter Books of Discovery which, through its vice president for educator relations Tim Herbert has committed $500 per year for three years. Thank you Tim and Books of Discovery! ... Former ACIH Board of Directors member Frank Nicchi, DC, MS will step down next year as president of New York Chiropractic College. Long-time NYCC administrator Michael Mestan, DC, EdD has been named president. News of the transition, August 1, 2017, is here. Nicchi played a played a leadership role for ACIH in managing the early phases of the ACIH primary care project ... Jan Schwartz, MA, BCTMB, ACIH founding member and current ACIH Board of Directors member, was elected to the Board of Trustees at the President Level University of Western States in Portland, OR ...

Bradly Jacobs, MD, MPH, ACIH Council of Advisors member is the new Chair of the Academy of Integrative Health and medicine (AIHM) as of November 2016. Jacobs is medical director for Cavallo Point. He was founding clinical director at the UCSF Osher Center and was a senior medical editor for Revolution Health. In addition, he was on the board of the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine. We are delighted that Brad is now the Chair of the Academy and very much look forward to working with him in this new position ... Board member Stephanie Moonaz, PhD, the associate academic director at President’s Level Maryland University of Integrative Health reports that she has a chapter in a book on Yoga and Dis/Ability and will be presenting at the Accessible Yoga Conference and the upcoming IAYT Symposium on Yoga Research.

Research Working Group co-chair Belinda (Beau) Anderson, PhD, LAc shares that she and RWG member Claudia Citkowitz, LAc are each working on a Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) grant to create a Preventive Medicine Residency with an integrative health focus at Montefiore Health System. Anderson is involved with a PCORI-funded grant. Council of Advisers member Ben Kligler, MD, MPH is a lead investigator on each ... The Naturopathic Post-Graduate Association (NPGA) has turning over its functions (Universal Application and Match programs) to the Association of Accredited Naturopathic Medical Colleges (AANMC). The NPGA will dissolve with that change ...

In Memoriam: Robert Duggan (1939-2016)  Bob Duggan, the founder of Tai Sophia Institute - which since morphed into Maryland University of Integrative Health, was one of the major influencers in the development of the AOM field. A personal memory of working with Duggan in various ways since 1995 from former ACIH executive director John Weeks is here at the Integrative Practitioner: An Impactful Life: Acupuncture and wellbeing pioneer Bob Duggan passes away.